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Times Transcript	(Daily)	Page	1	Coda 07 17A	94, 70, 205-7,
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rant used to be. It should be ready for the Francophone Summit in 1999.

Speaking of money, wonder what the price of a toll booth is these days? Sleuth got out his spyglass and found out that Maritime Road Development pegged the cost at \$388,000 to build the toll booth, an adjacent parking lot and an administration building. That's a lot of quarters, folks!

Tongues are wagging in Hillsborough over the use of two RCMP officers and their dog during the filming of a movie last week in that scenic Albert County village. Sleuth hears that local businesspeople, who had

hoped to get a cut of the action, were a little upset. Who paid the Mounties to sit at the filming location all day, they are asking? And why did the Mounties and their dog take work from local actors and frained canines? Was this an approved public relations situation? "Perhaps the two officers volunteered their time, and the RCMP donated the dog, transport vehicle and subsequent costs for the betterment of the growing proving cial film industry," one disgruntled critic suggested. "Either way, it costs us, the taxpayers." he grunted.

What's that sound? Why, Sleuth hears it's the rumble of a wall caving in as the provincial Department of Education learns how the

entire plan to do away with school boards in this province proves to be so unpopular they can't walk into the next election with it. A secret report, almost written but not to see the light of day for a very long time, suggests that eliminating the boards has done irreparable damage to the government image. Parents want a say, and they will get one, even if they move out of the traditional system and into alternates like charter schools and home schooling. You read it here first, folks.

■ Got a rumor? Want it checked? Know something interesting that has happened or is about to happen? Fax Sleuth at 859-4904. He reports on this page every Suturday.