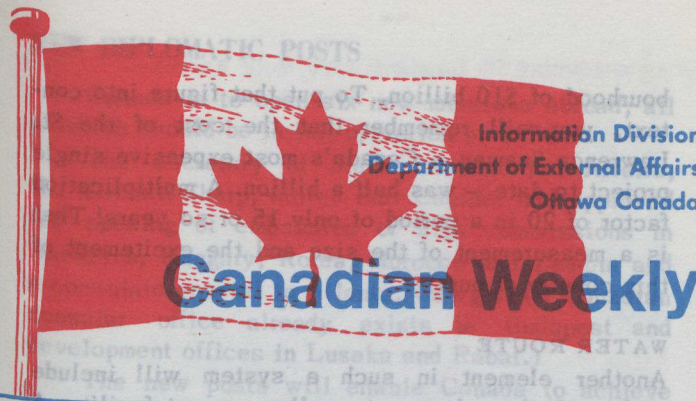


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TRANSPORTATION THE KEY TO CANADA'S NORTH

The following passages are from an address by Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau to the National Newspaper Awards Dinner in Toronto on April 8:

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Canada continues to be regarded by outsiders as a wondrous place. And so it is. There are mighty tasks being undertaken, epic feats of achievement and understanding which are models of their kind in the entire world.

In the waters off Canada's three coasts oceanographic research work is proceeding at a pace which is widening from day to day the world lead which Canadian scientists enjoy in this future-oriented field. In the spaces above our atmosphere complex communications signals are flashing back and forth at blinding speed employing Canadian-designed and manufactured equipment. Canadian snow and all-terrain vehicles dominate the world market from the wastes of Siberia to the marshes of

Borneo. Canadian STOL [short-take-off-and-landing] aircraft are the standard of the industry. In these and dozens of other fields ranging from new surgical techniques to agricultural innovation to urban social accomplishments Canadians are adjusting to change and proving their abilities in the process.

NEW TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Any one of these endeavours is worthy of commendation. Others, equally exciting and equally necessary as Canada progresses, are still in the design and feasibility-study stage. One of these is of the same magnitude as the first transcontinental rail line or the St. Lawrence Seaway, and their equal in its potential effects on Canada. Just as the Canadian Pacific Railway linked together the breadth of Canada and secured the future of British Columbia as part of this country instead of being an uncertain pawn in a territorial struggle between the major powers, just as the Seaway opened the heart of this continent to the markets of the world, so is this new proposal one worthy of the size of Canada and its boundless future. It looks to the soul of Canada — the vast North with its immense distances, its unique native inhabitants. This endeavour is a transportation system designed to cope with the sparse population, scattered resource deposits, and peculiar archipelago geography of the Arctic. In these circumstances conventional solutions are not feasible. What are needed are a daring and imagination equal to our geography, a confidence of the quality exhibited by Champlain, the fortitude and stamina of the early settlers. The technology of the Seventies must be coupled to the foresight of our predecessors.

If we are to transport bulk resources out of the North at competitive costs, if we are to protect the delicate nature of the surface, if we are to guarantee both initial and continuing benefit to Canada and

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