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## Budget Reaction 2022

- **ACA is happy to see continued focus on infrastructure spending**
- **Increased emphasis on employment and skills spending welcome**

Alberta Construction Association is pleased that Budget 2022 supports construction families across Alberta. Budgeted expenditures increase \$900 million in 2022-23 and \$450 million in 2023-2024 compared to the 2021 Budget.

ACA also applauds the government's commitment to significantly increase funds to support Albertans to improve skills and successfully gain employment – more than \$600 million over the next three years. Alberta's construction industry has numerous opportunities for rewarding careers to replace more than 24,000 expected retirees over the next decade.

ACA appreciates the Government's acknowledgment that people will continue to move to Alberta. Whether new schools for increased student enrolments, transit projects to reduce congestion and get goods to market, and hospitals to meet health care, the Provincial Government must continue to invest in infrastructure regardless of economic circumstances. The level of investment needs to keep pace with population growth and inflation.

Construction is one of Alberta's largest employers, directly accounting for approximately 228,000 jobs or one in ten working Albertans, with thousands of additional jobs in related occupations. Jobs are a priority and keeping Albertans employed in good paying jobs is critical to the economic engine.

Alberta Construction Association speaks for over 2500 member firms across the Province including general contractors, trade contractors, and suppliers to non-residential construction markets. Our membership includes contractors of all sizes and labour affiliations. Nine associations with hundreds of additional contractors in their membership are associate members of ACA.

Media contacts:

ACA Chair: John Winter, Cooper Concrete, Lloydminster, 780-808-1331

ACA Senior Vice Chair: Trevor Doucette, Graham Construction, Edmonton, 587-337-1426