

Northwest Anthony Henday Drive



1. Asset information

The NWAH project, operational since 2011, is a landmark public-private partnership (PPP) with availability payments from the Government of Alberta. It involved the design, construction, financing, operation, and maintenance (DBFOM) of 21 kilometres of four- to six-lane divided highway, eight interchanges, five flyovers, two rail crossings, and 29 bridges. As Alberta's largest PPP transportation initiative at the time, the project provides free-flow traffic across 230 lane-kilometres, improving safety and travel times. Initially serving 30,000 vehicles daily, it now benefits over 50,000 motorists everyday while strengthening provincial connectivity and facilitating efficient goods movement through this vital economic corridor.



2. Impact

- Reliable and resilient transport and reduced travel time for 20 million vehicles per year
- Has helped create over 50 jobs every year



3. Awards and certifications

- Merit Award for Innovation & Excellence in Public Private Partnership (2012)
- Top Projects by Alberta Construction Magazine (2011)
- Alberta MoTEC - Minister's Award for Technical Transportation Innovation (2009)
- PFI Deal of the Year – PFI Awards (2008)

4. Environment

GHG emissions

Portfolio Company implemented a full LED retrofit for the highway, reducing CO₂ emissions by 1,255 tonnes annually. The Operator advances sustainability through EV fleet expansion, solar panel installations, and LED upgrades in offices. Maintenance practices, such as sand recycling and anti-icing material use, minimize waste and environmental impact. Initiatives include a no-idling policy, paperless operations, and groundwater monitoring. A solar energy project is also under consideration to further offset emissions and energy costs.



LED Streetlights

Climate risk

The project was screened to evaluate the potential physical impacts from climate change based on 'Paris-aligned' (RCP2.6 ~+1°C) and 'High emissions' (RCP8.5 ~+3.7°C) scenarios across three time periods (2020, 2050 and 2100). The project maintains a Low physical climate risk score under both scenarios.

Waste & Water

Portfolio Company actively monitors waste and water consumption and continues exploring opportunities to further reduce environmental impacts. The Operator working to minimize water use through innovative vacuum equipment for bridge washing and efficient winter maintenance practices. Asphalt rehabilitation incorporates up to 15% recycled materials, with potential to achieve zero asphalt waste. Sand recovery from road sweepings (80%) reduces waste and costs. Other efforts include paperless operations, EV fleet expansion, motion-sensor lighting, and salt-reducing anti-icing materials.

Biodiversity

The asset complies with local environmental regulations, with Portfolio Company promoting biodiversity and ecosystem restoration. Initiatives include installing wild bee houses, seeding wildflowers, and monitoring forage areas to support Mason and Leaf Cutter bees. Wet areas in interchange loops are preserved for nesting birds, while green spaces, storm ponds, and highway drainage are maintained to enhance natural habitats. A Biodiversity Policy guides these efforts, with plans for expanded beehives and continued habitat improvements in 2024.



Wildbee Houses

Noise and air quality

The project actively monitors noise along the motorway and surrounding neighbourhoods.

The Portfolio Company and Operator have a strict no-idling policy. Additionally, the project monitors noise and air quality around the project.

5. Social

Health & Safety

Health and safety is a standing agenda item at every Board meeting with annual review of H&S Policies. Our asset managers actively promote a robust safety culture and share best practices. Portfolio Company and the Operator maintain Certificates of Recognition (COR) through the Alberta Construction and Safety Association. Regular audits, adherence to Eurovia standards, and spill response training reinforce compliance. Innovations like remote-controlled mowers enhance worker safety, while mandatory training programs ensure consistent ESG and safety awareness across teams.

Diversity

Portfolio Company fosters an inclusive workplace where everyone can excel, reach their potential, and be recognized for their contributions. Supported by a formal Diversity Policy, both Portfolio Company and the Operator uphold Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) commitments. The Operator enhances inclusion through tailored career support services and in-house mentoring programs for employees with specific needs, ensuring equal access to growth opportunities and a supportive environment for all team members.

Impact for local communities

Portfolio Company and the Operator actively engage in community initiatives, including volunteering and supporting local causes. The Operator contributed 21 hours to Habitat for Humanity's adopt-a-day, supported Hope Mission Shelter by providing meals for the homeless, and backed Special Olympics Alberta – Edmonton. Their subcontractor also donates to charities like STARS Air Rescue. In collaboration, Portfolio Company and the Operator made impactful donations to Alberta Children's Hospital and Stollery Children's Hospital Foundations in November 2024.



Stollery_Children's_Foundation

6. Governance

Delegation & oversight

Portfolio Company fosters strong governance through frequent management-level meetings with the public sector client and monthly project reviews to ensure seamless collaboration. Directors review comprehensive quarterly board reports covering project, operations, and financial management. A robust governance structure, including quarterly and ad-hoc meetings, is supported by an authority delegation matrix. Both Portfolio Company and the Operator maintain rigorous ESG policies, with clear board-level oversight to ensure their effective application across operations.

The ESG standard policies include:

- Code of Conduct, including anti-bribery, anti-corruption and non-discrimination
 - Conflict of interest
 - Cyber-security and Information Technology
 - Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)
 - ESG
 - Health and safety (workplace accident prevention)
 - Anti-slavery & Human Trafficking policy (Modern Day Slavery)
 - No-idling
 - Rapid escalation
 - Biodiversity policy
 - Responsible contractor
 - Engagement of Consultants
 - Tax
 - Whistleblowing
 - Business Continuity Plan Updates
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Reporting

Portfolio Company ensures rigorous reporting through quarterly board packs detailing operational and financial performance, policy compliance, and adherence to regulatory obligations. Other than meeting its contractual requirements for reporting, annual audits are conducted by the lender's technical advisor (LTA), rating agencies, and other regulators.

ESG data collection, reporting, and surveys are completed regularly. Additionally, Portfolio Company contributes to BBGI's annual ESG KPI survey, encompassing over 100 data points that provide comprehensive oversight across all ESG dimensions.

Cyber security

Portfolio Company, the Operator, and maintenance service provider subcontractors prioritize cybersecurity through continuous monitoring, risk analysis, and mitigation measures guided by a robust Cybersecurity and IT Policy. Secure platforms like SharePoint support data and correspondence sharing with advanced security protocols. Regular staff training ensures awareness of emerging threats. IT systems are safeguarded by comprehensive backup arrangements across multiple servers, both local and international. Additionally, cloud storage minimizes reliance on hard copies, and business continuity tests ensure system resilience and preparedness.

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