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Riverview Aquatic centre gets gov't funds

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Development

■ \$225,000 to help fund new change room, renovated pool deck, viewing and reception areas, first aid training room

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FREDERICTON — The Conservative government is chipping in \$225,000 for the Riverview Aquatic Centre's upgrades, marking the first project funded by the province's new wellness-focused community development initiative.

Premier Bernard Lord will be on hand with Energy Minister Bruce Fitch and Riverview Mayor Clarence Sweetland today to make the official announcement.

"The province New Brunswick is proud to invest in key public infrastructure that improves our quality of life," the premier said in a release.

"Enhancing infrastructure like the Riverview Aquatic Centre will be a benefit to the entire community of Riverview and to visitors to the region."

The aquatic centre will be expanded and modernized to incorporate better changing room facilities, including a family change room and the pool deck area will be renovated to add a viewing area for parents. As well, there will be a new reception area along with a first aid training room.

The premier will tour New Brunswick this week, making announcements and pitching the newly-passed Conservative budget to various business and community groups.

The Legislative Assembly adjourned last Friday for a week after a raucous three-week stint that saw the budget introduced and a Liberal non-confidence motion tabled and ultimately defeated.

The Community Partnership Fund, which will help finance part of the Riverview Aquatic Centre's renovation bill, is intended to pay portions of the capital costs for new or expanded recreation, sports, culture, heritage and other community priorities. At least, 80 per cent of the \$10-million initiative will be spent on wellness-based projects.