

## The Red River Floodway

- The Red River Floodway Expansion Project is nearing completion. When finished, it will protect more than 450,000 Manitobans, over 140,000 homes, over 8,000 businesses, and prevent more than \$12 billion in damages to the provincial economy in the event of a 1-in-700 year flood.
- The Red River Floodway operates by diverting some of the Red River floodwaters around Winnipeg. The excess water runs through a 48-kilometre long channel immediately south of Winnipeg and back into the Red River near Lockport. The expansion project will increase the level of flood protection from 1-in-90 to 1-in-700 years by diverting more water around Winnipeg during major floods.
- Begun in September, 2005, the expansion will increase the capacity of the floodway channel from 1,700 cubic metres (60,000 cubic feet) of water per second to 4,000 cubic metres (140,000 cubic feet) per second.
- Floodway expansion involves a major increase in the existing floodway protection system, including modifications to the floodway channel, eight highway and railway bridges, the water inlet and outlet control works, utilities and services and the West Dike.
- Since the expansion began, the floodway channel's capacity has more than doubled the capacity of the floodwaters that rose during the 1997 flood. The project is on schedule to provide 1-in-700 year protection by the end of April, 2009.
- The original floodway was constructed between 1962 and 1968 at a cost of \$63 million. It is often called "Duff's Ditch" in honour of former Manitoba Premier Duff Roblin who spearheaded the original project. Since it was built, the original floodway has prevented over \$10 billion in flood damages.
- The governments of Canada and Manitoba have committed \$665 million to the Red River Floodway Expansion Project.

For more information: go to [www.floodwayauthority.mb.ca](http://www.floodwayauthority.mb.ca).

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