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Public Finance and Transportation Division  
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HIGHWAY STATISTICS

CANADA, 1948

Post war expenditures on roads, bridges, ferries, etc., continued to increase during 1948, reaching a total of nearly \$266 millions, an advance of some \$33 millions or 14.3 per cent over 1947. Provincial governments supplied almost \$249 millions towards this sum with the remainder contributed by Federal, Municipal and other sources. Road construction costs increased from \$115 millions in 1947 to \$159 millions in 1948 and are reflected in an additional 4,684 miles of surfaced highway to the national total.

Federal expenditures were chiefly devoted towards the upkeep of national park roadways and nationally owned bridges and ferries, although in the building of the "Mackenzie Highway" from Grimshaw, Alberta, to Hay River, N.W.T., the Dominion Government paid about 68 per cent of the total cost. In general, however, highways are provincially controlled and maintained and responsibility of assisting municipalities and townships falls directly on the provinces.

(Concluded on page 6)

Table 1

HIGHWAY MILEAGE, 1948

Province	Portland Cement Concrete	Bitum- inous Pavement	Bitum- inous Surface	Gravel Crushed Stone	Other Surfaces	Total Surfaced Road	Improved Earth	Other Earth	Total Mileage
P. E. Island	-	222	-	897	-	1,119	1,208	1,283	3,610
Nova Scotia	7	26	1,051	6,787	-	7,871	7,260	12	15,143
New Brunswick	-	-	1,109	8,392	-	9,501	2,673	984	13,158
Quebec	516	4,374	831	19,920	121	25,562	-	15,088	40,650
Ontario	1,949	2,890	4,069	49,737	-	58,645	14,261	-	72,906
Manitoba	48	-	543	8,404	-	8,995	8,155	x 74,197	91,347
Saskatchewan	-	-	498	12,647	62	13,207	x 77,779	x 121,992	1/212,978
Alberta	-	-	794	13,434	-	14,228	x 26,677	x 41,330	82,235
British Columbia	39	-	1,885	8,178	-	10,102	9,928	2,557	22,587
Yukon - N.W.T.	-	-	-	1,263	-	1,263	357	32	1,652
Total	2,359	7,512	10,780	129,659	183	150,493	148,298	257,475	556,266

x - Includes all road allowances.

1/ Includes 59,759 miles of unimproved earth and 62,235 miles of road allowance not in use.

Table 2

EXPENDITURES ON HIGHWAYS, 1948

	Canada	Prince Edward (1) Island	Nova Scotia	New (1) Brunswick
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>Roads</u>				
Construction ..... (x)	138,913,946	1,292,558	12,591,962	14,197,244
Maintenance .....	92,753,284	559,224	6,111,384	5,038,413
Administration and General .....	9,321,238	72,572	582,312	20,000
Total ..... (x)	240,988,468	1,924,354	19,285,658	19,255,657
<u>Bridges and Ferries</u>				
Construction .....	12,128,037	114,000	1,579,840	-
Maintenance .....	9,814,142	119,200	1,195,268	1,642,433
Administration and General .....	2,807,037	-	74,116	-
Total .....	24,749,216	233,200	2,849,224	1,642,433
Footpaths and Sidewalks .....	64,530	-	1,344	-
Grand Total ..... (x)	265,802,214	2,157,554	22,136,226	20,898,090
<u>Dominion Expenditures</u>				
Construction .....	1,362,769	17,558	6,687	168,716
Maintenance .....	3,152,592	8,424	88,244	23,408
Administration and General .....	1,151,999	1,572	20,013	20,000
Subsidies (Paid) .....	+ 780,305	-	-	-
Total .....	6,447,655	27,554	114,944	212,124
<u>Provincial Expenditures</u>				
Construction .....	141,021,919	1,389,000	14,165,115	14,028,528
Maintenance .....	81,232,838	670,000	7,219,483	6,657,438
Administration and General .....	10,978,157	71,000	636,684	-
Subsidies (Paid + Received -) .....	+ 15,692,110	-	- 158,191	-
Total .....	248,975,024	2,130,000	21,863,091	20,685,966
<u>Municipal Expenditures</u>				
Construction .....	8,685,416	-	124,270	-
Maintenance .....	18,184,448	-	33,921	-
Administration and General .....	-	-	-	-
Subsidies (Paid + Received -) .....	- 16,772,733	-	-	-
Total .....	10,097,131	-	158,191	-
Expenditures by Others ..... (x)	282,404	-	-	-
Grand Total ..... (x)	265,802,214	2,157,554	22,136,226	20,898,090
<u>Total Expenditures</u>				
Construction ..... (x)	151,057,111	1,406,558	14,171,802	14,197,244
Maintenance .....	102,614,957	678,424	7,307,727	6,680,846
Administration and General .....	12,130,146	72,572	656,697	20,000
<u>Toll Bridges, Ferries and Roads</u>				
Revenues .....	2,390,413	-	134,994	-

(1) Data from provincial public accounts.

(x) Includes \$104,277 expended on railway grade crossings not allocated by provinces.

EXPENDITURES ON HIGHWAYS, 1948

Quebec (1)	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon - Northwest Territories
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
46,087,000	25,556,177	7,569,007	5,594,996	13,495,802	11,684,923	740,000
25,143,000	38,906,405	1,912,064	2,688,555	3,087,389	7,184,850	2,125,000
1,691,000	4,497,582	462,491	185,336	48,308	771,637	990,000
72,918,000	68,960,164	9,943,562	8,468,887	16,631,499	19,641,410	3,855,000
2,121,000	4,607,194	489,000	512,408	635,252	1,961,343	108,000
2,042,042	1,864,535	18,216	166,063	1,055,366	1,487,730	223,289
-	-	151	120	492	2,682,158	50,000
4,163,042	6,471,729	507,367	678,591	1,691,110	6,131,231	381,289
-	47,070	4,791	853	6,311	4,161	-
77,081,042	75,478,963	10,455,720	9,148,331	18,328,920	25,776,802	4,236,289
-	253	-	277,069	44,486	-	848,000
5,742	178,199	34,268	16,463	282,002	167,553	2,348,289
-	13,322	743	799	49,930	5,610	1,040,000
-	-	-	-	+ 780,305	-	-
5,742	191,774	35,011	294,331	1,156,723	173,163	4,236,289
48,201,000	21,618,495	8,058,007	5,830,541	14,087,967	13,643,266	-
27,158,300	22,493,045	1,900,606	2,834,478	3,864,535	8,484,953	-
1,691,000	4,484,260	462,096	184,697	-	3,448,420	-
-	+16,772,733	- 142,127	-	- 780,305	-	-
77,050,300	65,368,533	10,278,582	8,849,716	17,172,197	25,576,639	-
-	8,558,146	-	-	-	3,000	-
13,000	18,133,243	-	4,284	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	- 16,772,733	-	-	-	-	-
13,000	9,918,656	-	4,284	-	3,000	-
12,000	-	142,127	-	-	24,000	-
77,081,042	75,478,963	10,455,720	9,148,331	18,328,920	25,776,802	4,236,289
48,208,000	30,176,894	8,058,007	6,107,610	14,132,453	13,646,266	848,000
27,182,042	40,804,487	1,934,874	2,855,225	4,146,537	8,676,506	2,348,289
1,691,000	4,497,582	462,839	185,496	49,930	3,454,030	1,040,000
1,462,168	-	-	-	(2)	793,251	-

(x)

(2) Not available.

Table 3 <sup>1/</sup> STATISTICS ON URBAN STREETS, SIDEWALKS, BRIDGES AND CULVERTS  
IN CITIES AND LARGE TOWNS, 1948

Expenditures	Canada	Prince Edward Island (2)	Nova Scotia
	\$	\$	\$
New Construction .....	16,062,121	7,469	1,531,453
Major improvements, widening, etc. ....	5,782,204	2,094	72,230
Maintenance repairs and minor improvements .....	8,493,489	50,327	524,520
Cleaning, snow clearing, sanding, etc. ....	8,226,266	31,143	156,839
Administration and general expenses .....	2,012,951	4,466	61,366
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>40,577,031</b>	<b>95,499</b>	<b>2,346,408</b>
Construction / .....	23,326,568	9,990	1,646,750
Maintenance / .....	17,250,463	85,509	699,658
<b>Total Expenditures on roads</b> .....	<b>33,077,985</b>	<b>71,624</b>	<b>1,972,123</b>
Total Expenditures on bridges and ferries .....	1,348,064	382	16,418
Total Expenditures on footpaths and sidewalks ..	5,522,113	23,173	344,719
Undistributed amounts shown in total expenditures	628,869	320	13,148
<u>Subsidies and Amounts Collectable</u>			
From Dominion Government .....	-	-	-
From Provincial Government .....	2,476,613	1,483	37,502
From County, Township, etc. ....	19,746	-	-
From other sources .....	73,336	100	-
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>2,569,695</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>37,502</b>
<b>Net Expenditures (total expenditures less subsidies)</b>	<b>38,007,336</b>	<b>93,916</b>	<b>2,308,906</b>
<u>Class of Road</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Concrete (Portland Cement) .....	868.29	7.31	24.37
Bituminous Pavements .....	3,670.37	21.50	160.35
Bituminous Surfaces .....	2,350.13	4.56	103.83
Gravel (traffic bound gravel or crushed stone and stabilized gravel or stone, not surfaced treated) .....	3,282.23	33.06	202.54
Other surfaces - brick granite block, wood block, etc. ....	310.48	-	4.00
<b>Total Mileage of Surfaced Roads</b> .....	<b>10,481.50</b>	<b>66.43</b>	<b>495.09</b>
Improved earth roads (graded and drained) .....	2,577.53	20.37	121.06
Other earth roads .....	1,771.82	4.00	123.30
<b>Total Mileage of all Roads</b>	<b>14,830.85</b>	<b>90.80</b>	<b>739.47</b>

/ Includes proportion of Administration and General Expenses and Undistributed Items.

STATISTICS ON URBAN STREETS, SIDEWALKS, BRIDGES AND CULVERTS  
IN CITIES AND LARGE TOWNS, 1948

New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
287,224	4,940,159	4,127,247	1,140,500	586,308	1,941,174	1,500,587
349,778	1,038,886	3,793,456	115,751	20,246	71,312	318,451
235,849	1,504,505	3,131,023	630,832	281,601	644,962	1,489,870
207,374	3,712,185	2,897,901	381,832	178,415	287,262	373,315
70,017	844,879	441,649	174,630	40,715	154,213	221,016
1,150,242	12,040,614	14,391,276	2,443,545	1,107,285	3,098,923	3,903,239
678,288	6,782,926	8,171,475	1,352,940	638,099	2,117,879	1,928,221
471,954	5,257,688	6,219,801	1,090,605	469,186	981,044	1,975,018
1,118,760	9,376,123	11,757,831	2,186,812	883,603	2,386,160	3,324,949
-	115,363	727,849	68,432	13,951	276,974	128,695
29,023	2,065,376	1,871,889	183,551	194,445	424,169	385,768
2,459	483,752	33,707	4,750	15,286	11,620	63,827
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60,965	87,708	2,245,715	8,865	17,361	9,693	7,321
-	-	16,638	294	-	-	2,814
-	14,438	53,029	-	-	65	5,704
60,965	102,146	2,315,382	9,159	17,361	9,758	15,839
1,089,277	11,938,468	12,075,894	2,434,386	1,089,924	3,089,165	3,887,400
<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Miles</u>
27.26	124.35	452.87	125.42	3.94	7.44	95.33
132.50	919.97	1,669.78	214.21	101.88	180.71	269.47
56.05	388.18	899.29	70.15	71.53	137.93	618.61
94.82	281.79	688.31	504.04	333.65	682.21	461.81
-	26.93	104.77	3.46	20.27	3.25	147.80
310.63	1,741.22	3,815.02	917.28	531.27	1,011.54	1,593.02
51.20	191.36	400.74	505.13	606.58	474.20	206.87
1.00	216.73	165.25	104.00	180.60	806.28	170.66
362.83	2,149.31	4,381.01	1,526.41	1,318.45	2,292.02	1,970.55

1/ These statistics are for all cities and towns of 2,000 population and up in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 4,000 and up in Quebec and Ontario, 1,000 and up in the four Western Provinces, and all urban municipalities in Prince Edward Island.

2/ Revised total expenditures for Prince Edward Island, 1947 - \$87,811

Construction costs include both new building and major improvements such as straightening, widening, etc., while maintenance costs cover ordinary repairs and minor improvements, snow clearing, sanding, etc. The acquisition of new machinery for highway upkeep is usually treated as capital outlay and included with construction costs. As indicated by a footnote in table 2, \$104,277 was subscribed from the Railway Crossing Fund towards the repair of grade crossings. This sum is included in the Canada totals but is not allocated by provinces, and hence the Federal total will not in all cases agree with a cross addition by provinces.

Total highway mileage increased 1,775 miles during the year and, as mentioned above, 4,684 miles of surfaced highways were brought into service. The rather large amount of other earth roads mileage in the prairie provinces is due to the inclusion of road allowances or mileage designated as future travelways. It is noteworthy that the trend in highway building and surfacing is moving gradually away from cement and concrete finish and tending strongly towards bituminous covering.

During 1948, Canadian expenditures of \$241 millions on highways alone far exceeded the total revenues of \$176 millions received from gasoline tax and motor vehicle registrations. To fully appreciate the extent of usage of the public roads and the necessity of increasing construction and maintenance, it must be realized that motor vehicle registrations have doubled in the last fifteen years rising from 1,083,000 in 1933 to 2,054,000 in 1948. Using 1935-39 as a base year equal to 100, the index for passenger car registrations has advanced from 83.8 to 136.5 during this period while commercial vehicles moved from 75.9 to 244.9. In addition to domestic traffic, Canadian highways carry millions of foreign tourist cars annually with some 6.5 million vehicle entries recorded during 1948. Again, apart from wear and tear by vehicles, the natural climatic conditions are severe and play havoc with the roadways in the form of snow, frost, floods, etc. Thus, the annual maintenance bill is necessarily high in order to adequately accommodate the increased present day traffic.

#### Toll Bridges and Ferries

The National Harbours Board operates a toll bridge across the St. Lawrence at Montreal and across the Narrows at Vancouver. There are other toll bridges in Quebec and another in British Columbia. Numerous ferries are operated in all provinces, some of which charge tolls.

#### Urban Streets, Sidewalks, Bridges and Culverts

Statistics in table 3 cover all cities and towns of 2,000 population and up in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 4,000 and up in Quebec and Ontario, 1,000 and up in the four western provinces and all urban municipalities in Prince Edward Island.

