

Another Federal agency, the Canadian National Railways, has doubled its facilities for highway traffic by making the downstream bracket of the Victoria Bridge available for motor vehicles.

The Federal Government also has entrusted to the National Harbours Board the task of building a new highway bridge across the river at Nun's Island, and it is expected that tenders will be called in the spring, if all of the formalities can be cleared by that time.

These new facilities will probably cost nearly \$40,000,000 but they will materially improve highway communications between Montreal and the south shore. Had we done more we might justly have been accused of invading a field of responsibility that is exclusively provincial.

May I conclude by telling you that despite the magnitude of the project and all of the difficulties that it naturally entails, the work is keeping close to schedule and that we confidently expect that the Seaway will be ready when navigation opens in 1959.

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