

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association, Yellowhead Route, November 29th, 1947.

.....

Representatives of Cities, Towns, villages, Municipal Districts and Organizations along the Yellowhead Route of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association, met in the Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, November 29th, 1947 at 10 A.M.

The President, His Worship, H. D. Ainlay, Mayor of Edmonton presided.

Also present were:

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>REPRESENTING</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Bert Fraser | Vegreville, Alta. / | Vegreville Chamber of Com., |
| A. H. Cooper | Vermilion, Alta. // | Vermilion Board of Trade |
| K. G. Urquhart | Vermilion, Alta. | Chrmn., Eastern Alta.-West. Sask Committee, TCHSA -(Y.R) |
| W. K. Stanley | North Battleford, Sask. / | North Battleford Board of Tr. |
| N. L. Simpson | Shoal Lake, Man. / | Pres., Shoal Lake Brd. of Tr. |
| H. J. MacDonald | Yorkton, Sask. // | Chrmn., E. Sask. Committee T.C.H.S.A. - (Y.R.) |
| E.J.H. Lanham | Lanigan, Sask. /// | Lanigan Board of Trade |
| Jack McGibney | Lanigan, Sask. | Pres., Lanigan Brd. of Trade |
| J. L. Thomas | Lanigan, Sask. | Lanigan Board of Trade |
| L. G. Betz | Langenburg, Sask. // | Langenburgh Brd. of Trade |
| H. F. Popp | Langenburg, Sask. | Langenburgh Brd. of Trade |
| E. C. Sanderson | Russell, Man. // | Russell Brd. of Trade |
| M. Gerla | Churchbridge, Sask. / | Village & R M Churchbridge |
| R. L. St. John | Russell, Man. | Sec., Man. Committee T.C.H.S.A. - (Y.R.) |
| J. C. Matheson | Yorkton, Sask. | Yorkton Board of Trade |
| A. A. Brown | Theodore, Sask. / | Theodore Brd. of Trade |
| A. C. Emmett | Winnipeg, Man. / | Manitoba Motor League |
| Chas. H. Grant, K.C. | Edmonton, Alta. // | Nat'l Parks Highway Ass'n. |
| John Kuffa | Blue River, B. C. /// | Blue River Brd. of Trade |
| J. W. Ray Jones | Blue River, B. C. | Chrmn. Caravan Meeting Blue River, B. C. |
| J. Ratcliffe | Kamloops, B. C. / | Pres., Brd. of Trade, also representing City of Kamloops |
| S. S. Harrison | Blue River, B. C. // | Blue River Board of Trade |
| Edd Neighbor | Jasper, Alta. // | Jasper Park Ch. of Commerce |
| M. G. MacDonald | Saltcoats, Sask. / | Saltcoats & Dist. Brd. of Tr. |
| L. T. Kemple | McBride, B. C. / | Pres., McBride Brd. of Trade |
| Ald. W. G. Manning | Saskatoon, Sask. // | City of Saskatoon, Sask. |
| Mayor A.W. Macpherson | Saskatoon, Sask. // | City of Saskatoon, Sask. |
| J. A. Christiansen | Edmonton, Alta. / | Edmonton Chamber of Commerce |
| R. G. Armstrong | Saskatoon, Sask. / | Sask. Motor Club |
| M. Waryliw | Innisfree, Alta. / | Town of Innisfree |
| S. E. Lancefield | Saskatoon, Sask. / | Saskatoon Brd. of Trade |
| R. S. Manchee | Saskatoon, Sask. / | Saskatoon Brd. of Trade |
| A. C. Knight | Lloydminster, Sask. // | Lloydminster Brd. of Trade |
| G. K. Ross | Lloydminster, Sask. / | Lloydminster Brd. of Trade |
| O. C. Olson | Jasper, Alta. | Pres., Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce |
| Dan. E. C. Campbell | Edmonton, Alta. | |
| E. T. Love | Edmonton, Alta. | |

The Vice-President, His Worship, A. W. Macpherson, Mayor of Saskatoon, extended a warm welcome to the meeting. He referred to the wide representation present at the meeting and to the superior route, The Yellowhead Route. He made special reference to the good work done on the Blue River Road since the last meeting.

The president asked those present to stand with him and observe one minute's silence in memory of a director and a good friend of the Association, the late Mr. J. T. McCool of Minnedosa, Manitoba.

The President pointed out that it would take considerable time to read the minutes of the last meeting; that copies of them had been forwarded to many persons present at the meeting; and, that any business arising out of the minutes had been included in the agenda for the meeting, after which it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the minutes of the last meeting be taken as read.

At this point the association's song "The Yellowhead Road", which had been composed by "A Friend", to be sung to the tune of "We're Off To See The Wizard" from the motion picture play "The Wizard of Oz", and which had been especially recorded for both radio and phonograph was played to the meeting and the members of the meeting joined heartily in the singing of it.

The President's address with its twelve commandments merits reading and even study and a copy is attached to these minutes.

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the actions of the directors and the officials of the association since the last meeting be approved; and, that the reports of the secretary-treasurer and the auditor, which reports had been forwarded to the delegates before the meeting, be also approved.

The secretary read official letters from the Hon. James A. MacKinnon and the Hon. J. Allison Glen dealing with matters pertaining to the association. He also read letters from His Worship, Garnet Coulter, Mayor of Winnipeg; Reg. T. Rose, executive secretary of the Vancouver Board of Trade; and His Worship, F. W. Scott, Mayor of Kamloops - all explaining why it would be impossible for them to be present at the meeting. Also, from R. A. Fleming, Mayor-Elect of the Village of Shoal Lake, Shoal Lake, Saskatchewan; L. A. Warren, Secretary-Treasurer, Central and North Thompson Board of Trade, Clearwater, British Columbia; Leonard Browne Secretary-Treasurer, Town of Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta; and Robert Wood, Secretary-Treasurer, Minnedosa, Board of Trade, Minnedosa, Manitoba - all expressing regrets that their organizations would not be represented at the meeting and assuring the association of their continued support.

The Secretary also read wires from C. Rankin, Foam Lake Board of Trade, Foam Lake, Saskatchewan; Minburn Board of Trade, Minburn, Alberta; A. W. Miller, Secretary-Treasurer, Wynyard Board of Trade, Wynyard, Saskatchewan; Mayor Pysden, Foam Lake, Saskatchewan; H. W. Vaughan, President, Yorkton Board of Trade, Yorkton, Saskatchewan; L. O. Langford, President, Lashburn Board of Trade, Lashburn, Saskatchewan; Crate and Sons and L. Williams, Red Pass, British Columbia; and, Roy W. Hay, Secretary, Mannville and District Board of Trade, Mannville, Alberta - all assuring full and unanimous support to the Association.

The president also read a fine letter from R. V. MacCosham, MacCosham Storage and Distributing Company of Edmonton with which was enclosed a cheque for \$100.00 in favor of the association and a promise of further financial

assistance after the first of next year.

There was a discussion regarding the number of directors, an executive, etc. and, a motion was duly made and seconded that the board of directors consist of twenty members - five each from the four western provinces - in addition to the three executive officers ; that one member of the board for each of the four western provinces be appointed later by the president; and, that the Board of Directors constitute an executive committee to consist of the three executive officers and such other persons as are necessary. This motion was carried unanimously.

The president was then empowered to appoint a nominating committee of one from each province to bring in a full slate of directors and executive officers, and he appointed J. W. Ray Jones for British Columbia, O. C. Olson for Alberta; Mayor A. W. Macpherson for Saskatchewan; and R. L. St. John for Manitoba - the first named to be chairman.

The subjects of budget, financing and collections were discussed together for a time. The president said the members had to take the organization out of the peanut class and that some person or persons in each province must take the responsibility of collecting funds for the association. Several proposals for financing the association, and several scales of contributions as well as the collection of same were presented to the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch as guests of the Saskatoon Board of Trade to resume at 2 P.M. An excellent picture of the group was taken before the lunch. The genial Chairman of the lunch, Professor M. Champlin, President of the Saskatoon Board of Trade, called upon J. W. Ray Jones to make a few remarks regarding the opening of the Blue River Road which were very interesting. His Worship, Mayor Ainlay on behalf of the members of the association thanked the members of the Saskatoon Board of Trade for their splendid luncheon and for their cooperation and hospitality in connection with the meeting of the association.

The meeting resumed at 2 o'clock. Alderman Manning said that the biggest job the members of the association have to do is to support the association - that rival organizations will be strongly supported. Most members felt the best way to finance the association was for each local organization to raise all it possibly could. The delegates from Lloydminster pledged \$200.00. Mr. Stanley for North Battleford said they would make up their contribution to at least \$150.00 and probably equal Lloydminster. Mr. Jones suggested that the association order 10,000 booklets on second order instead of 7,000 and sell the 3,000 at \$1.00 each. Another proposal was to sell the booklet at 50¢ each.

President Ainlay said the association was making headway. He referred to the assurances the association had received from the ministers of public works of the prairie provinces. He also said that the association should meet members of the federal cabinet during the next session of parliament and thresh out the association's objectives with them.

Finally, it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the budget as outlined on page 1 of pre-meeting material be approved and that the directors take the necessary steps to assure total collection from the respective districts in order to assure realization of the total budget.

A proposal to increase the number of pages in the booklet by eight was explained to the meeting. It was pointed out that the cost would be less than \$500.00. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that those in charge of the booklet be authorized to increase the number

of pages in the booklet from thirty-two pages with cover to forty pages with cover, and that the matter of the quantity to be ordered be left in the hands of those in charge of the booklet.

Several suggestions were made for the booklet, one being a break down of populations in each province. The editorial committee appealed to each member to forward the secretary outstanding pictures representative of his province.

A dummy sheet of newspaper clippings of stories and editorials regarding the Yellowhead Route to be used as a follow-up to the booklet was explained to the meeting and prices were submitted. After discussion a motion was moved and seconded that the meeting approve of the printing and distribution of this piece of material and that the matter be left in the hands of the executive officers. This motion was carried unanimously,

The matter of the secretary-treasurer contacting cities, towns, villages and organizations between Kamloops and Vancouver with reference to sponsoring the booklet was referred to the directors.

The matter of calling "The Yellowhead Route", the "Evergreen Route" too was discussed at length. The representatives from both Manitoba and Saskatchewan were against the use of the term "Evergreen Route". Mr. Matheson of Yorkton outlined the issue regarding which highway the Yellowhead Route would take in the Province of Saskatchewan. A motion was made and seconded that the name "Evergreen Route" be eliminated from the map in the booklet and that the name "Yellowhead Route" be substituted. This motion was carried.

There was more discussion about selling the booklet and the price and while there was no motion made it was agreed that the booklet should be distributed free to the association's mailing list; and, that districts might purchase additional copies of the booklet at cost to be sold at no fixed price, the profit obtained therefrom to be forwarded to the association to bolster the contribution of the district in which the sale is made.

The meeting then proceeded to deal with the resolutions as outlined in pre-meeting material.

It was moved and seconded that resolution "Federal Highway Commission on page 23 be approved. This motion was carried with four members voting against it. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes and is marked exhibit "A".

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that resolution "Federal Aid for Approved Highways" on page 24 be approved. A copy of this resolution is attached to these minutes and is marked Exhibit "B".

A resolution respecting "Provincial Action" was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is attached to these minutes and is marked Exhibit "C".

The resolution on page 25, "Yellowhead Route in British Columbia" was passed unanimously with the following words inserted between the word "Routes" and "and" in the last line of the third paragraph, "and is capable of being kept open the year around". A copy of the amended resolution is attached to these minutes and is marked Exhibit "D".

The resolution on page 26, "To Provincial Governments" was passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is also attached to these minutes and is marked Exhibit "E".

The resolution on page 27 "Roads in Jasper National Park" was also passed unanimously. A copy of this resolution is attached to the minutes and is marked Exhibit "F".

The resolution on page 28 regarding "Robson Park" was ordered laid on the table until the next meeting. Attached to these minutes and marked Exhibit "G" is a copy of this resolution.

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the "Suggested Draft of Letter to accompany Booklet" on page 29 be left in the hands of the executive officers. The following is the wording of the letter:

Dear Sir:

The enclosed illustrated booklet is not only an interesting story of praiseworthy local enterprise and achievement; it will bring you up-to-date on matters pertaining to one of Canada's most pressing national needs -- a Trans Canada Highway System.

You have been selected to receive this booklet because we know that your knowledge of Canada's problems and your loyal concern for the future of this great Dominion have long since convinced you of the urgency of this need.

We trust that this publication will place at your immediate service pertinent information which may be of valuable use to you and that it will contain facts which you have no doubt often wished you had at your finger tips.

We would appreciate your suggestions and comments on this problem almost as highly as we treasure your active support in the achievement of our purposes which are clearly set forth within these covers.

Sincerely,

The next resolution was passed with a hearty handclap by all present.

RESOLVED that this meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association (Yellowhead Route) express its sincere appreciation and thanks to the City of Saskatoon, especially Mayor Macpherson and Alderman Manning; and, to the Board of Trade, especially Mr. MacEachern and Mr. Lancefield - all, for their hospitality and co-operation in making this annual general meeting a success, and to the press and radio for their splendid support. CARRIED.

Congratulations were extended to the architects of "The Saga of Re-opening Trans-Canada Highway System, Yellowhead Route". Mr. Emmett of the Manitoba Motor League conveyed to the meeting the greetings of the Hon. Errick F. Willis, Minister of Public Works for the Province of Manitoba which were heartily reciprocated. Mr. Matheson conveyed the greetings of His Worship, Charles A. Peaker, Mayor of Yorkton, which were also heartily reciprocated. It was ordered that a vote of appreciation be recorded in the minutes of the meeting for the secretary-treasurer

The Chairman of the nominating committee, J. W. Ray Jones, then presented the committee's report, as follows:

President, His Worship, H. D. Ainlay, Mayor of Edmonton.

Vice-President, His Worship, A. W. Macpherson, Mayor of Saskatoon.
Secretary-Treasurer, E. T. Love, Edmonton, Alberta.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

J. Ratcliffe, Kamloops ✓
Dr. G. H. Worthington, Vancouver.
J. W. Ray Jones, Clue River.

L. T. Kemple, McBride

ALBERTA

K. G. Urquhart, Vermilion
A. W. Fraser, Vegreville
O. C. Olson, Jasper
C. H. Grant, K. C., Edmonton

SASKATCHEWAN

Alderman W. G. Manning, Saskatoon
J. C. Matheson, Yorkton
W. K. Stanley, North Battleford
G. K. Ross, Lloydminster.

MANITOBA

The Manitoba Committee of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association, Yellowhead Route, will nominate its committee and advise the secretary.

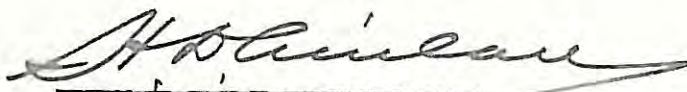
It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the auditors of the association for the coming year be Patriquin, Duncan, McClary, McClary and King of Edmonton, Alberta.

On motion duly moved, seconded and carried unanimously the matter of a constitution and by-laws for the association was referred to the incoming officers.

Mayor Macpherson announced that he would bring to the hotel his projector and show in the Terrace Lounge at 8 p.m., 200 feet of 16 mm colored film on the opening of the Blue River Road brought to the meeting by L. T. Kemple of McBride.

NOTE: A goodly number attended. Mr. Kemple explained the film as Mayor Macpherson operated the machine. The pictures were excellent and all present not only enjoyed the showing but learned a whole lot more about the beautiful scenery along the Yellowhead Route in British Columbia. Mr. Kemple was suitably thanked for this thoughtfulness in bringing the film to the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m. for the new directors meeting with the gramophone playing the association's song: "The Yellowhead Road".



President



Secretary-Treasurer.

This is Exhibit "A" of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association, Yellowhead Route, held in The Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, November 29th, 1947.
(There were present at this meeting representatives from Cities, Towns, Villages, Municipal Districts and Organizations along the Yellowhead Route from Winnipeg to Kamloops, inclusive.)

- WHEREAS Canada's highway problem is Dominion-wide in scope and involves five distinct geographical divisions with widely varying financial and economical conditions and;
- WHEREAS the highway projects of the Provincial Governments should be co-ordinated and standardized as to construction and maintenance and;
- WHEREAS Canada's military and commercial highway requirements, which are essential to the strategic and economic developments of the Dominion, should be co-ordinated and;
- WHEREAS Modern highways, because of the economic development they create locally and the large tourist trade they stimulate, are Canada's most self-liquidating asset and;
- WHEREAS an equitable financing ratio between the federal and provincial governments is essential to the economical and harmonious pursuit of highway construction and maintenance and;
- WHEREAS decisions pertaining to route selection should be made by competent non-partisan engineers on the basis of the greatest good for the greatest number of citizens, having due regard for future expansion and economic and strategic requirements and;
- WHEREAS a long-range highway maintenance program is essential and should be planned progressively through the years regardless of the degree of prosperity and;
- WHEREAS a Trans-Canada Highway is urgently needed to cement the bonds of commerce, unity and understanding more firmly throughout Canada and;
- WHEREAS a Canadian Highway Commission could achieve all of these objectives;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of Canada be urged to establish a Canadian Highway Commission and provide the necessary funds for its operation as quickly as possible.

The meeting passed this resolution by a large majority - only four persons voted against the resolution.

This is Exhibit "B" of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association Yellowhead Route, held in the Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, November 29th, 1947.

(There were present at this meeting representatives from Cities, Towns, Villages, Municipal Districts and Organizations along the Yellowhead Route from Winnipeg to Kamloops, inclusive.)

We, the delegates from Kamloops, Blue River and McBride in British Columbia; from Jasper, Edmonton, Vegreville, Innisfree and Vermilion in Alberta; from Lloydminster, North Battleford, Saskatoon, Lanigan, Theodore, Yorkton, Churchbridge, Saltcoats and Langenburg in Saskatchewan; and, Russell, Shoal Lake and Winnipeg in Manitoba, meeting in Saskatoon on this 29th day of November, 1947, hereby endorse the principles of Federal aid for highways which may be designated as such by consultation between the Dominion Government and the provinces as represented by the Ministers of Public Works. (By Federal aid we mean that the Dominion Government will reimburse the provinces to the extent of fifty (50) percent of the cost of construction and maintenance on such roads of standard construction as are specifically designated by the consulting parties as national highways).

AND, that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada and Members of his cabinet - the Premiers of the provinces and their Ministers of Public Works, urging their immediate and favorable consideration and action; and, that it be forwarded also to all Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce and City Councils, urging their immediate and favorable consideration - and further asking that they advise their members of parliament, members of legislative assemblies and provincial ministers of their approval of the resolution.

The meeting passed this resolution unanimously.

This is Exhibit "C" of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association, Yellowhead Route, held in the Bessobrough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, November 29th, 1947. (There were present at this meeting representatives from Cities, Towns, Villages, Municipal Districts and Organizations along the Yellowhead Route from Winnipeg to Kamloops, Inclusive)

- WHEREAS this Association, representing cities, towns, villages, municipalities, municipal districts and organizations from Winnipeg to Vancouver, has established in its brief to the Prime Minister, and has expressed its unquestioned assertion in resolutions passed at this annual general meeting and at other meetings, that Canada urgently needs a trans-Canada highway system and;
- WHEREAS the provincial governments have indicated that they cannot undertake all the financial responsibilities attendant thereto and;
- WHEREAS this Association recognizes the principle of federal aid to the provinces for the construction of a trans-Canada highway system and;
- WHEREAS the Ministers of Public Works of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia have never met to discuss their ideas about possible routes, or their costs and the numerous problems involved and;
- WHEREAS the Dominion Government has indicated that the provincial governments must take the initiative in the construction and maintenance of such a system and;
- WHEREAS United action on the part of the western provinces is essential if immediate results are to be obtained;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia be urged to arrange a meeting of their ministers concerned with highway construction at a convenient place in the immediate future to determine the routes most likely to be most advantageous to Canada, to formulate their requests for federal aid for the construction of a trans-Canada highway system and to present the same to the Dominion Government with all possible speed and;
- FURTHER that the provincial governments co-ordinate all available information from their own and federal surveys in order to eliminate duplication and further unnecessary surveys with their attendant costs and delays.

The meeting passed this resolution unanimously.

This is Exhibit "D" of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trans-Canada Highway System Association Yellowhead Route, held in The Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, November 29th, 1947.

(There were present at this meeting representatives from Cities, Towns, Villages, Municipal Districts and Organizations along the Yellowhead Route from Winnipeg to Kamloops, inclusive.)

- WHEREAS the large and expanding populations of central and northern Saskatchewan and Alberta, and of the interior of British Columbia urgently needs direct highway connection with Vancouver and vicinity for commercial and pleasure travel purposes and;
- WHEREAS British Columbia is losing a very lucrative tourist business because tourists who come to Jasper and who would return wouthward through Yellowhead Pass, must now return to Lake Louise and;
- WHEREAS the route from Yellowhead Summit by way of Blue River to Vancouver presents no serious engineering problems has a lower altitude and is shorter than other routes, and is capable of being kept open the year around, and;
- WHEREAS Mount Robson Park could be developed into a major tourist asset for British Columbia were highway facilities provided from Vancouver and vicinity;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this meeting of representatives from each of the four western provinces urge the Government of British Columbia to build a modern highway from Yellowhead Summit to Vancouver by way of Blue River and Kamloops and further;

THAT this Association send copies of its booklet "The Saga of Re-Opening Trans-Canada Highway System, Yellowhead Route", as an adendum to this resolution, to the Government of British Columbia for the information of its members.

The meeting passed this resolution unanimously.