

# NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Community Services

## **PROVINCE HELPS COMMUNITIES MOVE WITH LOCALMOTION**

VICTORIA – Local governments across British Columbia can now apply for the next round of funding from the LocalMotion program, to make their communities greener, healthier and more active and accessible places in which to live, Community Services Minister Ida Chong announced today.

“This program gives local governments a great opportunity to take specific actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, encourage physical activity and make their communities more accessible for seniors and people with disabilities,” said Chong. “It will be great to see the innovative proposals that communities develop.”

Earlier in 2007, the Ministry of Community Services committed nearly \$20 million in provincial funding to communities across B.C. LocalMotion provides \$40 million, over four years, for capital projects that reduce community greenhouse gas emissions, improve accessibility for seniors and people with disabilities, and support community actions to advance the ActNow BC principle of being more physically active. Under the cost-share program, the Province will provide local governments with up to 50 per cent funding for approved projects.

“LocalMotion encourages local governments to make it easier for residents to get out of their cars by using transportation options such as cycling or walking,” said Chong. “We want people to leave their cars at home when they’re going to work, running errands or visiting friends to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions 33 per cent below current levels by 2020.”

Local governments have until March 15, 2008, to submit applications for LocalMotion funding, with funding announcements anticipated later in 2008. Those who wish to have last year’s application considered for this round of funding are encouraged to update their submission. More information on this program is available: [www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca)