



## **Albertans expect roads and bridges to be in better shape**

Fix Our Roads campaign awards “Best Picture” to worst road

*Edmonton* - A recent survey shows 65 per cent of Albertans think governments at all levels aren't managing road and bridge budgets as well as they used to, and 75 per cent think better transportation infrastructure investment will drive economic growth.

The results are from a survey commissioned by the Alberta Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association (ARHCA), during last month's Fix Our Roads campaign. The campaign raised awareness about the value of transportation infrastructure to our economy and quality of life by encouraging Albertans to nominate the worst road on Twitter.



“Albertans shared photos of some pretty rough driving roads, but the concerns that really came forward were about road safety,” said ARHCA CEO Ron Glen. “Drivers are worried about safety issues caused by weather, erosion, and neglect, especially to rural and secondary highways.”

The Fix Our Roads campaign supports an important conversation with Albertans about the need for stable planning and budgeting of construction and maintenance of streets and highways. The ARHCA has published recommendations from an expert panel that describes how and why the management of our roads needs to improve ([www.drivingimprovement.ca](http://www.drivingimprovement.ca)).

The ARHCA has awarded the 2021 Best Picture of Worst Road to: Highway 40, part of the “Scenic Route to Alaska” near Grande Cache. This stretch of road was nominated by Mary Nelson. This dramatic photo illustrates that Alberta's harsh weather and geography destroy roads, making repairs a predictable part of their lifecycle. Planning and funding need to be equally predictable.

“Long-haul traffic from the industries Albertans depend on - like oil and gas, lumber, and essential goods delivery - have to drive this road every day,” Nelson said. “This road is the economic driver our city needs to survive. Please, save our highway.”

“Albertans are saying we can do better, and our association is showing the way,” Glen added. “Long-term management strategies, and transparent decision-making are the way forward, and we’ll be raising these issues in the upcoming elections.”

*For more information contact:*

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*Survey was conducted by ONE Persuades from May 14-17. Representative sample of 661 Albertans. Margin of error is +/- 3.8%.*