



CANADA

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## CONTENTS

\$100 Million For Roads .....	1	Industrial Employment .....	4
Committee For Fisheries Problems .....	2	Government Employment .....	4
Arctic Convoy .....	2	Hungarian Refugees .....	4
Royal Power Boat Race .....	2	Tri-Service Drill Team .....	5
Princess Margaret .....	3	U.K. Students Visit .....	5
South Saskatchewan Dam .....	3	TCA Jetliners .....	5
Ambassador Retiring .....	4	Foreign Trade .....	5
Government's Monthly Statement .....	4		

## \$100 MILLION FOR ROADS

A \$100,000,000 special highway works programme designed to raise Ontario's road-system in areas adjacent to the United States to the most modern standards was announced by Premier Frost last week.

Mr. Frost added that parts of the programme would be financed by tolls. He released a schedule of tolls for the Burlington Skyway and indicated it would provide the pattern for other provincial highway structures which are to be tolled.

The programme is being undertaken over and above the regular highways budget of approximately \$300,000,000 a year.

The plan divides itself into several parts. First the Skyway at Burlington Bay will be tolled when opened at the following rates: Passenger cars, station wagons, taxis, half-ton trucks, light delivery trucks, 20 tickets for \$1; commercial vehicles of two axles, 24 tickets for \$4; heavy trucks with three or more axles, and buses, 20 tickets for \$6.

The province will build three new skyways over the Welland Canal at a cost of between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000 each.

These three high level bridges will be tolled at the same rates as the Burlington Skyway. These skyways will give direct connection with the Queen Elizabeth system and at Welland and Port Colborne with No. 3 Highway.

No. 3 Highway will be widened and modernized from Port Colborne to Windsor. It will be extended to Forthill and St. Catharines to connect with the Queen Elizabeth Way.

In Hamilton, the province will construct the Chedoke Expressway to provide a fast modern connection between the central city and the Ontario highways system, as well as a by-pass service similar to No. 401 Highway across Toronto.

Mr. Frost indicated that Ontario was willing to share with the United States in the cost of building new toll bridges at Queenston-Lewiston (to connect with the New York Thruway) and at Sault Ste. Marie (to connect with the Michigan State Highway system and the Mackinac bridge on one side, the Trans-Canada Highway system on the other).

A new high-level bridge just above Queenston would permit residents of both countries to drive entirely around the Niagara River on both sides and provide direct modern connection with the American Parkway system, and with the Queen Elizabeth Way, and the trans-provincial freeway, No. 401 Highway.

In Northern Ontario, the province will complete the Fort Francis Causeway and the highway from there to Atikoken. Tolls rates here will be similar to those proposed for the other skyways.

The province will share in the cost of a new bridge at Rainy River with the State of Minnesota. Ontario will also construct a skyway at Fort Francis which will be tolled.

The Atikoken Highway, the Fort Francis Causeway and Skyway, No. 71 Highway and the new Rainy River high-level international bridge will be connected with the Minnesota State