



CCA Partner Reports Summary

DATE: June 30, 2022
TO: CCA Board of Directors
FROM: Deanna Young, *Executive Manager*
RE: Summary of Partner Reports (Spring 2022)

In preparation for the Canadian Construction Association's July Board meeting, our provincial partner associations provided summary report with key updates and insights into the current issues and opportunities in their regions. Below is a summary of their reports.

Common Themes

- A) The adoption of prompt payment legislation continues to be in progress
 - a. I.e. legislation has been adopted in Saskatchewan, but not yet in British Columbia (put on the back burner by the government), Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia,
- B) The shortage of skilled labour (ex. construction industry in NB is forecasting close to 10,000 job openings by 2027) strategies in support of creating capacity include:
 - a. Educating youth about the career options in the construction industry; PEIRB has a new simulator
 - b. Focus on apprenticeship: incentives for employers, improving the ratio of apprentices to journey persons
 - c. Improving the culture: Builders Code, or ACQ has new resources on psychological & sexual harassment
 - d. Indigenous engagement (BCRB)
 - e. Partnerships with govt (OGCA- Ontario Skilled trades alliance)
- C) (Hyper)inflation is impacting all aspects of the construction industry from
 - a. the cost of construction materials and diesel/haulage rates,
 - b. tender results coming in significantly over budget
 - c. tender results taking longer than quotes prices for materials
- D) Issues with public procurement (late tenders, unfair clauses, risk) and some mitigating strategies:
 - a. Member complaint forms, contractor alerts, owner awards - BCCA
 - b. CANS "Fix the List" campaign
- E) Return to in person meetings and events
 - a. The majority of CCA's partner associations are moving back to in person meetings and events, welcomed as both an opportunity to connect with colleagues face-to-face and as a source of income for the associations (i.e., conferences and social events).
- F) Advocacy for infrastructure investment, examples include:
 - a. ARHCA "Fix our Roads" campaign
 - b. NBRB – province committed to a three year plan

Prince Albert identified crime on construction sites as an issue.

Industry Stats

- As of April 2022, building permits were up 26.4% in Saskatchewan over the same time last year.

- As of April 2022, building permits were up 5.5% in Manitoba over the same time last year, however non-residential permits are down 9%.
- In Halifax region non-residential construction have increased 5.7%, while outside of Halifax region it has decreased by 2.2%.
- The outlook for the 2022-23 construction season in Prince Edward Island is described as encouraging.

Changes in Government

- Political Upheaval in AB (Minister of Infrastructure will also be acting as Minister of Transportation – leadership election is scheduled for October 6, 2022).
- Re-election of Doug Ford as Premier of Ontario has significant implications for OGCA members and the construction industry as a whole in Ontario. The only Ministers keeping their posts in the Ford government are the Ministers of Economic Development and Minister of Finance.

TOP PRIORITIES

- Prompt Payment Legislation
- Skilled Labour Shortages
- Public Sector Procurement
- Contracts

GENERAL CONCERNS

- Increased Overall Risk Profile for businesses
- Economic slowdown

BCCA released the new **Spring 2022 Stat Pack** and annual **Industry Survey** during Construction Month 2022 (April).

PROMPT PAYMENT

After a public commitment to urgently advance prompt payment legislation at the start of this year, and after assembling an industry advisory group to facilitate the process, the BC Attorney General has made an abrupt u-turn. The legislation is now back-burnered until Summer 2023 at the earliest: right in front of the next provincial election and therefore essentially off the table.

BCCA and all stakeholders in the industry (with the notable exception of the BC Homebuilders Association) will keep the pressure on, using examples from Ontario and other provinces to help make the case. Hear our latest podcast on Prompt Payment [here](#).

SKILLED LABOUR SHORTAGES

BCCA has received significant funding from the federal government for two programs designed to improve talent attraction and retention into the construction industry. These programs will be launching this summer:

1. Building Builders: a mentorship program for BC's construction industry with valuable services for employers and job seekers
2. A cash incentive program for construction employers who hire new workers or register existing employees for apprenticeship

PUBLIC SECTOR PROCUREMENT

We continue to push for improved practises with a number of “carrot and stick” activities including:

- **Complaint form/Tip line**
- **Contractor Alerts**
- **Owner Awards**

The new **BCDC 2-2022 documents** went live as of June 1. The Committee is offering **education sessions** throughout June to help transition to the new documents.

We testified at recent FOI hearings calling for government to proactively release project information as recommended by industry and the Capital Asset Management Framework. Our recommendations were supported in the **final report from the Committee** (refer to page 33).

CONTRACTS

Multiple factors are contributing to risk associated with contract terms. Our efforts to improve the dialogue between contractors and owners include:

- Read your %\$%\$! Contract Day which included the **Top 10 Tips for Reviewing Contracts - with Bonus Tips for Subs**
- Owners Only Webinar – Why They Don’t Bid

GENERAL CONCERNS

Overall BC’s contractors, manufacturers and suppliers are experiencing an increasing risk profile due to the factors above as well as new mandatory 5-day sick leave, increased taxes, cost of goods and supply chain disruption, several current or looming strike actions, and more.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES – UPDATES

Builders Code continues to grow, expanding now beyond BC’s borders. Welcome to our newest partners, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Construction Association.

BidCentral continues to enhance and expand its offering, with a new Directory and other functionality launching now.

Construction Month celebrated its five-year anniversary in April, with more participants, events, and activities than ever before. **See the recap in photos.**



MEMO

Date: June 14, 2022

To: Deanna Young

From: Kelly Scott

Cc: Steve Drummond, Matt Pitcairn

Subject: CCA Provincial Report – BC Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association

CURRENT STATE

The effect of climate change is still being felt in BC and after 2021's heat dome and atmospheric river events governments are reacting. Repairs and rebuilding in the aftermath of the winter storms continues. Government recognizes the need to change its current low bid procurement model and has introduced the 'alliance model' where contractors, engineers and owners share the risk. Trade corridors to the ports of Prince Rupert and Vancouver continue to be upgraded. Work has commenced on the Sky train extensions with Federal funding.

Select BC Government projects continue to have project labour agreements (Community Benefit Agreements – CBA) included this has meant some contractors will not bid the project.

The BC government has committed to continue with their long-term investment plan for infrastructure as well as investing in the rebuild of the flood ravaged highway system. As an 'essential service' our industry has adapted to the restrictions of Covid.

Other stakeholders continue to invest in projects: Ports Vancouver, TransLink, BC Hydro, BC LNG.

PRIORITY ISSUES

- Collection of data to support our advocacy
- Advocate for increased and sustained investment in resilient core infrastructure
- Lead through innovation, efficiency, and environmental awareness
- focus on immigration policy to address workforce challenges
- Advocate for improved project delivery models
- Align capacity with industry demands and workforce development
- Indigenous engagement through meaningful consultation and building respectful relationships



Alberta Roadbuilders &
Heavy Construction Association

Report to CCA

June 2022

- Like everyone else, ARHCA members are feeling the crunch with soaring fuel prices. As a result, on June 14, 2022, we issued an addendum to the Rental Rates Guide to include a cost-recovery fuel surcharge. To view this, please visit our website at arhca.ab.ca.
- We are working with asphalt suppliers on the asphalt price index.
- Tenders were later than usual this year which has made planning difficult for our members. The Department indicated they were a month behind.
- The Department also implemented a soft launch of the Contractor Performance Management Program (CPM). For the past two years, the ARHCA had raised concerns about the need for—and administration of—this new program. AT has indicated they will consider feedback from industry before implementing in final form. The ARHCA will continue to advocate for the removal of this program during the UCP leadership and provincial elections.
- Political upheaval in Alberta is creating a gap in leadership at the ministry. On June 14, 2022, government announced that Prasad Panda, Minister of Infrastructure will also be acting Minister of Transportation. The leadership election has been scheduled for October 6, 2022.
- The ARHCA plans to step up advocacy with the Fix Our Roads campaign throughout the summer and into the fall.
- ARHCA has completed the modernizing project for the Roadbuilder Safety Training System (RSTS). Fellow civil associations are encouraged to partner with ARHCA to offer the training program as a service to your members and to generate royalty income to your associations. Please contact me if you are interested in learning more about the RSTS at ron.glen@arhca.ab.ca.

Ron Glen, CEO

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CCA Board Report - Provincial Summary Report - Saskatchewan

ADVOCACY & INITIATIVES

- **Prompt Payment Legislation** – Prompt Payment legislation became law in Saskatchewan March 1, 2022. The Saskatchewan Construction Dispute Resolution Office (SCDRO) is now operating and held its first governing committee meeting in late May. The first group of Saskatchewan-based adjudicators have completed and passed their training. To date there have been no adjudication processes initiated.
- **City Advocacy Work**
 - **City of Regina** - Advocacy work in the City of Regina is focused on two internal city processes: 1) A legal review of existing city contract provisions to examine risk allocation and how/if the city should evolve its contracts; 2) Addressing local and social procurement.
 - **City of Saskatoon** - The City of Saskatoon continues to work with SCA to improve procurement practices. There have been discussions about the associations advocating publicly for the centralization of procurement in the City of Saskatoon. Some of the issues with city procurement are, at least in part, a result of procurement being a process that no single group has responsibility for.
 - **City of Prince Albert** - Advocacy work in the City of Prince Albert has focused on the issue of crime on construction sites. The ELT coordinated a stakeholder engagement session in April that was very well attended. The session brought together different groups to identify the challenges and discuss options for bringing greater awareness to the problem. The PACA and the PA Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored an education session for businesses within the region to discuss crime. The session included a panel of companies that have been victims of crime who shared their stories and experts providing advice on how to manage the risk of crime. Although next steps are unclear, it is likely that a regional mission to Ottawa to meet with federal officials will be necessary.
- **SBDI** – The Government of Saskatchewan is re-engaging on SBDI and it is anticipated that they will adopt a policy a policy in favour of using SBDI for all construction projects above a certain value threshold and involving multiple scopes of work. If this policy does come into place, it is expected to be adopted before the end of the year.

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY¹

As of April 2022, building permits in Saskatchewan were **up by 26.4%** as compared to the same time last year. The January 2022 – April 2022 year-to-date total changes are as follows:

- Commercial – **up 17.3%**
- Industrial – **up 168.2%**
- Institutional / Government sector – **up 128.9%**
- Residential – **up 14.7%**

¹ Sourced from the Government of Saskatchewan [Economic Dashboard](#).

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Winnipeg Construction Association

WCA Activities for the month of May 2022

Construction Industry Update.

According to **Statistics Canada**, Manitoba building permit values YTD (Jan-Apr) for 2022 are 5.5% higher than the same time period in 2021. In a change from recent trends, the residential sector, is having a slower start than the non-residential sector with an overall reduction in permit values of 6.9% YTD compared to 2021. The largest contributor to that reduction is a 42% drop in multi-family development permits compared to 2021.

Non-Residential permit values for January to April 2022 are 9% lower than 2021 values. While the large development on 236 Carlton St. initially skewed overall permit number, its affect on cumulative numbers is decreasing. Industrial permit numbers are now down by 26% and Institutional permit values are now similar to last year.

The **City of Winnipeg** permit report for April 2022 shows that non-residential construction sector permit values are 17% higher than last year, however this is highly skewed due to one large commercial project. Institutional and industrial permit values are down considerably compared to 2021, 55% and 94% respectively. Total Residential Permit values have now caught up to last year's values and are only 3% behind 2021 values.

WCA BuildWorks

In May 2022, WCA hosted 222 projects which is above the recent 5 year average (213). To the end of May, BuildWorks has hosted 947 compared to the 5 year average of 967. We currently have 132 projects closing in June.

WCA BuildCast

BuildCast is the WCA pre-bid information service which accumulates information on confirmed and potential projects to happen in Manitoba in the next 5 years. We are currently tracking 1067 projects potentially worth between \$18.8Bn and \$26.6Bn. WCA members receive a weekly update on new information on projects in the pipeline.

Advocacy/Government Relations.

Prompt Payment Legislation –Bill 28 (*Prompt Payment for Construction Act*) did not advance past second reading in this Spring Legislative session. This is a positive step because it means that Government and Industry can work together to deliver Prompt Payment through amendments to the Builders' Liens Act which is consistent with other Provinces.

University of Manitoba Pre-Qualification Process –WCA hosted a webinar on May 26 providing information to members on this process.

Construction Industry Wages Act – WCA along with other industry associations provided a submission to the government recommending that the implementation dates for the three wages increases be amended to Sept/May(2023)/May(2024) which is a minor change compared to the suggestion in the regulation.

Manitoba Municipal Election – WCA hosted a lunch with Scott Gillingham, Candidate for Mayor of Winnipeg. WCA’s priorities for the next Mayor will be 1) adequate Permit Department funding; 2) adoption of standardized documents; 3) encouraging a Metro Region approach to development; and 4) balancing taxpayer funds and funding significant infrastructure projects.

Education.

The June line-up of courses is a combination of live, online courses and in-person courses at the WCA. There is something for everyone, with topics ranging from supervisor skills, project management, building code and contracts.

Upcoming June Courses:

June 3: Building Code: National Fire Code Requirements for Buildings

June 6-7: Manage Projects with Microsoft Project

June 7-8: The Construction Execution Plan - Project Planning for Success

June 8: Microsoft Excel: Level 1

June 9: Microsoft Excel: Level 2

June 13-14: Trade Contracts: A Double-Edged Sword

June 14: WCA BuildCast and BuildWorks Orientation

June 14: The New CCDC 2 and CCA 1: Be Ready!

June 14-15: Bluebeam Revu: Basic

June 15: Construction Project Closeout

June 20: Construction Meetings and Meeting Minutes for Project Managers

June 21-22: Bluebeam Estimating

June 21-23: CCDC 5A | 5B: Construction Management Keys to Success

Events.

June 22 – WCA Golf (Grand Pines)

June 27 – WCA BBQ

OGCA Report to the
Canadian Construction Association (CCA)
June 2022

General Industry Overview

The June 2nd re-election of the Ford PC government has significant implications for OGCA members and the construction industry.

The Budget

The legislature is expected to be called back for a short session in the summer to present a throne speech and pass the Budget. This might include a limited opportunity for amendments.

Working for Workers Act, 2021

Section 4 amendments to the OHS Act have not been proclaimed but could be very soon. It was part of a pro-worker package of legislation introduced last year to present them as labour friendly. These initiatives included the right to disconnect from work, increase in the minimum wage, regulation of the gig economy, massive increases in potential fines under the OHS Act and requirements to have and be trained on Naloxone kits to avoid overdoses.

The government believes this initiative was important for their election success and it will continue. Many of the seats they gained from the NDP were in traditional blue-collar ridings in Toronto, Hamilton and Windsor. They will act to keep that voter coalition together. The endorsements of LIUNA and many of the significant ICI unions will be rewarded moving forward. It's not clear how government will do this.

Skilled Trades

The construction unions that endorsed the PC Party all focused on the government's plan to continue investing in the skilled trades. The focus will be on Skilled Trades Ontario, the new agency with the customer service mandate where unions and employers are represented on its Board. However, the more contentious issues are with the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development, which has the authority to regulate and enforce. It remains unclear what the consultation and communication protocol will be.

The OGCA are members of the Ontario Skilled Trades Alliance (OSTA), which recommends that that Skilled Trades Ontario prioritize developing a skilled trades inventory and establish anticipated growth and demand. There is a clear need to build this database of all trades.

New Cabinet

We should expect movement in Ford's Cabinet, with the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Economic Development the only Ministers keeping their posts.

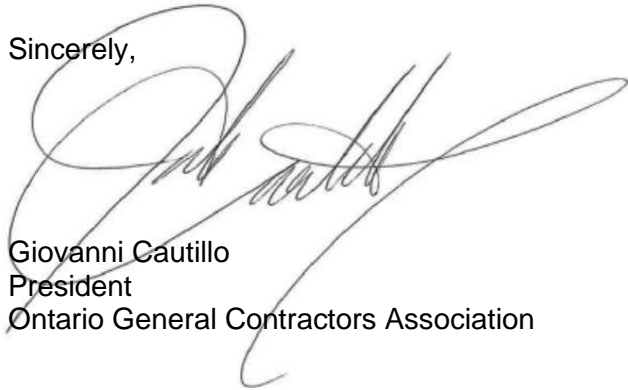
We should also expect the Ministry of Infrastructure to be given greater authority to build infrastructure and the economy. The Minister must have the power to "get it done," and uphold the commitment to build highways, social infrastructure, public transit and housing. This is a significant commitment that will be a focus of the mandate and an important factor in the growth of the construction economy over the next 5 years.

The Ontario construction industry will be challenged to meet the government's ambitious infrastructure agenda. We are experiencing an industry capacity problem, and the focus must be on supporting and expanding the skilled trades recruitment and training. We also must deal with inflation, supply chain restrictions, and supervisor and management skills and availability. These will all be the focus of the OGCA's efforts over the next few years.

OGCA has reached out to members of the legislature and is planning an advocacy day later in the year.

Should anyone need any further clarification on any of the items tabled, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Giovanni Cautillo
President
Ontario General Contractors Association



June 17, 2022

Brendan Nobes
Chair, Board of Directors
Canadian Construction Association

Dear Brendan,

On behalf of the Ontario Road Builders' Association (ORBA), I am pleased to present the following CCA report. Please find below some of the most recent highlights of the work ORBA has been undertaking on the industry's behalf.

2022 Election Strategy:

At the start of May, ORBA developed materials and a social media campaign for the Ontario provincial election. ORBA's election priorities document was sent to all candidates and the media. Our priorities include a call for sustained or increased highway and transit capital funding, the creation of a price index for key construction materials on for all provincial and municipal contracts, further clarity to essential project material specifications and the promotion of responsible use of non-renewable construction materials, such as RAP, demonstrating a clear commitment to the circular economy. Finally, we have reinforced the need to address the shortage of heavy civil construction labour in the industry.

Fair Procurement Practices:

A count in Ontario has awarded its 2022 capital roads program to one contractor, with an estimated value of \$13 million without going through the usual fair and open tendering process. ORBA has written to the County decrying this practice and advocating for a transparent, competitive procurement, with the support of several sister organizations. A deputation by ORBA and 3rd party legal counsel was scheduled to appear at the Council meeting in May. Council refused to allow the delegation to be put on the agenda. This issue is now in the hands of the provincial ombudsman.

Hyperinflation:

As noted above, ORBA is currently involved in a joint discussion with the Ministry of Transportation Ontario (MTO) regarding inflation mitigation. Discussions centre on the need for the adoption of price indexing for key construction materials on provincial contracts. ORBA has also begun discussions and is also reaching out to Ontario municipalities on materials inflation mitigation measures.

Axle Weight Digital Database:

ORBA and Ontario Sand Stone and Gravel Association (OSSGA) continue to work towards the development of an axle weight digital database. The initiative now has the support of MTO and will be moving forward on phase-one of the database build-out. This database will help mitigate problems at weigh scales and allow for “white sheets” to be inputted online, while measure-ups are performed by Motor Vehicle Inspection Station (MVIS) technicians during annual safety inspections.

Ontario Traffic Manual Book 7:

At the start of May, the new MTO Ontario Traffic Manual Book 7, a guideline providing the basic requirements for traffic control in work zones during roadway or utility construction and maintenance on or beside public highways, was released without notice or adequate training time. ORBA has registered strong opposition to this truncated rollout and will continue to communicate the necessity of a longer phase-in period.

Attraction and Retention of Skilled Labour

As noted above, ORBA is working through various channels to pursue education and immigration options to improve the attraction and retention of skilled labour to the provincial road building industry. A problem that we are all now facing across the country

Sincerely,



Bryan Hocking
Chief Executive Officer
Ontario Road Builders Association

CC: ORBA Board of Directors

Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Industry

Industry Overview

- The industry pipe suppliers (OMMD, OCPA) have indicated that sales were up by approximately 12-15% in 2021 and have expectations for similar volumes in 2022.
- Material and supply costs have increased well beyond what could be reasonably expected and are having a material impact on the ability of companies to deliver projects on time and on budget. The cost of all petroleum-related and fuel-intensive products and services are particularly impacted, as the cost of Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel has increased by 40% since September 2021. The spin-off effects are being felt across the sector:
 - 300mm DR18 Watermain: \$82/m in 2021, now priced on average at \$200/m in 2022;
 - Asphalt: \$670/t in 2021, now \$1080/t in 2022;
 - Aggregate (Granular A): \$17.50/t in 2021, now priced on average at \$22/t in 2022;
 - Concrete Pipe and Manholes: up 20% over 2021 prices.

Further to this, watermain and sewer material suppliers are only holding product prices for an average of 15-days, while the time from tender close to project award is typically well over a month. Price escalations are becoming a very real and impactful problem.

Advocacy

OSWCA is working on a couple of critical advocacy items:

- The province is now working through updating regulations on the One Call Act. The current focus is mapping out how the dedicated locator program model will work for utility locates in the province. OSWCA believes if implemented well, this could help to alleviate some of the substantial backlog and delay in the delivery of locates in the province.
- We are continuing to work through problems related to the rapid increase in cost on construction projects. In the short term, we are working helping some local heavy construction associations develop positions and advocate for the inclusion of a fuel index on public contracts in their areas. Over the longer term, we are working and advocating for the development and adoption of a provincially standardized volatile materials index for construction.
- OSWCA is continuing to work through the Excess Soil regulatory implementation. The recent announcement from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks to delay the Phase 2 implementation (testing/tracking/reporting on the movement of excess soils) creates an opportunity to remedy some of the problems that have arisen related to testing requirements, unequal implementation across municipalities, and reuse rules.

Association

The OSWCA has a planned strategic planning exercise set for June 2022 to establish a 5-year plan for the Association. We are conducting outreach to members across the province to gain perspective on policy and program areas that OSWCA can work on leading into the late-2020s.

Association
des constructeurs
de routes
et grands travaux
du Québec



ACRGTQ

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AFFAIRES JURIDIQUES

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**Provincial Summary Report Presented to the
Canadian Construction Association**

**by the
Québec Road Builders and Heavy
Construction Association**

June 2022

Labour shortage and retention

Employer associations in the construction industry have joined forces with the Quebec Employers Council to develop a communication plan aimed at attracting labour. The communication strategy will be implemented in the coming months. Also, the QRBHCA and the other associations worked with the Commission de la construction du Québec to establish several measures aimed at tackling the effects of the scarcity of tradespeople.

The industry is also seeking to improve regional and restricted training opportunities, access to training centres and programs with low enrolment. The Association intends to approach the government regarding facilitating the hiring of international workers.

Digital shift

Different initiatives are in progress in the industry to promote the digital shift. Examples include the government's BIM Roadmap already underway and the Initiative québécoise pour la Construction 4.0, which provides personalized support to increase profitability and productivity. Innovation is not only a prerequisite for performance but also for attracting labour.

Bill 59, *An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime*

The QRBHCA is closely following the deployment of Bill 59 modernizing the health and safety regime in Québec, which was the subject of much discussion in 2021. The QRBHCA will ensure that the interests of its members are protected in the development of the regulation resulting from this bill, while keeping in mind the health and safety of all.

Client relations

The QRBHCA continues to work with the government and clients to eliminate unfair clauses from their contractual documents, introduce dispute resolution clauses during the execution of the work, and remove payment delays with a framework law. Supply management and improved contractual relations are also being addressed. Discussions are taking place at working tables with Hydro-Québec, the MTQ, the City of Montréal, and the STM, among others.

Environment

The QRBHCA submitted its comments on changes to environmental legislation and regulations, particularly with respect to Bill 102, the Regulation respecting the reclamation of residual materials, the Regulation concerning the traceability of excavated contaminated soils, and the Regulation respecting the regulatory scheme applying to activities on the basis of their environmental impact.

It also brought its concerns and recommendations regarding the problem of neighbourhood disturbances caused by the activities of its sector to the attention of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in the context of the development of the Stratégie nationale d'urbanisme et d'aménagement des territoires.

The QRBHCA held meetings with the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change; public and parapublic clients; as well as its members; quarry, sandpit and plant owners; and contractors, to address numerous questions regarding the application of the new environmental regulation, particularly with respect to the management of residual materials and excavated contaminated soil. It has allowed us to solve several problems in this field, in collaboration with all stakeholders.

Work environment

The Association has contributed to the collective effort to make our workplaces healthy. It produced short video clips summarizing the various legal aspects of the concept of psychological and sexual harassment. The project was made possible by the financial support of the CNESST. The clips are available online on the QRBHCA website under the legal heading.



To whom it may concern

Several significant issues are preventing the construction industry from growing in New Brunswick. Between the lack of prompt payment legislation, supply chain disruptions, increased labor costs, and the global fuel crisis, the cost of construction for our members is at an all-time high.

It may sound like a broken record but prompt payment legislation is needed now more than ever. Record-high demand and record-high construction cost results in even more financial risk being carried by our members. We see a lot of progress across the country with working groups being established and prompt payment pilot projects taking place and we hope to be engaged soon to ensure our industry has a voice at the table.

The cost of diesel in New Brunswick has gone up 64% from this point in 2021. This affects every member of our association on every contract in place however, unlike other provincial governments who have been proactive to help their construction industry, our provincial government has yet to enact any temporary or long-term measures to help reduce the financial burden being placed on our membership. We are at a point where our members cannot afford to work with the provincial government unless changes come soon and that is a lose-lose situation for everyone.

The construction industry in New Brunswick is forecasting close to 10,000 job openings by 2027. This labour shortage is very concerning and the fact is, they cannot be replaced by New Brunswickers and we will need to look outside of our province to fill these roles. The Department of Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour is well aware of this and has it on its radar as a huge area of concern. They also have five of the most needed construction trades on their top 15 priority list of positions that will be filled. Our association is also working closely with P.E.T.L., Opportunities NB as well as the two community college networks (French and English) to help address this current and future shortage.

Thank you



Spring 2022

Tenders are out and work has started for the summer. An early spring permitted the weight restrictions to be lifted earlier than normal and this has lengthened the construction season. With the increase of fuel and materials tender results have been coming in over budget by an average of 10%. Government has not indicated they will be adjusting the program, but thoughts are if this continues, we may see projects get pulled over to 2023. We have seen this happen in a couple cities.

The increase in fuel has resulted in government scrambling to adjust haulage rates for the trucking industry, given the fact the last adjustment was in 2018. Truckers were refusing to haul for existing rates. Government has also implemented a fuel surcharge which so far is keeping the trucks moving.

Government released a 3-year Capital Plan in March. This is welcomed news and something our association has been advocating for many years. We will be keeping a close eye on how government follows this plan. Hopefully this will result in tenders being released earlier.

Our mobile Heavy Equipment Operator training classroom project continues to move ahead. We have located a used 53' trailer and hope to take delivery in the next couple weeks. We are working closely with a company in Montreal on purchasing simulators. We have retained an engineering company and a contractor who are both members to design and construct the renovations. We are still shooting for a September completion but if delays continue, we may have to move the completion date to later in the fall.

Our Spring Mixer event was held on April 20th with approximately 160 registered. Presentations were well received and the event was a success. It was certainly great to see everyone in-person. Our summer Golf Tournament is set for July 15th in Fredericton. Registrations are coming in early which points to a great turnout.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom McGinn".

Tom McGinn, Executive Director



CCA Provincial Report – Nova Scotia

June 2022

Submitted on behalf of Duncan Williams, President & CEO, Construction Association of Nova Scotia

Construction Association of Nova Scotia

Industry Overview

Investment in Nova Scotia building construction increased 0.8% in March 2022 (seasonally adjusted) compared to February 2022.

In March 2022, non-residential building construction increased 2.3% to \$67.8 million in Nova Scotia (seasonally adjusted). In Halifax, non-residential construction was up 5.7% to \$39.9 million. Outside of Halifax, non-residential construction was down 2.2% to \$27.9 million.

In January-March 2022, the increase in Nova Scotia non-residential building construction was due to higher investment in commercial and industrial investment in Halifax, and higher institutional/government investment outside of Halifax. The increase was partially offset by lower commercial investment outside of Halifax compared to January-March 2021.

Workforce & Advocacy

CANS continues to advocate on behalf of industry and apprentices, awaiting a decision from the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency to modernize and increase the number of apprentices who can be supervised by one journeyman to a ratio of at minimum, one journeyman to two apprentices.

CANS is also working with the provincial government on a prompt payment model and is waiting on regulatory and adjudication framework for Nova Scotia.

CANS has recently launched our Fix the List campaign, a public awareness campaign highlighting challenges our members experience when conducting business in Halifax Regional Municipality.

CANS continues to collect responses from our labour and workforce survey intended to gather labour market information and insights, with the goal being to understand workforce challenges within the construction industry.

Membership & Industry Resources

CANS continues to ensure our programs and services are delivered to members with as little disruption as possible due to COVID-19. We continue to offer in-person services, including print orders, the sale of CCDC & CCA Standard Documents, and the Signing of Statutory Declarations.



CONSTRUCTION
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Building with Skill and Integrity Since 1862

Following public health guidelines, CANS hosted our highest attended Spring Fling in April. CANS held our annual De-Icer in May with great success, hosting nearly 1,600 individuals at a new location in downtown Halifax. CANS looks forward to hosting our annual golf tournament in June, softball tournament in August, and AGM in September

From February 1, 2022, to June 30, 2022, CANS Education has registered 671 individuals in educational programming. As we approach year end, CANS Education engaged approximately 190 companies with over 1150 attendees, through over 85 educational programs.

The third issue of Construction Pulse, CANS industry magazine, will launch this summer, highlighting achievements by former CANS board chairs and past Chair of CCA's board of directors, Jack Flemming (1989), and current chair, Brendan Nobes (2022).

Association Priorities for 2022

We will continue to place focus on our key priority areas, as identified through our Strategic Plan – Government and Industry Relations, Workforce Development, Industry Education and Training, and Innovation and Technology. We have expanded the strategic plan for one more year to 2024. Our priority is, and remains for the future, to continue advocating on our members and the construction industry's behalf.

Nova Scotia Provincial Update – June 2022

The provincial road building regular program is underway, with several tenders out. It is budgeted to be in the \$325M range. Separately we have the 104 P3 project also proceeding which will add another \$150M or so to spending this year.

However, the significantly inflated cost environment we find ourselves in is causing great challenges with actually delivering the provincial program. The Province uses a rolling 3 year average for developing their estimates, many of which would have been completed last fall i.e. before the dramatic cost increases hit. Therefore the provincial estimates are very low and we are regularly exceeding their estimates by large amounts. Their “solution” to this problem has been to regularly cutback the scope of work after award, primarily on paving jobs. We are concerned that two things may occur, if they do not find more funding: the program as laid out will not get completed and the volume of asphalt tonnage will once again be much lower than we need to keep our members busy at the level they need.

On a longer term basis we are concerned about Provincial plans to keep our program at a healthy level. We do plan caucus meetings for this year to make sure our concerns are heard.

Covid wise, while the number of cases is much worse than ever, all restrictions are gone and we are left to cope as best we can. Not unusual to hear of many more cases than previously experienced, but our members are working through it and moving on. We have moved back to many more in-person meetings/events and hope to continue in that vein. A key hope on the in-person front is to finally get back to regular Annual General Meetings. For us they are an important source of funding and we have missed two in a row, which has put strain on our financial status.

Finding enough employees remains and appears as though it will continue to be a challenge. We are managing, but it is a constant effort. Our entry level courses have helped a little with currently 15 new employees added to our pool and another 9 to be available late June. We are hopeful that this program will be picked up by the Province on an ongoing basis. We are pursuing this initiative in partnership with a registered career college and that approach has been very effective.

We continue to put great effort onto building relationships with many Government and Industry entities to better things for our members. Municipal budgets, in particular, are becoming much more substantial and time goes on.

2022 CCA Report

On behalf of

The PEI Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association
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Year two – *Industry vs Covid-19* – we have certainly faced some challenges as most industries, work shortages due to illness and isolation requirements, no social events due to capacity restrictions – but for the most part - we are an industry that has succeeded in the face of COVID.

The outlook for the 2022-23 construction season is encouraging. The Provincial Highway Capital Budget breakdown is as follows:

Capital Budget Estimate 2022-2023	
Bridges	10,000,000
National & Highways	27,000,000
Provincial Paving	10,000,000
Active Transportation	1,500,000
Total	48,500,000

Recruitment in our industry is one of our goals as we see an aging work force. The call for skilled laborers is increasing across the board. The COVID-19 pandemic has put even more pressure on an already understaffed workforce. A lack of public education about — and exposure to — road building and heavy construction is also major cause of the labor shortage, not to mention — our aging workforce.

Our industry, as many others, is facing a worker shortage crisis. Our Association will be working in partnership with the PEI Department of Education as they will be piloting a Youth Transition Program - it is an additional graduation pathway next school year (2022/2023). Eight other Public Schools Branch high schools will be coming on board the following year so that all 10 high schools will be implemented by 2023/2024.

As part of the Youth Transitions Program, the department will be creating an additional graduation pathway called the Essential Skills Achievement Pathway (ESAP). This is a competency-based grad pathway that prepares youth for post-secondary education, apprenticeship or the world of work. In ESAP, grade 10-12 students meet personalized outcomes to develop competencies needed in the PEI Labour market (e.g., skilled-trades industries). With the purchase of the vortex edge max - – simulating an Excavator, dozer, wheel loader, backhoe, grader, ADT and skid steer (via The Prince Edward Island Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association) students will learn how to simulate 6 pieces of heavy equipment, working through modules of different tasks, while focusing on safety. Throughout the term, members from the PEIRB & HCA will work with the classes, making special appearances speaking about work sites and experiences on the machinery and working in the industry.

Another recruitment tool promoting our industry as a viable career choice - We have produced a career video – promoting our industry via social media, job and youth fairs, etc. See attached link https://youtu.be/fWIYbU3_e3M.

We hope over time, these two initiatives will bring focus to our industry as a viable career choice on Prince Edward Island.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Paquet, Executive Director