



Alberta Construction Association

September 18, 2014
The Honourable Robin Campbell
Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board
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Dear Minister Campbell:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board. Alberta's construction industry shares a number of priorities with your Ministry to enhance productivity and competitiveness of the Alberta economy. Our members strive to provide infrastructure to meet the needs of Albertans in a cost effective, environmentally sustainable, and safe manner. Construction is also one of Alberta's largest employers, accounting for approximately one in seven working Albertans.

The Alberta Construction Association speaks for over 2700 member firms across the Province, including general contractors, trade contractors, and suppliers to non-residential construction markets. Our membership features contractors of all sizes and labour affiliations. Seven additional associations with hundreds of contractors in their membership are associate members of ACA.

We agree with Premier Prentice of the need to establish a five year capital plan to prioritize Alberta's infrastructure needs. ACA believes that it is critical for government to maintain a substantial and predictable level of infrastructure investment. Public infrastructure improves the quality of life of Albertans and is necessary to attract new investment and build a strong, competitive economy. Dramatic swings in infrastructure investment discourage young people from choosing a career in construction, discourage existing workers from remaining in construction, and disrupt training of new apprentices, thus nullifying public and private investment in recruiting young people to careers in construction. Such swings also lead to financial hardship for companies as well as making it difficult for industry to respond to government needs.

ACA has developed the attached recommendations concerning the Provincial Capital Budget, and has shared these with all Members of the Legislature. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you in the coming weeks to further discuss these recommendations, and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Ken Gibson, Executive Director, for

Scott Matheson
Chairman
attachment