



Spring 2009

Investing in Passenger Rail – Ottawa Station Improvements

VIA Rail Canada has allocated a portion of the Government of Canada's five-year, \$516-million capital investment, announced in October 2007, to upgrade and modernize key passenger stations across VIA's extensive network. Included in this plan are important renovations worth some \$500,000 to Ottawa Station. These upgrades will allow VIA to serve customers more efficiently and will address operational and safety needs.

Ottawa Station

Ottawa Station was constructed in 1965-1966 and purchased by VIA in 1989. Prior to the completion of the recent station improvements, internal areas, such as the ticket office and the baggage area, dated back to the early 1970's. The Panorama (VIA 1) lounge was built in 1992-1993.

Completed Renovations

Work at Ottawa Station included the following;

- The modernization and improvement of the layout of key customer areas such as the ticket office, Panorama lounge, baggage area and public washrooms;
- The enlargement of the Panorama lounge to accommodate increased passenger demand;
- The addition of technological and environmental elements, such as touchless faucets and motion sensor accessories, as part of VIA's overall commitment to the environment.

The general contractor overseeing these upgrades was Terlin Construction Ltd., and CSV Architects and Norr Ltd. provided design and engineering support. With the projects now complete, VIA will be able to offer customers more efficient operations as well as a more pleasant overall station experience.

Casselman Station

In addition to the changes made to VIA's Ottawa Station, VIA has also transferred ownership of Casselman station to the local municipality, reinforcing its position as an important part of the local community.

- 30 -

Media Contacts:

Nadia Seraiocco
Corporate Communications
(514) 871-6119

Transport Canada
Media Relations, Ottawa
(613) 993-0055

