

# Haisla Bridge Replacement Project

## PROJECT OVERVIEW



Conducting geotechnical ground investigations to inform the design of the new Haisla Bridge

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# Why is the Haisla Bridge being replaced?

The District of Kitimat is replacing the Haisla Bridge to provide safe and reliable access across the Kitimat River for years to come. The Haisla Bridge serves as a critical corridor between the community, industry, and natural environments.

It further serves as a critical connection between the Canadian and global economies. With growing economic activity in the Kitimat area, there are expectations for increased daily traffic volumes, oversized load deliveries, and construction traffic.

Built in 1954, the existing bridge is operating at the end of its intended design life and requires extensive and ongoing maintenance. The new bridge will be built to modern design and safety standards and will address future capacity constraints and bottlenecks.

The new bridge will also mitigate the potential of a future failure or closure of the existing bridge. In this way, the community and major industrial employers and services can best remain connected.



The current Haisla Bridge



An early rendering of how the new Haisla Bridge may look

## Project Description

The Government of Canada, through Western Economic Diversification Canada, has allocated \$55 million in funding to the District to cover costs for the construction of a new two-lane bridge adjacent (north/upstream) to the existing bridge and for the decommissioning of the existing bridge.

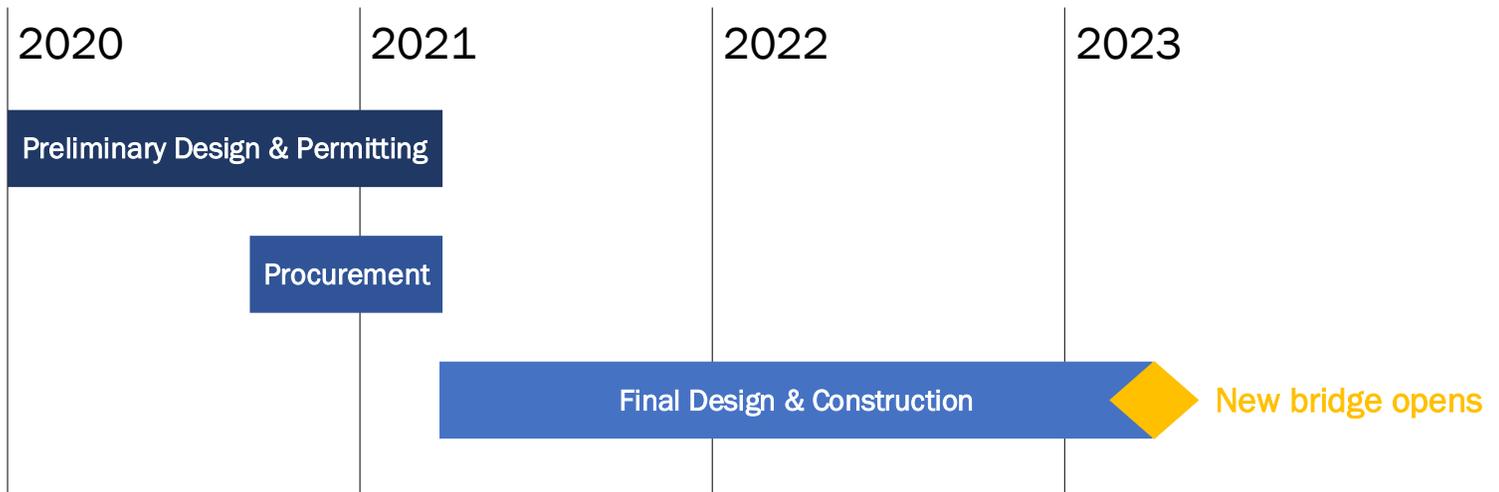
Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2021, and it is anticipated that the new bridge will be operational in early 2023. Demolition of the existing bridge will occur after the new bridge is open.

The new bridge will provide important improvements for everyone using the bridge, including drivers, cyclists, or pedestrians:

- a resilient and safe crossing for all bridge users, built to modern standards
- dedicated walking and cycling facilities
- improved connections to the Kitimat trail network

For additional information, please email [engineering@kitimat.ca](mailto:engineering@kitimat.ca), call 250-632-8900, or visit [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca).

# Anticipated Project Timeline



## Project Delivery

The District of Kitimat is delivering and overseeing the project, while a private contractor or consortium (a Design-Build Contractor) will be procured for the final design and construction of the project.

Several procurement methods were assessed to identify the optimal delivery approach for the project. This assessment identified a Design-Build model as the preferred approach to:

- manage and mitigate key risks
- maximize cost and schedule certainty
- provide value for money

The procurement process to select a Design-Build Contractor involves:

### Request for Qualifications

- respondents will be asked to demonstrate their experience, qualifications, capacity, and capability to undertake the project
- this stage is expected to result in a shortlist of three teams

### Request for Proposals

- **Technical Submission:** a preliminary design in enough detail to demonstrate that the District's specifications and requirements will be met or exceeded
- **Financial Submission:** a financial proposal with the cost to design and construct the project

# How will project construction impact the community?

The existing bridge will remain open during construction to provide ongoing access across the Kitimat River; therefore, it is anticipated that the project will result in minimal impacts to community traffic through the construction period.

Detailed traffic management plans will be completed, and the general public will be made aware of construction-related traffic impacts well ahead of time.

The District is committed to completing the project in a manner that is respectful of the environmental, social, and cultural sensitivities of the project site, surrounding areas, and local communities.

We are committed to protecting the natural environment in the Kitimat River and the neighbouring areas. We are working closely with regulators and the Haisla Nation to advance the project in a way that complies with applicable regulations and avoids or mitigates negative environmental impacts.

We recognize that the project is situated in an area that is historically and archaeologically important to the Haisla Nation. The Haisla Nation will be engaged throughout the duration of the project.



Construction of the original Haisla Bridge in 1953

# Stay in Touch

For ongoing information and updates about the Haisla Bridge Replacement Project, please email [engineering@kitimat.ca](mailto:engineering@kitimat.ca), call 250-632-8900, or visit [www.kitimat.ca](http://www.kitimat.ca).



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