



## CH2M HILL paves way to 2010 Winter Olympics

In 2010, Vancouver, British Columbia, will welcome the world to the XXI Winter Olympic Games. But before the world arrives, CH2M HILL will help improve a critical roadway link that is vital to the success of the Games.

"It's a tortuous mountain highway that currently carries 12,000 to 16,000 cars each day," said John Murray, president of CH2M HILL Canada. "It's one of the more extreme areas to rebuild a highway in North America."

Once the torch has been lit at the 2010 Games, thousands will travel between the athletic venues in both Vancouver and Whistler Resort using the only available road, the Sea to Sky Highway. The highway between the two locations is currently 65 miles of two-lane roadway flanked on one side by steep mountain cliffs and on the other by a precipitous drop to the sea.

"This is an exciting project on several levels," said

Gary Webster, project manager for a portion of the project. "The timeframe is aggressive because it's tied to the Olympics, and it's the first major public/private partnership in western Canada. It's also a situation where we're not just trying to build a bigger highway; the project's focus is on improving safety and reliability for the road users, with some increase in capacity."

The British Columbia Ministry of Transportation has committed \$437.4 million to improving the safety of the highway and increasing the traffic capacity before

the Olympics begin. CH2M HILL's transportation group in Vancouver has been awarded three significant assignments related to this project:

**Sea to Sky DBFO Project—procurement management** CH2M HILL is the procurement manager for a \$310 million design-build-finance-operate portion of the highway.

**Sunset Beach to Lions Bay—owner's engineer** CH2M HILL is the owner's engineer for rebuilding one of the most complex and geographically challenging sections of the highway. The design-build contract is a schedule-critical piece of work for approxi-

mately \$69.3 million. The design includes widening a 4.3-mile stretch of highway that winds along a nearly vertical rockface to four lanes on a straighter alignment.

"The key to construction is the efficient management of traffic with minimal highway closures. The corridor is driven economically by recreational activities, and access to the corridor and communities has to be preserved during construction," said Rob Ahola, project manager for the design-build contract.

**Kelvin Grove to "M" Creek—detailed design** The Village of Lions Bay, consisting of three distinct clusters of development, straddles this section of the highway. There are significant concerns about quality of life and environmental impact. CH2M HILL is applying industry-leading, context-sensitive design expertise to this challenging assignment.



This entire opportunity has come together within the past 18 months as the British Columbia area has grown from having no CH2M HILL transportation employees to the 40 who work there today.