

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release 2009TRAN0010-000108 Jan. 29, 2009

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

SEA-TO-SKY HIGHWAY UPGRADE NOW 80 PER CENT COMPLETE

DOODSON'S CORNER – The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project, first begun in 2003, is now about 80 per cent complete and will be finished in the fall, Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Kevin Falcon announced today.

"The project is on time and on budget," said Falcon. "The new highway will be safer, more efficient and reliable, and will provide economic opportunities that the benefit communities along the Sea-to-Sky corridor and the entire province."

Falcon made the announcement at Doodson's Corner, 17 kilometres north of Horseshoe Bay, where a sharp corner has been transformed into gentler, safer curve. "The engineering on this corner dramatically contrasts the old highway with the new," said Falcon.

The project will improve public safety with more passing lanes, smoother curves, better sightlines, highly-reflective pavement markings and more effective intersections.

The Sea-to-Sky upgrade project includes:

- o Four lanes from Horseshoe Bay to Ansell Place.
- o Two-, three- and four-lane sections from north of Lions Bay to Squamish.
- o Four lanes through Squamish.
- o Three lanes from Squamish to Whistler.
- o Three lanes between Culliton and Cheakamus, north of Squamish (completed in late 2004).
- o Four lanes from Ansell Place to Lions Bay, north of Horseshoe Bay (completed in December 2005).

The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project currently employs about 500 workers.

-30-

Media Dave Crebo

contact: Communications Director

Ministry of Transportation and

Infrastructure 250 387-7787 250 812-5747 (cell)

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.