

Canadian participation in the XIII International Winter Road Congress held in Québec from February 8-11, 2010 A complete success.

Sustainable Winter: Canadian expertise

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More than 250 Canadians have participated in the XIII International Winter Road Congress in the City of Quebec as part of the World Road Association (PIARC), from February 8 to 11, 2010. The 2010 conference held in Québec city marked the first time such an event was held in North America. The theme of this congress was "Sustainable Winter Service for Road Users"



The **Honorable John Baird**, Minister of Transport, attended the opening ceremony of the congress along with the Quebec Minister of Transport, the Mayor of Quebec city, the President of PIARC and Yukon's Minister of Transportation. In all, nearly 900 decision makers in the road sector from around the world were there, including six ministers responsible for transport.

On February 9, the **Honorable Rob Merrifield** Minister of State (Transport) participated in the Ministers' Session. The ministers from different countries presented their policies on the conference theme, "How to promote winter mobility adapted to the climate?" In the afternoon, the Minister of State conducted the official opening of the Canada Pavilion with the member of Parliament Mr. **Daniel Petit (Charlesbourg - Haute-Saint-Charles)**, the **Honorable Archie Lang**, Yukon Minister of Transport, the president of PIARC Ms. **Anne-Marie Leclerc**, the First Delegate of Canada and Chairman of PIARC Canadian National Committee (CNC) Mr. **Martin Lelièvre**, the Second Canadian delegate of PIARC and Corporate Vice President of the CNC Mr. **Henri Madjar**, and the Institutional Vice President Mr. **Brian Gaston**.



It is also important to note the presence of the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Programs Group Ms. **Mary Komarynsky** and Director General, Surface Infrastructure Programs Ms. **Jane Weldon**.

Minister of State Merrifield also hosted two bilateral meetings. A first meeting was held with the **Minister of Equipment and Transport of Morocco His Excellency Mr. Karim Ghellab** (picture below).



After the opening ceremony of the Canada Pavilion, **Minister of State Merrifield** held his second meeting with the **Secretary General for Infrastructure of Spain, Ms. Immaculada Rodriguez-Piñero**

Mr. **Martin Lelièvre**, President of the Canadian National Committee and Mr. **Claude Carette**, President of PIARC-Québec Committee had the opportunity to greet guests at the Canada and Quebec pavilions for a joint reception of the national committees which took place Wednesday, February 10 along with other dignitaries for a maple taffy on snow tasting event. This was a highlight, and a delight for many of the participants.



During the four-day conference, the CNC coordinated numerous activities to give all Canadian officials and participants in the Canada Pavilion, the opportunity to:

- share and exchange information about their products and services at the Canada Pavilion. Some 31 Canadian organizations (private companies, provincial governments, universities and associations) participated. The pavilion theme was: "Sustainable Winter Service: Canadian expertise;
- take advantage of the platform of the Canada Pavilion to set up three technical presentations during the morning coffee breaks, which included:
 - o Canada: The Winter Tire Expert;
 - o Road Salts: A Canadian Challenge; and
 - o Autonomous Monitoring Station for Canadian Road Conditions.

- meet the global community of the road sector as part of official activities promoting networking and exchange of information, and
- participate in networking activities and technical sessions during which Canadian experts informed other participants about the Canadian expertise.

Participants of the Canada Pavilion were able to stir the interest of visitors to the Pavilion by presenting their products, services and expertise in networking events. Below is a picture of the technical presentation on winter tires.



List of member organizations of Canadian participation

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| 1. ACE | 18. Nunavut Department of Economic Development and Transportation |
| 2. AMEC | 19. Ontario Ministry of Transportation |
| 3. Carillion Canada Inc. | 20. Prince Edward Island Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal |
| 4. Cement Association of Canada | 21. PSI Technologies Inc. |
| 5. CollasCanada Inc. | 22. Roche Ltée, Groupe-Conseil |
| 6. Delcan | 23. Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure |
| 7. Emcon Services Inc. | 24. S.M. Inc. |
| 8. Enterprise | 25. SNC-Lavalin |
| 9. Innovative Surface Solutions Canada | 26. Stantec Consulting Ltd. |
| 10. LVM-JEGEL – Membre of Dessau Group | 27. Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) |
| 11. Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation | 28. The Rubber Association of Canada |
| 12. Michelin Canada | 29. Université Laval |
| 13. New-Brunswick Community College | 30. University of Waterloo, Centre for Pavement and Transportation Technology |
| 14. New-Brunswick Department of Transportation | 31. Yukon Highways and Public Works |
| 15. Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Transportation and Works | |
| 16. Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal | |
| 17. Northwest Territories Department of Transportation | |

The Canadian delegation was headed by **The Honorable John Baird**, Minister of Transport of Canada, during the opening ceremonies of the congress, and by **The Honorable Rob Merrifield** Minister of State for Transport, which was present for the Ministers' Session and at the official opening of the Canada Pavilion. Mr. **Martin Lelièvre**, First Delegate of Canada for PIARC had the opportunity to represent Canada at the closing ceremony of the Congress on February 11, 2010.

The XIII International Winter Road Congress in Quebec was also pioneer as it held the first International Snowplow Championship and this popular event will be repeated at the next winter congress in Andorra, la Vella, in 2014. The winner of this Championship was the

representative from the State of Maine in the USA. He has defied all obstacles and was able to exercise extreme dexterity in technical maneuvers in addition to being the fastest. It is important to note that the second and third places were won respectively by the representatives of Quebec and New Brunswick. The participant from New Brunswick, was a member of Team Canada.



Finally, the organizing committee also held a contest for three of the four-day congress, in fact, a quiz related to the three technical presentations took place and six winners were given an Olympic Coin Collections of the 2010 Vancouver Canadian Olympic. The winners were chosen randomly after correctly submitting their answers; the prizes were awarded after the congress.

Winter sports were also highlighted at the Canada Pavilion with a video loop of past Canadian Olympic winter games memorabilia as well as a reminder of winter sports on the tabletops placed in the Canada Pavilion.

