



75th SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
(extension of 75th Annual General Meeting)

August 27, 2021

(Hybrid Zoom and In-Person at Strathcona County Hall Rm L1)

MINUTES

Attendance/Participation:

- Recorded on the Zoom meeting

Paul Smith, Strathcona County	Don Grumble, Life Member	Jack Wright, Life Member
Randy Goulden, Yorkton	Bill Johnston, Churchbridge	Jamie Brandrick, Borden
Rene Cadieux, Russell-Binscarth	Dan Warawa, Lamont County	Bert Journault, Jasper
Rosemary Hruby, McBride	Dennis Roth, Kitscoty	Merv Starzyk, RM Yellowhead
Sandy Salt, Indiv Member	Gordon Barnhart, Saltcoats	Jason Stelmaschuk, Vermilion River
Rob Tanner, Tanner Young	Marie Tanner, Tanner Young	Daniel Fish, CAO, NCRD

Also participating:

John Wojcicki, CAO, TCYHA	Darrell Gunn, Regional Director	Viranga Tennakoon
Brett Wareham, Director	Northern Region	Senior Project Manager
Highway Design	BC Transportation	SK Transportation
MB Transportation		

1. CALL TO ORDER and Review of Zoom meeting protocol
 - 1.1. The meeting was called to order by President Starzyk at 1:00pm MT
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
 - 2.1. **Moved/Seconded::S.Salt (Indiv Mbr) / Saltcoats (G. Barnhart)** that the Agenda be approved as circulated. CARRIED
3. PRESENTATIONS FROM PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES
(details available)
 - 3.1. Manitoba
 - 3.1.1. Brett Wareham, Director Highway Design, Manitoba Transportation, provided the presentation.
 - 3.1.2. Some highlights included sectional paving on #16, some structure replacements; Looking at putting in a roundabout at the intersection of #16 and #305;

Identified some aging infrastructure that will need replacing
Will be looking at more network screening to promote safely driven projects
#16 has low lying areas which present challenges

3.2. Saskatchewan

- 3.2.1. Viranga Tennakoon Senior Project Manager SK Transportation provided the presentation.
- 3.2.2. Some highlights included a quick recap of #16 layout in the Province;
\$706.1million was spent in 201-2020 on significant highway improvements throughout the Province;
Approximately \$20million was invested in #16 improvements in 2019 and \$15million in 2020;
Over \$50million in investment is underway or being planned for #16 in 2021-2022 which includes functional planning for a Saskatoon Freeway project
Passing lanes on #16 West of the Manitoba border are a key component of that investment. 13 sets of Passing lanes will be constructed; they will be about every 10-12 kms apart and will greatly improve traffic flow and more importantly safety. This was recognized as a huge improvement and a big step in eventual twinning throughout the Province.

3.3. Alberta

- 3.3.1. Michael Botros, Regional Director AB Transportation, had technical issues and was not able to present. The presentation deck was supplied after the meeting.

3.4. British Columbia

- 3.4.1. Darrell Gunn, Regional Director – Northern Region BC Transportation provided the presentation
- 3.4.2. Some highlights included noting that #16 is BC primary East-West trade corridor especially for northern BC and its connection to indigenous communities.
Enhanced highway maintenance is being planned; contracts are going out;
Design standards are changing to accommodate environmental changes;
Resurfacing on both #16 and #5 planned, investment will be approximately \$26million;
New construction projects will be an investment of approximately \$18million; much of that will be construction of passing lanes;
Completed construction projects on #16 totaled about \$27million; new projects in the process of being tendered, these will include more passing lanes;
Other improvements include new inspection facilities on #16 and #5;
The roundabout at #16 and #37 intersection was completed; the cost was \$9million and is proving very effective;
Additional #5 construction projects were reviewed; total investment about \$48million;

3.5. General Questions & Answers

- 3.5.1. Increase in construction of Passing lanes in Manitoba will be upgraded to match Saskatchewan's plan.
- 3.5.2. A comment was made for Governments to consider not only the traffic count but the type of traffic found on #16 and that will justify increased investments.
- 3.5.3. The passing lanes in Saskatchewan were once again acknowledged.
- 3.5.4. The diameter of the Manitoba roundabout was discussed
- 3.5.5. An improvement in Yorkton at the #15/Queen's intersection will be welcomed and the Manitoba roundabout plan could be considered. SK Transportation will look into that.
- 3.5.6. The role that TCYHA could play in facilitating the work of Provincial Ministries was discussed; ongoing discussion between the Province and the Association was confirmed as being most valuable especially when the safety and economic benefits are stressed.
- 3.5.7. Status of level crossing at #16/#28 was discussed noting it has been designed and is still awaiting funding approval, it has been tagged as a priority;
- 3.5.8. The replacement of the billboard on #5 by Rearguard Falls was brought up; D. Gunn will look into that;
- 3.5.9. A last-minute update on the #16/Queen Street intersection in Yorkton was provided noting that a preliminary measure will be put into place which lowers the speed limit while the construction review is being conducted;
- 3.5.10. Improved signage and lighting needed at the North turnoff at the Dafoe intersection. #16 and #6, east of Saskatoon.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- 4.1. NOTE: this Item was rescheduled to after item 5 in the Agenda order.
- 4.2. TCYHA Awards Committee Chair, Jack Wright, presented Strathcona County Councillor Paul Smith with the TCYHA Honorary Life Member Award in recognition of his long-standing support of the Association. Participating Members applauded Councillor Smith.

5. RESOLUTIONS SESSION

Resolutions Chair Sandy Salt conducted the Resolutions session noting the rules governing Resolutions:

Resolutions along with Background Information were circulated

5.1. Resolutions Submitted by Members

Resolution 2021 – 01

SUBJECT: SAFETY UPGRADES TO PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

SUBMITTED BY: Town of Churchbridge

WHEREAS: a pedestrian crossing exists at the intersection of Highway #80 and Highway #16; and,

WHEREAS, the speed limit passing through the Town of Churchbridge is 60 kms/hour and

Royal Canadian Mountain Police (RCMP) traffic statistics show speeding is an issue heading through the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the pedestrian crossing push button is beside the highway versus beside the sidewalk; and,

WHEREAS, the visibility at a two highway crossing intersection is limited regarding lighting and signage to provide safety for pedestrians; and,

WHEREAS, the accessibility for pedestrians with use of wheelchairs or strollers is limited for the current crossing in place; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the TCYHA advocate to the Department of Highways to provide better lighting and signage for pedestrians at the crossing intersection of Highway #16 & Highway #80, to advocate relocating the current pedestrian push button, and to provide better accessibility to patrons for a safer crossing along the TransCanada Highway.

Moved/Seconded:: Churchbridge (B. Johnston) / Saltcoats (G. Barnhart) that Resolution 2021-01 be approved. CARRIED.

Resolution 2021 – 02

SUBJECT: **TURNING LANE ADDITION FOR DANGEROUS GOODS ROUTE**

SUBMITTED BY: **Town of Churchbridge and RM Churchbridge**

WHEREAS, a Dangerous Goods Route has been designated as per Resolution 283/1992 for the Town of Churchbridge adjacent to Section 16, Township 22, Range 32 West of the first Meriden; and,

WHEREAS, the Dangerous Goods Route is used to divert Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods away from the Town of Churchbridge; and,

WHEREAS, Hazardous Substances and Dangerous Goods are classified within the *Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Regulations*; and,

WHEREAS, the TransCanada Highway #16 at Section 16, Township 22, Range 32 West of the first Meriden, is too narrow for semi's to transport Dangerous Goods or Hazardous Substances safely; and,

WHEREAS, the TransCanada Highway #16 road possess a safety risk with no turning lane heading onto Section 16, Township 22, Range 32 West of the first Meriden with such Hazardous Substances or Dangerous Goods as the speed limit is 100 kms/hour for all vehicular traffic; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the TransCanada Yellowhead Highway Association advocate to the Department of Highways to add a turning lane from the

TransCanada Highway #16, adjacent to Section 16, Township 22, Range 32 West of the first Meriden, to ensure semi drivers delivering Dangerous Goods or Hazardous Substances are able to slow down safely and turn the corner to avoid accidents.

Moved/Seconded:: Churchbridge (B. Johnston) / Saltcoats (G. Barnhart) that Resolution 2021-02 be approved. CARRIED.

Resolution 2021 – 03

SUBJECT: **Mile 28 Level Crossing**

SUBMITTED BY: **North Coast Regional District**

WHEREAS the Province of B.C. and the Government of Canada have deferred the Mile 28 Highway 16 Overpass Project due to financial constraints;

AND WHEREAS volume of truck and rail traffic continues to increase with the expansion of industrial activity in and around the north coast region;

AND WHEREAS increased volume of truck and rail traffic at the Mile 28 crossing poses a significant risk to public safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association advocate that the Province of B.C. and Government of Canada resume works on the Mile 28 Highway 16 Overpass Project.

Moved/Seconded:: S. Salt (Indiv member) / McBride (R. Hruby) that Resolution 2021-03 be approved. CARRIED.

Resolution 2021 – 04

SUBJECT: **Highway 16 Road Maintenance and Safety**

SUBMITTED BY: **North Coast Regional District**

WHEREAS the quality of highway 16 road maintenance service provided by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has a significant impact on the safety of our highway;

AND WHEREAS the provision of quality highway 16 road maintenance services not only ensures safe conditions for those traveling highway 16 but also ensures that the maximum life span of highway 16 infrastructure can be realized;

AND WHEREAS the Carwash Rock and Kasiks areas along highway 16 require additional consideration for increased maintenance for safety concerns;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association advocate that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure undertake

enhanced monitoring and maintenance along highway 16, particularly at Carwash Rock and Kasiks;

AND FURTHER THAT that the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association advocate that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure consider redevelopment of the roadway infrastructure between Carwash Rock and Kasiks to increase public safety.

Moved/Seconded:: McBride (R. Hruby) / S. Salt (Indiv member) that Resolution 2021-04 be approved. CARRIED.

5.2. Emerging/Extra-Ordinary Resolutions

5.2.1. No emerging Resolutions

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1. G. Barnhart brought up the idea of 5G being promoted as the preferred connection along the Yellowhead. M. Starzyk relayed an experience he organized for local communities. G. Barnhart will make arrangements to have more information provided to John Wojcicki which can be discussed at a subsequent Board meeting.
- 6.2. M. Starzyk noted the opening of a dog and pet park just off the highway which may be a first.
- 6.3. B. Journault noted the improvements made by Parks Canada for the construction of passing lanes which greatly increase safety.
- 6.4. The idea of a 4-Province marketing campaign was discussed. This would be similar to one done in the '90's. WD has a program in place that might support this. J. Wojcicki noted recent discussions with the CEO of Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada which could also be involved. Additional comments were supportive.
- 6.5. It was noted that the Provincial updates were very much appreciated and very useful.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 7.1. A poll will be sent to identify some possible meeting dates.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1. **Moved/Seconded::Jasper (B. Journault) / S. Salt (Indiv. Member)** that the meeting be adjourned, CARRIED
- 8.2. President Starzyk adjourned the meeting at 2:40pm MT

