



Message from the Minister



Lawrence Cannon

As the new Canadian Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communities, I am thrilled that the Government of Québec has asked me to address you briefly by means of the *Junction 30* newsletter. Since it was elected in January 2006, our government has maintained excellent relationships with Québec with regard to numerous economic, political, and cultural issues.

On May 2, 2006, our Minister of Finance, Jim Flaherty, presented a balanced federal budget that focused on the priorities of Canadians. This budget included major investments in road infrastructures. Over the coming four years, our government will invest \$16.5 billion in new initiatives aimed at improving transportation infrastructures and systems across the country.

With regard to investments, I am very proud that the new Government of Canada is partnering with the Government of Québec to complete the Western section of Autoroute 30 between Châteauguay and Vaudreuil-Dorion. The Government of Canada is aware of the many benefits that will ensue for Québec as a result of this major project to bypass the Island of

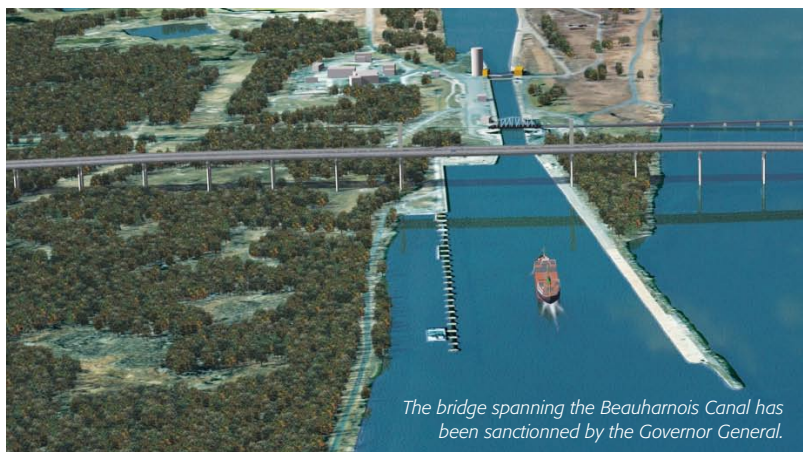
Montréal. This is why we are committed to financing a portion of the project under the *Canadian Strategic Infrastructure Fund*.

More specifically, the completion of Autoroute 30 will help to improve the flow of traffic on the road arteries in the Greater Montréal Region, for example on boulevard Métropolitain, and will also offer motorists and truckers a better performing highway system. In addition to improving access to markets in Ontario, the Maritimes, and the United States, it will contribute to the regional economic development of the Montérégie region and improve road safety, which is one of my department's priorities.

The Government of Canada is proud to collaborate with the Government of Québec on the execution of this segment of the project, which will take place in partnership with the private sector.

Together, let's continue to build a transportation network that is internationally recognized for its safety and security, as well as for its effectiveness and respect for the environment.

Lawrence Cannon
Minister of Transport,
Infrastructure, and Communities



The bridge spanning the Beauharnois Canal has been sanctioned by the Governor General.

A-30 structures sanctioned by the Governor General

In 2005, Canadian Parliament adopted the *Highway 30 Bridges Completion Act* authorizing the erection of bridges over the St. Lawrence River and Beauharnois Canal. (continued overleaf)

A-30 structures sanctioned by the Governor General

(cont'd)

Several studies were carried out to ensure that the planned bridge and structure locations as well as the plans and specifications for their construction complied with the requirements stipulated in the *Highway 30 Bridges Completion Act*.

On December 14, on recommendation of the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communities of Canada, the Governor General adopted an Order-in-Council specifically authorizing the locations and templates for the two major bridges as required by law.

The first major bridge to be built will be located over the St. Lawrence River between the municipality of Les Cèdres and the town of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Saint-Timothée district), while the other will span the Beauharnois Canal between the town of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Saint-Timothée district), and the town of Beauharnois.

The completion of Autoroute 30 is right on track!

The candidates in the Call for Qualifications have been announced!

In January, the ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) and the Agence des partenariats public-privé du Québec (PPPQ) announced the names of the firms that responded to the Call for Qualifications for the design, construction, financing, operation, maintenance, and repair of the Autoroute 30 completion under the terms of a public-private partnership. This Call was issued on November 8, 2006 with a view to identifying the candidate with the most advantageous and interesting proposal for both the government and the community.

This important step in the process made it possible to identify potential private partners for the completion of

the Western Section of Autoroute 30 in the metropolitan region. The Call for Qualifications targeted both national and international firms. The process will make it possible to select a maximum of three qualified candidates that will be invited to participate in the next step, specifically the Call for Proposals. These candidates will be selected according to their technical and financial ability to design, construct, finance, operate, maintain, and repair the infrastructure while respecting government requirements. Firms that were interested had until January 17, 2007 to submit their applications.

The following candidates responded to the Call for Qualifications:

Consortium Autoroutes du Québec (CAQ), consisting of:

- Cintra Concesiones de Infraestructuras de Transporte
- RBC Marchés des Capitaux
- Ferrovial-Agroman
- Simard-Beaudry
- Teknika HBA
- Michel Virlogeux

Infras-Québec A-30, consisting of:

- Macquarie Bank Ltd.
- Construction Kiewit Cie
- Parsons Overseas Company of Canada Ltd.
- Genivar
- Miller Paving Ltd.

Nouvelle Autoroute 30, consisting of:

- Acciona S.A.
- Iridium Concesiones de Infraestructuras S.A.
- Groupe Axor Inc.
- Acciona Infraestructuras S.A.
- Dragados S.A.
- SICE
- Arup Canada Inc.

SNC-Lavalin, consisting of:

- SNC-Lavalin
- Pomerleau
- EBC
- Rizzani de Eccher
- Buckland & Taylor
- Tecslult
- Dexia
- Mainroad

Each application is currently being evaluated. An announcement will be made on February 16 of those candidates that have been selected to continue the process.

The candidates that are deemed to be qualified at the end of the Call for Qualifications process will be eligible to present a detailed proposal for the completion of Autoroute 30 under the terms of a public-private partnership. This Call for Proposals will be launched in spring 2007.

To be continued!

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