



Strengthening Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway: new interchange will help grow exports and benefit the local economy

The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, on behalf of the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport; the Honourable Brian Mason, Alberta Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure; and Don Iveson, Mayor of the City of Edmonton, today marked the official completion of the Queen Elizabeth II Highway (QEII) and 41 Avenue Southwest Intermodal Access project in Edmonton, Alberta.

The project involved the construction of a new interchange on the QEII Highway and 41 Avenue SW, including a grade separation for the new Canadian Pacific intermodal facility, realignment of QEII Highway from south of 41 Avenue SW to Ellerslie Road, a bridge crossing Blackmud Creek, and realignment and upgrading of 41 Avenue SW in the vicinity of the project.

The QEII is an important north-south provincial highway on the National Highway System that is used not only for commuter trips, but also for the transportation of commercial goods between regions. The interchange will improve connections between different modes of transportation, improve rail and road traffic flows, and facilitate economic development and international trade with Asia-Pacific countries.

Quick Facts

- The \$205-million project was completed on time and on budget. The Government of Canada contributed up to \$75 million through the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Transportation Infrastructure Fund. The Province of Alberta invested \$57.5 million, and the City of Edmonton provided \$72.5 million.
- Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway is a network of seaports, airports, railways, roadways and border crossings that reaches across Western Canada.
- Launched in 2006, the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative (APGCI) aims to make Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway the best transportation network facilitating global supply chains between North America and Asia. To date, the Government of Canada has invested close to \$1.4 billion in APGCI infrastructure projects, in partnership with all four Western provinces, municipalities, transportation authorities and the private sector, for a total project value of over \$3.5 billion.

Quotes

"Transportation and distribution are a vital part of our local, regional and national economies. It's critical that we provide for the smooth movement of people and goods to foster economic growth and take advantage of the trade opportunities offered by the Asia-Pacific Gateway. This project will provide for increased capacity, reduced logistics costs and improved access for local industries, while at the same time making for a much safer and more efficient drive for shippers, tourists and other motorists."

- The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

"The 41st Ave SW interchange will encourage greater investment in the Capital Region, driving economic growth and diversification. Not only will it allow development of the intermodal CP Rail terminal, but facilitate transfer of goods to trucks and to the Port Alberta Foreign Trade Zone at Edmonton International Airport. We are pleased to have worked in collaboration with our federal and municipal partners to deliver this important infrastructure project."

- The Honourable Brian Mason, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

"As the Edmonton Metropolitan Region grows, the ability to move people and goods efficiently around the region is critical to our economic success and a continued high quality of life. The QEII/41 Avenue SW interchange will improve safety, connectivity and livability for area residents and businesses. We are proud to work with other orders of government to build a piece of infrastructure that benefits not just Edmonton, but also the whole region, Alberta and Canada."

- Don Iveson, Mayor of the City of Edmonton

For more information:

Visit: [Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative](#)

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