

( Enclosure. )

*Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council, dated 6th September 1858, approved by His Excellency the Governor General.*

The Committee of Council having reference to the recommendation contained in their Report of the 31st ultimo, on the subject of the Inter-Colonial Railway to connect Canada with the lower Provinces, humbly advise that copies of the Joint Address to Her Majesty, passed by the two branches of the Canadian Parliament during its last Session, be forwarded by your Excellency to the respective Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, with an intimation that three Members of your Excellency's Council are on the eve of their departure for England, charged with urging that important subject on the attention of the Imperial authorities, and suggesting that a fitting occasion is thus presented for the adoption by the lower Provinces of such steps as they may think advisable, to co-operate with Canada in promoting the object in question.

Certified.

(Signed)

W. H. LEE, C. E. C.

( Enclosure. )

1. *Resolved*, That the construction of an Inter-Colonial Railway connecting the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with Canada, has long been regarded as a matter of national concern, and ought earnestly to be pressed on the consideration of the Imperial Government.

2. *Resolved*, That during several months of the year, intercourse between the United Kingdom and Canada can only be carried on through the territory of the United States of America, and that such dependence on, and exclusive relations with a foreign country cannot, even in time of peace, but exercise an important and unwholesome influence on the *status* of Canada as a portion of the Empire, and may tend to establish elsewhere that identity of interest which ought to exist between the Mother Country and her Colonies.

3. *Resolved*, That while this House implicitly relies on the repeated assurances of the Imperial Government, that the strength of the Empire would be put forth to secure this Province against external aggression, it is convinced that such strength cannot be efficiently exerted during a large portion of the year, from the absence of sufficient means of communication, and that should the amicable relations which at present so happily exist between Great Britain and the United States be ever disturbed, the difficulty of access to the ocean during the winter months might seriously endanger the safety of the Province.

4. *Resolved*, That in view of the speedy opening up of the territories now occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company, and of the development and settlement of the vast regions between Canada and the Pacific Ocean, it is essential to the interests of the Empire at large that a highway extending from the Atlantic Ocean westward should exist, which would at once place the whole British possessions in America within the ready access and easy protection of Great Britain; whilst, by the facilities for internal communication thus afforded, the prosperity of those great dependencies would be promoted, their strength consolidated and added to the strength of the Empire, and their permanent union with the Mother Country secured.

5. *Resolved*, That Canada has already nearly completed the construction within the Province of a chain of Railways over 1600 miles in length, extending from the Eastern Frontier of the Province towards its Western Boundary, which is of the greatest importance to its commercial and material prosperity, and forming part of the great proposed highway, but which, without completion to the Ocean, is comparatively useless in a national point of view, either as bringing the Sister Colonies together, or as connecting those Colonies with the Parent State.

6. *Resolved*, That this House, under these circumstances, is deeply impressed with the importance of an Inter-Colonial Railway, and the necessity for its immediate construction; and desiring to co-operate with the Imperial Government and the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in securing its speedy completion, this House approves of the Memorandum  
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