



B.C. Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association

Report to the 2004 WCRHCA Annual General Meeting February 2004

Presented by 2004 Association Chair, Bill Swaine

The past year has been a very exciting one for the B.C. Road Builders Association and the province alike. The provincial government has made several important funding announcements and, with the successful 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics Bid, our province is gearing up to build B.C.

Partnering with the Consulting Engineers

New approaches developed within the Ministry of Transportation have led to changes in the delivery of the many transportation projects in British Columbia. The B.C. Road Builders have partnered with the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and the Consulting Engineers on two events to help facilitate the partnering that needs to take place between these three organizations. At the Road Builders annual Fall Conference, we held a forum where all three groups presented information on their changing roles and responsibilities and delegates were given the opportunity to raise issues and questions they had. Also, about two weeks ago, a second partnering conference was held called Changing Lanes, where, again, all three organizations were present to workshop on the new system of building in the province. Three hundred and fifty delegates came out to share ideas, information and to network. These partnering sessions have been very successful and useful for our members, and we will continue with them at our 2004 Fall Conference.

2010 Olympics

The B.C. Road Builders' members raised \$20,000 last year to donate to the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Bid. As you all know, Vancouver was successful with the Bid and we are pleased to support and help build for the 2010 games. Our Association, once again, has committed to fundraising for this exciting event. The province is predicting that the Olympics will boost the economy through building, new business and tourism. The Sea-To-Sky Highway linking Vancouver and Whistler has already begun undergoing upgrades to prepare for the Games and our members couldn't be happier to be building for 2010.

2004 Strategic Goals

Four the past four years, our Board has met in January to decide upon our strategic focus for the upcoming year. This year we have developed three areas we would like to centre our work for 2004 around.

Gaining Public Support for Transportation Programs

One of our strategic goals for 2004 is to assist the provincial government in gaining public support for the implementation of transportation programs. Over the past year, the province has put forth a strong transportation plan along with dedicated funding for transportation infrastructure. Under this goal, we hope to develop messages in concert with the provincial government in support of transportation programs and develop marketing strategies to get the public onboard. Already we've seen transportation surpass education and healthcare as the #1 concern for most of British Columbians. We aim to develop and deliver marketing materials for our members to use when interacting with the media as well as continue to form and support strategic alliances similar to those forged in our 2002 Transportation Summit.

Advocate for Public Tender Process

Our second strategic goal this year is to advocate for all government infrastructure transfer funds to be delivered by a public tender process. This task entails advocacy work on our members' behalf to CCA to make this a high CCA priority. The Association will also to advocate with provincial government and the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority that work be awarded through a public tender process.

Promote Careers in Our Industry

Our final strategic goal for 2004 is to promote careers in the road building and heavy construction industry. Because of the government's ambitious transportation plan and upcoming Olympic games, the industry anticipates that there will be tremendous opportunities for workers in this province. Through a survey sent to our membership we will identify the scope of present and future career opportunities in our province. We then plan on developing a marketing strategy and tools in co-operation with CCA and other provincial associations. We also aim to identify other resources to promote career opportunities in the road building industry and deliver positive public messages.

It's been a year full of activity in British Columbia and we look forward to keeping busy through the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Swaine
Chair, BCRB