

April 24, 2009

Calgary ring road's northern legs head into homestretch

Calgary... The 2009 highway construction season will complete the northern legs of Calgary's ring road.

"This year's construction season will be a very productive one for Calgary and area," said Luke Ouellette, Minister of Transportation. "We will complete approximately 45 per cent of Calgary's ring road this year and take on a number of other important projects."

Highlights of provincial highway construction work in Calgary and area include the following.

- **Completion of the \$425-million Stoney Trail NW ring road from Sarcee Trail NW to Deerfoot Trail (Highway 2).** Construction started in 2005 and all sections of the road will open to traffic by the end of November 2009. The road may open in phases throughout the year as construction progress allows.
- **Completion of the Stoney Trail NE ring road from Deerfoot Trail to 17 Avenue SE.** Construction started in 2007 and the road will open to traffic on or before Nov. 1. The project is a public-private partnership with the Stoney Trail Group and worth \$650 million in 2007 dollars.
- **One-lane addition to southbound Deerfoot Trail between Beddington Trail and 64 Avenue North.** This \$9 million road-widening project will give motorists more room between the Beddington Trail and 64 Avenue North interchanges and reduce weaving problems. Construction starts in 2009 and will be completed in 2010.
- **Continuation of major upgrades to the Queen Elizabeth II Highway-Yankee Valley Boulevard interchange in Airdrie.** Construction on this \$42-million project started in 2008 and will be completed by the fall of 2010. The project includes new bridges, ramps, lighting improvements, and expansion of Yankee Valley Boulevard from two to six lanes.

As noted in the Budget 2009 speech, every \$1 billion spent on public infrastructure supports 11,600 jobs that directly benefit Albertans and Alberta communities. The overall highway infrastructure investment of \$1.8 billion in 2009 will support more than 20,000 jobs throughout the province.

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Editors, please note: Minister Ouellette will be available for media interviews at 11:30 a.m. on April 24 at the John J. Bowlen Building, 620 - 7 Ave. SW in Calgary.

Media inquiries may be directed to:
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