



INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Transportation
Partnerships BC

SEA-TO-SKY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT VALUE FOR MONEY REPORT

VANCOUVER – As part of its commitment to public accountability, Partnerships British Columbia today released a project report on behalf of the Ministry of Transportation, explaining how value for money is expected to be achieved in the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project.

The project report describes the rationale, objectives and processes that led to the use of a public-private partnership for a portion of the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project and explains how value for money is measured, and how it is expected to be achieved.

The Auditor General provided a review of the project report and concluded that the report fairly describes the assumptions, context, decisions, procurement processes and results to date of the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project.

The Ministry of Transportation expects value for money to be achieved:

- Due to a strong, competitive selection process;
- Through the efficiencies gained by combining design, construction, operation and financing into one long-term contract, resulting in more accountability; and
- By enabling the private sector to provide additional scope and improvements for a fixed price.

In all competitive selection processes, including public-private partnership contracts, the Province and Partnerships BC are committed to a high standard of public disclosure to demonstrate accountability and transparency.

S2S Transportation Group was selected to provide the best-value highway improvements through a competitive selection process and a rigorous evaluation of proposals. The performance-based contract with S2S Transportation Group is structured to ensure that the contractor has the appropriate incentives to meet or exceed the long-term objectives of safety, reliability and capacity that the Ministry of Transportation has set for the project.

The Sea-to-Sky Highway links communities from West Vancouver to Whistler. Set in a mountain landscape, the highway presents complex engineering and construction challenges. The Ministry of Transportation is undertaking improvements to the highway to improve its safety, capacity and reliability. By 2009, extensive highway improvements will make travel along the corridor safer for all users. The ministry will oversee the project to ensure that the S2S Transportation Group meets performance requirements.

The full report is available on Partnerships BC's website (www.partnershipsbc.ca) and the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project's website (www.seatoskyimprovements.ca).

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