



# Alberta Construction Association

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May 8, 2019  
Honorable Adriana LaGrange  
Minister of Education  
Education.minister@gov.ab.ca

18004-107 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T5S 2J5  
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Dear Minister LaGrange:

Congratulations on your recent election victory and appointment to Cabinet. Thank you for your Government's commitment to getting Albertans back to work and to making life better for Albertans.

Alberta's construction industry employs 240,000 Albertans directly in the field, one in ten working Albertans. The industry employs thousands of additional Albertans in human resources, finance, IT, and so on. Thousands more are employed in manufacturing concrete, wood, steel and other products used in construction, and in related professions such as architecture and engineering.

The Alberta Construction Association represents 3000 member firms belonging to one of eight regional construction associations across Alberta. Beyond ACA's membership, we have strong partnerships with nine associations representing hundreds of additional firms with a specific labour affiliation or a specific trade focus.

Skilled, engaged, and safe employees are the key to our industry's success. Preparing students for careers in construction offers personal rewards in building the infrastructure to serve their fellow Albertans, and is critical in maintaining the lifeblood of new ideas, skills, and passion to our member firms.

Our industry appreciates the Government's commitments to:

- Focusing learning outcomes on developing foundational competencies
- Emphasizing language and math assessments in early years and introducing financial literacy
- Expand the reach of and funding for CAREERS: Next Generation
- Fund additional trades scholarships
- Reinvent the vocational high school
- Reform teacher certification to enable qualified tradespeople to teach
- Appoint a Skills for Jobs Task Force (ACA would welcome an opportunity to serve on the Task Force)
- Increase the support for Skills Canada Alberta and Women Building Futures
- Create a Premier's Council of vocational education

ACA and our partner associations offer expert professionals that volunteer from the member firms to serve the industry. We would be pleased to utilize such volunteers to assist the Government in achieving these commitments. ACA's Executive Director Ken Gibson ([ken.gibson@albertaconstruction.net](mailto:ken.gibson@albertaconstruction.net)) can assist with coordinating follow-up.

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75  
YEARS





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Sincerely,

Ian Reid, Chair

cc. Regional Construction Associations, Associates

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