

**Mush-a-mush River Bridge and Martins River Bridge  
Rehabilitation (Mid-life Refit)  
February 2024**

Both of these bridges on the Dynamite Trail are about 100 metres long, and five stories above the river surface. The Mush-a-mush River Bridge has two concrete abutments and two concrete piers, built in 1923 to replace the original timber trestle built in 1905. It has two steel plate girder spans and one steel truss span. The Martins River Bridge has one granite masonry abutment and two granite masonry piers with two steel plate girder spans built in 1903, connecting to a more recent timber trestle approach on the East side.

These bridges were inspected by CBCL Limited in 2018. The results of the inspection, with estimated costs of repair are contained in their report of August 2018 (Project 180207.00). The rate of inflation since then has more than doubled costs.

The Dynamite Trail Association anticipated a five-year program to carry out the recommended repairs. The timing of the various phases has been entirely dependent on funding. The funding partners to this date have been The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, The Province of Nova Scotia, through the Department of Community, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, Parks Canada through the Trans-Canada Trail, and local fund-raising efforts by the Dynamite Trail Association.

With generous donations from all funding partners, the DTA was able to carry out the rehabilitation of the granite piers and abutment on the Martins River bridge in 2022 at a cost of \$623,000. In 2023 contracts were completed to repair the concrete piers and abutments at the Mush-a-mush Bridge for \$1,020,050, as well as the steel repair and painting of the superstructure at the Martins River Bridge for \$1,025,164.

CBCL Limited is now under contract to prepare tender documents for similar superstructure repairs at Mush-a-mush, as well as repairs to the wooden trestle portion of the substructure at Martins River for the 2024 construction season. We have included in the attached table estimates of these costs based on the engineers opinions of probable construction costs in 2024.

The Dynamite Trail Association and CBCL Limited anticipate that these contracts would complete the mid-life re-fit of these two important heritage structures, ensuring their continued survival for the next couple of generations of trail users, or whatever economic role the Province determines for them.

The attached table shows expenses to date and the estimated costs for completion of these mid-life refits of two important heritage structures.

**DTA Bridge rehabilitation**  
**Actual cost to end 2023**  
**Projected cost for 2024**  
**Prepared 1 Feb 2024**

	<b>MARTINS RIVER</b>	<b>MUSH-A-MUSH RIVER</b>	<b>YEARLY COST</b>
<b>Year 1</b>			
Tender documents			
2021 and tendering	\$26,972.40	\$-	
Permitting	\$7,800.00	\$-	
Plus HST	\$5,215.00	\$-	
<b>Year Total</b>	<b>\$39,998.00</b>		<b>\$39,998.00</b>
<b>Year 2</b>			
Tender Supervision	\$38,000.00	\$-	
2022 Masonry Repair	\$613,000.00	\$-	
Tender documents			
and tendering	\$32,000.00	\$37,000.00	
Permitting	\$-	\$8,000.00	
<b>Year total</b>	<b>\$683,000.00</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$728,000.00</b>
<b>Year 3</b>			
Tender Supervision	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	
2023 Concrete Repair	\$-	\$1,020,000.00	
Steel repair	\$1,025,000.00	\$-	
Tender Preparation	\$-	\$40,000.00	
<b>Year Total</b>	<b>\$1,065,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,100,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,165,000.00</b>
<b>Year 4</b>			
Tender Supervision	\$15,000.00	\$40,000.00	
2024 Steel repair	\$-	\$2,200,000.00	
Trestle repair	\$150,000.00	\$-	
<b>Year total</b>	<b>\$215,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,215,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$2,002,998.00</b>	<b>\$3,145,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,147,998.00</b>