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Design Consultant Selected for Simon Fraser Bridge Twinning

PRINCE GEORGE – The Ministry of Transportation has selected a design consultant for the twinning of the Simon Fraser Bridge, announced Prince George MLAs Pat Bell, John Rustad and Shirley Bond.

A request for qualifications for Simon Fraser Bridge design was issued November 21, 2006 and the ministry received responses from 11 engineering companies. From the 11 companies, the ministry short listed to and requested proposals from three of the companies. From the three proposals, Buckland & Taylor Ltd. of North Vancouver has been selected for the Simon Fraser Bridge design.

“Today’s announcement is a significant step in the process of getting the new bridge built on-time and on-budget,” said Prince George-North MLA Pat Bell. “Our government is committed to getting this project completed at a fair price for taxpayers.”

“The Simon Fraser Bridge is an important asset to make Prince George an efficient location for an in-land container port,” said Prince George-Omineca MLA John Rustad. “By making the flow of traffic and goods out of the south end of the city more efficient, we will reduce ground transportation times to other markets such as the Interior, the Lower Mainland and the United States.”

“This project is a vital link to our promise to upgrade the Cariboo Connector,” said Prince George-Mount Robson MLA Shirley Bond. “Our government is making the necessary investments in our transportation infrastructure to improve safety and ensure that our entire province, including Northern B.C., is positioned to take advantage of the growing markets in Southeast Asia.”

The design contract is worth \$1,184,005 and is expected to be completed on July 31, 2007. Once the design is complete, a tender will be posted for the construction of the bridge.

-30-

Visit Shirley’s Web site at www.shirleybondmla.bc.ca

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