



For Immediate Release

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Dracup Avenue North Reopens

Dracup Avenue North, a \$10.6 M reconstruction project spread over three years, opened today with a news conference at the main entrance to Parkland College's Trades and Technology Centre.

Underground infrastructure, some dating back 100 years, was replaced over the last two years, and a new concrete roadway was completed this week.

"This has been the largest single construction project to date in Yorkton's history, and the new underground infrastructure, combined with the two area storm water retention ponds, has greatly improved the ability of the city to handle major rain events," said Mayor Bob Maloney.

Dracup Avenue is the main conduit for both storm and sanitary sewer for the entire city. Combined with the new storm water retention ponds across Yorkton, Dracup Avenue is considered the most critical part of infrastructure renewal in the city, and has been a focus for improvements following flooding incidents in 2010 and 2014.

"The most recent rain event July 31 underlined the importance of continuing to increase the capacity of storm water systems throughout the city," said the Mayor.

Dracup Avenue South underground infrastructure replacement, from Darlington Street to Broadway Street, is now complete and work is beginning on roadway reconstruction. This project is expected to be complete by September 30, weather permitting.

The opening of Dracup North is the second major 2016 construction project to be completed this year, following the opening of Mayhew Avenue between Broadway and Morrison Drive July 29. "There have been construction delays due to frequent wet weather and soil compaction issues, plus the July 31 storm, but generally we are pleased with the progress of all three projects," said the Mayor.

"I would also like to thank residents and businesses affected by construction projects for their patience in the areas affected. These projects are a necessary part of ensuring we do everything we can to systematically and prudently improve our infrastructure, particularly drainage, to address current and future needs."

For current information on construction progress please visit **Yorkton.ca/construction**, see the Yorkton This Week city page and listen for updates on the city's three local radio stations.

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