



## 2021 NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

### Summary of Discussions

JW Marriot Parq Vancouver, Vancouver BC

March 2022

Based on the future visioning implications workshop, the NAC councils were asked to speak to the issues in their regions and provide recommendations relating to those issues for CCA's consideration.

Top issues presented included:

- **Supply chain and cost escalation**
  - There is a lack of escalation provisions from public owners.
  - The distribution of risk is very inequitable.
  - Guarantees for pricing are almost impossible.

Recommendations:

- That best practices be shared with CCA for distribution to members/associations.
  - Use the Best Practices Institute or similar forum to bring all stakeholders together for dialogue.
  - That CCA explore creating a "Construction Basket of Goods" similar to Statistics Canada's CPI baskets.
  - That CCA explore commissioning a document examining where it is feasible to move to self-supply, and what steps would be needed.
  - CCDC may want to consider updating documents to better reflect clauses used for the new reality of supply chain disruption created by COVID-19 and international tensions.
  - CCA should issue education material for the industry to better understand the protection they have. CCA should produce a simple guide with generic language that contracts could include to protect themselves.
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- **Procurement**
    - There are multiple methods of procurement that owners are not considering – either unaware or uneducated on the formats.

Recommendations:

- There was also consensus that CCA should develop their own procurement training program or team up with an organization such as Supply Chain Canada (currently certifying candidates to become CSCMP, Certified Supply Chain Management Professionals).

- Net zero procurement and embodied carbon reduction policy – education from experts / best practices from other global counterparts (Netherlands?).
  - Advocacy – with an aim to tie federal, provincial funds to effective procurement policy.
- **Prompt payment legislation**
    - It was recognized that CCA had done a great job on a national level to get the prompt payment legislation implemented where currently applicable.
    - LCAs shared that even though legislation is in place for certain provinces, it's still challenging when disputes occur.

Recommendations:

- That LCAs would share their best practice with CCA, which would then share consolidated feedback to all LCAs.
- **Labour shortage**
    - Based on experiences with current employees, there are challenges to obtaining equivalent degrees in Canada if you have education based on the British system (pertaining to construction-related degrees). There are less hurdles for those whose programs were based on the U.S. system. There are programs that many are unaware of, that could help both employees and employers.
    - People are looking for good paying careers – we have not focused enough on demonstrating viable career paths for those coming in with the drive, but perhaps not the education or experience anticipated. We also refer to construction jobs – but we as an industry should always be saying construction careers.
    - Talking about salaries seems to be taboo. Our industry pays extremely well, and we should not be shying away from saying that.
    - Some individual LCAs have terrific programs in place - we need to have presentations on all the programs and determine what and how we can adapt for all.
    - We need to really start moving more of our marketing to the social media channels where the target potential employees are: Tik Tok is a prime example.

Recommendations

- That CCA approach LCAS to learn more about individual programs, and create a resource hub, or adopt/adapt programs for national use.
  - That more marketing of careers and career paths be promoted through newer social media channels.
  - CCA should be the centralized group working with an agency to bring in foreign workers.
- **Prequalification documents**
    - This is big data and it's unclear what happens with it. The prequalification package is now bigger than the bidding package.
    - Is Auditsoft pitching to CCA? Not opposed to have a single trusted organization. This is of significant impact to the trade contractor who carries the financial burden.

## Recommendations

- CCA should go back to bid-bond. Reach out to the guaranteed company of North America and ask what their plan is.

### Other comments from the councils:

#### *Civil NAC*

The members would like CCA to appoint all CICC members to the Civil NAC.

The members would like CCA to allow CICC to hold their meeting following the Civil NAC meeting in person at the conference and in Ottawa during Hill Day.

#### *LCA NAC*

That mental health awareness information is vital, and the LCAs should share their best practices with CCA, who would consolidate and return to LCAs.

#### *GC NAC*

That an update on security clearances would be appreciated.

The GC and TC councils were asked to weigh in on a CCDC contract (cumulative impact), and RAIC's interest in removing it from the document. The following points were raised during the discussion:

- That the general consensus at CCDC is not that RAIC believes the issue does not occur, but that there is no need to raise it specifically – that submitted change orders are sufficient for tracking time – but they do understand that there is a difference between change orders and cumulative impact.
- There was discussion over whether the document could change its wording to identify when cumulative impact would come into play – stating that the mention is necessary, but willing to work on how it is addressed.
- It was asked if CCA could release its own form – however it was felt that it wouldn't carry the same unbiased value of a CCDC document.
- It was suggested that CCDC look to other countries to see how they address the issue. The U.S. does not use the same document systems, so that would not be appropriate, but Sweden might have examples as they have a system similar to CCDC.
- The final consensus from both GC and TC NACs was that members believe that this issue should not be removed from the document, and that CCA CCDC representatives should bring that opinion back to CCDC.