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NEWS RELEASE

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2017 BC Budget includes continued investment in government's Transportation Investment Plan

Burnaby, BC – The BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association offers its support for the 2017 Budget as presented this week by the Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Finance.

Budget 2017 is the fifth consecutive balanced budget continuing with smart fiscal discipline, including initiatives that will help businesses and British Columbians. It will also support the government's *Transportation Investment Plan* by including over \$7 billion in investment over the next three years in transportation infrastructure from the public and private sectors, which will assist in creating jobs and promoting economic growth.

“There is key capital investment plans for the transportation sector that will support much-needed projects throughout BC,” says Kelly Scott, president of the BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association. “The government is doing a great job at working with the municipal and federal governments to identify priorities and confirm details around project criteria, timelines and cost-sharing arrangements for the new federal infrastructure funding.”

A few of the projects highlighted in Budget 2017 include: A new 7th lane on the Alex Fraser Bridge and new interchange on Highway 91 at 72nd Avenue; Highway 16 improvements that will improve safety and the flow of goods to/from Prince Rupert; and six-laning of 4.5 km of Highway 97 in Kelowna; among many other projects across BC.

BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association was formed in 1966 and advocates for the development of a balanced, safe transportation system and highways infrastructure that sustains and promotes provincial economic growth. The association represents 265 firms involved in grading, asphalt and concrete manufacturing, paving, utility construction, road and bridge building/maintenance, blasting, as well as related goods and services suppliers. The Association proudly works with its members to give back to the community having raised over \$400,000 in the past 15 years for BC Children's Hospital and awards its Betty Spalton Scholarships annually to individuals obtaining educations in fields associated with the road building and heavy construction industries.

www.roadbuilders.bc.ca

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