

## Snapshots from the Sea-to-Sky . . .

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### Technology enhances construction efficiency

The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project benefits from technologically-enhanced survey systems and computerized design of the highway improvements. Precise measurements generated by these systems are efficiently converted to accurate construction work on the ground. This is demonstrated by work at the Porteau Cove Provincial Park intersection. The surveyor walking ahead of the grader has a powerful hand-held computer mounted on a pole which contains the engineering and design specifications of the roadway. Readings and engineering specifics from the computer direct the surveyor to mark the ground with orange spray paint, indicating to the grader operator where high spots exist.

**P.S.** *The section between Porteau Cove and the Furry Creek sign will be a temporary 3-lane highway for the Olympics, reverting to two-lanes after this period. Beyond the Furry Creek sign, the transition to a 4-lane highway begins.*



*The computer mounted on this survey pole was specially designed to interface with the global positioning satellite (GPS) survey equipment used on the project. What used to be called 'optical transits' have now been replaced by equipment called 'total robotic stations.' These devices use servo-motors, prisms and infrared technology to search for and lock onto the survey target, following it as the layout person moves the instrument around the job site.*

**The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project** *Improving safety, reliability and capacity*

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