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## NEWS RELEASE

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Office of the Premier

### **B.C. PPP PROJECTS WIN FOUR NATIONAL AWARDS**

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TORONTO – Four of British Columbia’s public infrastructure projects have won national awards from the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships.

“British Columbia’s partnerships program is delivering some of the largest and most complex projects in our province’s history, and doing it on budget and on time – or sooner. It’s an honour for our province that the innovation at work in these projects is being recognized on a national level,” said Premier Gordon Campbell. “Congratulations to all of the teams and every worker involved in these projects that are delivering significant benefits in communities across the province.”

The Canada Line Rapid Transit Project and the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project have been honoured with the Gold Award for Infrastructure. The Canada Line is a partnership between the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia, Vancouver International Airport Authority, the cities of Vancouver and Richmond, TransLink and InTransitBC. The Sea-to-Sky Highway is a partnership between the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and S2S Transportation Group.

The Golden Ears Bridge Project won the Silver Award for Infrastructure. The project is a partnership between TransLink and the Golden Crossing General Partnership.

“I would like to congratulate the many partners who are delivering these three projects to B.C. communities,” said Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Shirley Bond. “The benefits are being realized every day with the improved movement of people and goods around the Lower Mainland and beyond.”

The Canada Line, connecting the Vancouver International Airport and the cities of Richmond and Vancouver, has been operational since August 2009, and recently reached its 2011 ridership target of 100,000 riders per day. The Sea-to-Sky Highway, connecting the communities between West Vancouver and the Resort Municipality of Whistler, has been operational since October 2009. The Golden Ears Bridge, connecting Langley, Pitt Meadows, Surrey and Maple Ridge and improving travel times, has been operational since June 2009. All three projects were completed early and on budget.

The Royal Jubilee Hospital Patient Care Centre won the Silver Award for Project Financing. The project is a partnership between the Vancouver Island Health Authority and ISL Health.

“In 2011, the Royal Jubilee Patient Care Centre will improve our health-care capacity, providing 500 new beds and inpatient care services to Victoria and the surrounding communities,” said Health Services Minister Kevin Falcon. “This national award is yet another testament to the many benefits of the partnership model, such as design innovation and risk transfer.” *(date corrected from original copy, Dec. 7, 2009)*

The new 500-bed Royal Jubilee Hospital Patient Care Centre will provide inpatient services to medical/surgical patients and patients with mental health and addictions issues. It is currently under construction, and is on schedule to open its doors to patients in February 2011 *(date corrected from original copy, Dec. 7, 2009)*.

“The Vancouver Island Health Authority is looking forward to the completion of our new patient care centre at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria,” said Howard Waldner, CEO of the Vancouver Island Health Authority. “We have excellent partners and appreciate their contribution in helping finance a facility that will provide world-class patient care for years to come.”

The Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships is a national non-partisan, non-profit organization founded in 1993 to conduct research, publish findings and promote discussion of the benefits and risks of public-private partnerships in Canada and abroad. For more information, visit [www.pppcouncil.ca](http://www.pppcouncil.ca). The annual awards recognize innovation and excellence in the structuring and delivery of public private partnerships, an area in which B.C. continues to be a leader across North America.

B.C.’s partnership program and its projects have won 24 national and international awards since 2004. B.C. currently has \$10 billion invested in more than 30 partnership projects, which includes \$5 billion of private capital. For more information on these projects, visit Partnerships BC at [www.partnershipsbc.ca](http://www.partnershipsbc.ca).

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