

Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association Update

June 2025

The Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association is pleased to provide this provincial update, reflecting current priorities, advocacy work, and sector developments across Newfoundland and Labrador.

Newfoundland and Labrador has recently seen a significant political transition with the swearing-in of a new Premier and Cabinet, coinciding with the conclusion of a federal election that may signal changes in national priorities. NLCA welcomes the new leadership teams at both the provincial and federal levels and remains committed to working collaboratively with government partners to ensure the construction industry's priorities are reflected in upcoming policy and funding decisions. As the province sets its new direction, and as federal strategies around infrastructure, housing, and immigration evolve, NLCA will continue to advocate for investment and workforce solutions that support economic growth and address the skilled labour needs of Newfoundland and Labrador. NLCA continues to push for bold, forward-thinking strategies—similar to those adopted in other provinces—that will unlock opportunity, drive development, and strengthen long-term industry sustainability.

The construction industry in Newfoundland and Labrador continues to show resilience amid a turbulent economic landscape shaped by inflationary pressures, labor shortages, and ongoing supply chain challenges. Tariff concerns remain a top priority, particularly the proposed 25% tariff on imported construction materials, which could significantly impact affordability and project delivery timelines across the province. NLCA continues to work in collaboration with the Canadian Construction Association to ensure that federal policymakers understand the detrimental impacts of these measures on regional competitiveness.

NLCA remains a trusted voice at key provincial tables, including active participation in the Premier's Roundtable discussions. We've successfully advocated for increased trade mission funding—an important win that will help local firms access new markets and diversify opportunities. These efforts reflect our commitment to ensuring a stable and competitive environment for members across all sectors of the construction industry.

NLCA recently submitted a letter of support to Minister Gerry Byrne urging the removal of ferry service fees across the Cabot Strait. The letter outlined the significant economic burden these fees place on Newfoundland and Labrador's construction industry and broader economy, and called on the federal government to adopt a fairer, growth-focused approach similar to the toll model used for the Confederation Bridge in Prince Edward Island.

Through government partnerships, NLCA secured \$250,000 in workforce training funding, helping member firms upskill employees and remain competitive. These funds, offered through the association's Centre for Excellence, are helping over member firms and will support the upskilling of the industry.



One of our most anticipated initiatives, the NLCA Build 2025 Expo, took place May 7–8 at the Jack Byrne Regional Sport & Entertainment Centre in Torbay. With 100 exhibition booths sold and a full two-day program, the Expo is set to be a hub for innovation, business development, and knowledge exchange.

Key highlights of the Expo include:

- **Opening Remarks** by Minister Fred Hutton
- **Reverse Trade Show** featuring NL Hydro, NL Housing, NL English School District, and others
- **100 exhibitors** promoting innovative technologies, services and products to the buyers of construction
- **Fireside Chats** covering project outlooks, Indigenous participation, navigating tariffs and contracts, workforce development, supply chain challenges, and infrastructure investment
- **Mozza & Mentors Luncheon** celebrating Women in Construction
- **NLCA Shed Party** — an evening networking event with live music and great food

NLCA leadership recently attended the CCA Annual Conference and will participate in the upcoming CCA Partner Association Symposium in Calgary (May 21–22). These engagements allow NLCA to align with national priorities and ensure Newfoundland and Labrador’s perspective is embedded in CCA’s 2026–2029 strategic planning.

NLCA proudly supported the 2025 Encore Summit and continues to engage with multiple industry stakeholders to explore innovative approaches to address the skilled trades shortage. As part of this effort, we are focused on leveraging the experience of the aging workforce—ensuring their knowledge is retained and transferred to the next generation through mentorship, training, and strategic engagement. The Encore Summit provided a valuable platform to discuss workforce development, economic resilience, and inclusive labour strategies that align with NLCA’s priorities.

Looking ahead, NLCA is preparing for two signature events this fall: the **Women in Construction Conference** on **November 7**, and the **Annual Rock Awards Gala** on **November 8**. Both events will be held at the JAG Hotel in St. John’s and will celebrate leadership, innovation, and excellence across Newfoundland and Labrador’s construction industry.

As we move into the second half of 2025, NLCA remains focused on delivering value to its members through advocacy, innovation, and growth. Our work in procurement modernization, workforce solutions, and member engagement continues to shape a stronger construction industry for Newfoundland and Labrador.





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Heavy Civil Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (HCANL)

April 2025 Report to the Canadian Construction Association (CCA)

Provincial Infrastructure Investment Update - Newfoundland and Labrador

Overview

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has released Budget 2025 with a clear and encouraging focus on long-term infrastructure development.

This year's record-level investment in roads, highways, and equipment renewal demonstrates a strong commitment to supporting the heavy civil construction sector and strengthening the province's transportation network. HCANL is encouraged by this historic commitment and continues to work closely with government to ensure that policies and procurement practices reflect industry realities.

Key Highlights from Budget 2025

- \$316.8 million has been allocated to the provincial road and highway program. This funding will support thousands of kilometers of new paving, brush clearing, culvert replacements, and bridge upgrades across Newfoundland and Labrador.
- \$19 million is designated to complete the Team Gushue Highway, a critical regional corridor that will improve connectivity and reduce traffic congestion in the province's most densely populated area.
- \$5 million is committed to begin Twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway, a project that will enhance road safety and support efficient commercial transportation across the island.
- \$37.7 million is earmarked to replace aging heavy equipment and snowplows as part of a multi-year modernization effort. This investment will improve service delivery and support safer, more reliable road maintenance.
- The Municipal Capital Works (MCW) Program remains open for applications, providing municipalities and local service districts with continued access to cost-shared funding for eligible infrastructure projects, including water and wastewater systems and local road improvements.

Outlook

This budget reinforces the province's understanding of infrastructure as a foundational driver of economic resilience and growth. The scale of investment signals a strong upcoming construction season, with expanded opportunities for HCANL members in project delivery, equipment supply, and regional contracting. We remain committed to advocating for clear, fair, and forward-thinking infrastructure planning and procurement, ensuring that industry capacity and cost realities are reflected in project execution.

Kris Mulcahy
Executive Director
Heavy Civil Association of Newfoundland and Labrador





May 2025

We continue with the efforts we started over the last couple of years with Immigration, Tiny homes, and our training center are just a few of the initiatives we are working on here at CAPEI , always looking to grow our opportunities as we grow our industry

- 1- Provincial and Federal funding for our training center has resumed with a focus on Youth with barriers etc and Foreign Credential recognition programs to date
- 2- Virtual reality units in every High school and Junior High school in PEI continuation into 2025
- 3- Member of the Provinces Net – Zero Advisory council
- 4- Membership growth stays solid
- 5- Social media growth and Industry awareness has ramped up and we are focusing on construction being a key sector in PEI and Nationally
- 6- Pan Atlantic Immigration program and study has gone well, next phase ahead
- 7- International recruitment missions
- 8- New educational partnership with CANB has been a great success to date

Sam Sanderson

Executive Director CAPEI

“BUILDING PEI ONE DAY AT A TIME”

The PEI Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association

Report to Canadian Construction Association June 2025

Capital Budget	
Active Transportation	1,100,000
Bridges	21,000,000
National Collectors and Highways	24,100,000
Provincial Paving	21,000,000
TOTAL	67,200,000

Government and contractors are concerned about the current cost sharing infrastructure program coming to an end and no new infrastructure program in place. As a smaller province and obviously smaller capital budget, we depend on these programs for new infrastructure. We will continue to lobby the federal government impressing upon the need for a new program.

Industry, Education and Work Force

Our Association is focusing on initiatives that will help build futures in our Industry.

- We are entering our third-year partnership with the Department of Education's Essential Skills Achievement Pathway (ESAP). We have a heavy equipment simulator - simulating 6 pieces of heavy equipment to help bring focus to our industry as a career opportunity.
- Our Association has participating in Job Fairs, expos and career days representing our Industry.
- We would also like to secure some funding for training – there is NO heavy civil training on Prince Edward Island.

Membership, Events & Public Relations

Our Annual Golf and Lobster dinner will be held on June 4, 2025, at Fox Meadows and Lone Oak. We look forward to a good turn out and building relationships with our membership.

Negotiated Prices & Rental Rates

Our negotiated rate committee meets every year with government to review our rates. Our committee has done a lot of work over the years to bring rates up to industry standards. This past April we receive Treasury Board approval to implement a 3% increase to all standard prices on unbid jobs, trucking rates, and equipment rentals, effective April 28, 2025.

Snow

Our current snow contract (7 Year contract) with the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure was negotiated back in 2018-19, there were discussions around the table that **IF** there was to be any

The PEI Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association

major changes in our industry – this contract could be opened for renegotiation. Who would have predicted a pandemic that drove industry costs through the roof. Equipment costs are up 30-40%, wages have increased substantially, not to mention the shortage of laborers. We have met with government and they are favorable to a negotiation. We are hoping to secure a new contract by mid-summer 2025.

ARBA

The Atlantic Road Builders Association (ARBA) continues to be a valuable partnership. We continue to have monthly calls to discuss challenges and triumphs our industry faces in Atlantic Canada. The PEI Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association will be hosting the Spring meeting on June 5, 2025, in Charlottetown.

We look forward to a safe and hopefully busy construction season.

Regards

Melissa Paquet
Executive Director of PEI Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association

CCA Provincial Report – Nova Scotia

June 2025

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

Industry Overview

Investment in Nova Scotia building construction decreased by 7.6% in February 2025 to \$549.4 million. Halifax monthly building construction was down 6.3% to \$336.9 million, while outside of Halifax building construction was down 9.6% to \$212.5 million. Nova Scotia's non-residential building construction grew 4.2% to \$109.2 million. In Halifax, non-residential construction was up 1.1% to \$63.5 million. Outside of Halifax, non-residential construction was up 8.9% to \$45.8 million.

Compared to January-February 2025, building construction investment was up 17.0% in Nova Scotia. Halifax construction activity was up 43.8%, and outside of Halifax, construction activity was down 9.3%.

Workforce & Advocacy

Through the Nova Scotia Construction Immigration Coalition, CANS is piloting a website where employers can post jobs, conduct interviews, and hire candidates locally and internationally. Despite a significant reduction in immigration allocations for Nova Scotia, CANS will continue to advocate for policies that prioritize skilled immigration, as it remains a critical solution to closing the workforce gap and supporting the construction industry's growth.

This federal election, CANS ensured that our members' priorities and the construction industry's key issues were front and centre for candidates. In addition to supporting the national Construction for Canadians campaign, CANS consulted with our members on their perspectives and insights to ensure our advocacy efforts reflect the industry's priorities and needs. We developed our strategies and consulted with our members on their perspectives and insights to ensure our advocacy efforts reflect the industry's priorities and needs. CANS supported the national Construction for Canadians campaign.

Due in part due to long-term advocacy by CANS, Nova Scotia adopted the 2020 National Building Codes on April 1, 2025. CANS, in partnership with Canadian Home Builders Association – Nova Scotia, hosted six full-day training sessions across the province to all groups in construction. CANS had over 930 individuals registered.

CANS is proud to partner with the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Foundation to offer four distinct awards with [seven scholarships to NSCC students](#) pursuing post-secondary education toward careers in construction.

As demand grows for skilled trades, engaging youth early is more important than ever. CANS Building Futures for Youth program has opened for the 2025 school year, accepting 93 students. BFY connects grade 10 and 11 students with an opportunity to safely explore careers in Nova Scotia's construction industry. Through the BFY program, students gain experience in a construction industry occupation, earn co-operative education credits, register as construction trades pre-apprentices, make connections with industry, and most importantly, gather information to help make informed career choices.

Membership & Industry Resources

Between February 1 and April 30, CANS Education hosted 30 programs and engaged approximately 245 learners. Over the full program season, we recognized more than 85 learners who enrolled in BuildForce e-learning education courses. Looking ahead, we anticipate hosting an additional 10 sessions, engaging over 100 learners.

CANS hosted our CANS 2025 Home Depot Pro De-Icer on April 25. This year's event drew more than 1,900 industry professionals to the Halifax Convention Centre, making it our largest De-Icer to date.

The CANS Emerging Leaders Group hosted a successful Speaker Series in February, which highlighted an impactful project in HRM. The EL Committee hosted our Annual Curling Bonspiel in April. Through events like



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Building with Skill and Integrity Since 1862

these, we aim to empower emerging professionals with the tools, knowledge, and networks they need to thrive in the construction sector.

Association Priorities for 2025

CANS will continue to focus on key priority areas as identified in its Strategic Plan: Government and Industry Relations, Workforce Development, Industry Education and Training, and Innovation and Technology. Member engagement will be a priority in the coming months to ensure alignment with strategic priorities and to gauge satisfaction for informing future directions. CANS will begin to develop a new strategic plan this year.

Nova Scotia Provincial Update – March 2025

We are in the early stages of dealing with a new Government following the decisive win by the Progressive Conservatives in the election late last fall. They now have a large majority, which will allow them to pursue whatever plan they choose.

With this victory we have had a change in the Minister of Public Works (our key Department to deal with) as well as in the office of Deputy Minister. Early thoughts/expectations are that the new Minister and staff will be good to work with. However, as always with a new minister the learning curve for that person is very steep. Good communication with the new Minister and staff will be a large focus for us.

Early indications are that the budget for the Province will be in same range as last year, in the \$500M range. We had a down year in asphalt tonnage last year, currently they are saying it will be similar this year and we will thus be working to bring that up as the year unfolds.

We once again expect the budgets for the major municipalities in the Province to be substantial. The housing demand, expanding populations and Halifax getting more gridlock like everyday demand much new civil infrastructure work must be done. The Premier has broadly alluded to this near the end of last year and we hope to see words move to actions sooner than later.

We will closely watch the labour market for our Industry this year. It appeared to be slightly improving last year. We will be once again putting on our RB 101 training program to attempt to bring new workers into our Industry.

Our joint meetings between Atlantic Road Builders Association members and senior bureaucrats from Atlantic Departments of Transportation are going well and we expect to continue to build on those efforts this year.

Immigration will be an interesting file this year with the decrease approach by the Feds. We participate in both Provincial and Atlantic initiatives on this topic, but continue to deal with the challenge of the Fed requirement of fulltime employment.

We went through a new Strategic Planning process this past Fall to guide the Association into the future. A major outcome was to put significant focus upon raising our profile with the Public and Governments. We are in the early stages of making that happen.



Construction Association of New Brunswick



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Prompt Payment: It has now been over 680 days since Prompt Payment legislation received Royal Assent in New Brunswick. However, the legislation is still not in force, and no draft regulations have been released. CANB has continued to press the new provincial government to make this a priority—particularly with the new Attorney General—emphasizing the same support they offered for the legislation while in opposition. We remain committed to seeing this legislation enacted and will continue our strong advocacy to ensure our members receive the payment protections they were promised.

NB Skilled Trades Consortium: The consortium concept came from research commissioned by CANB and Skilled Trades NB to identify gaps in the promotion and access of six underrepresented groups into the skilled trades in the province. The Consortium will work with government, industry partners and other stakeholders throughout New Brunswick to create a province wide streamlined approach to increase opportunities and labour market participation in the skilled trades. We hired two new staff in September to manage the initiative. As the consortium came together, Tara Cranna, our Policy and Research lead, led a comprehensive jurisdictional scan to understand labor market challenges at home and abroad. Her research — compiled over three months — examined barriers, promising practices, and potential policy solutions. The resulting report and executive summary are already being recognized as a pioneering resource — believed to be the first of its kind in Canada — and offer a valuable roadmap for provinces facing similar challenges. The consortium is comprised of 40 individuals from 35 different organizations, government branches and sectors were confirmed and a powerful coalition ready to shape the future of skilled trades in New Brunswick was established. Armed with this data, the NBSTC officially launched with a dynamic two-day kickoff event in February 2025. For the first time, both the Technical Advisory Committee and the Executive Committee met in person to collaborate, connect, and co-develop the strategic goals that will drive the consortium's work over the coming years.

Government of NB Construction Forum: For the first time, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) and the Department of Finance, co-hosted a full day forum to drive innovation and enhance efficiencies in GNB infrastructure construction projects. CANB had a significant say in not only the push to have a forum, but in the planning and topics discussed at the event. Roundtable topics included Efficient Design and Planning Process, Embracing and Implement use of Digital Technologies and how to Improve Communication & Culture when working with our members. The event featured remarks from the Premier, along with the Ministers and Deputy Ministers of DTI and Finance. CANB members from across the province traveled to Fredericton to attend and participate, providing direct feedback on challenges and opportunities in project delivery. This collaborative effort represents a significant step forward in the government-industry dialogue. We are hopeful that the insights and input shared will lead to meaningful change in how infrastructure projects are delivered in New Brunswick—aligning with the improvements we've long been advocating for.



Spring 2025

2025 Construction Season

Our transportation department started releasing tenders in February with most of the paving tenders called by the end of April. The province wanted the majority of their tenders out before a major paving project begins between Fredericton and Moncton. This part of the Trans Canada Highway was the first P3 project in our province and the entire highway needs to be paved by the end of 2027. This is a major project and is good news for our paving contractors. Our bridge program continues to be puzzling. We have seen very few bridge contracts called, even though bridges are in poor condition.

Mobile Simulator Training Trailer Project

Our simulator trailer is finishing at Sugarloaf High School and will move to Harvey High School for the 2025 Fall semester. We are still waiting on funding for a second heavy equipment simulator project. This project will put more simulators in high schools which will be strategically placed in regional schools.

Job Fair

We held a Job Fair specifically for the Road Building industry in early April. This was our first ever Job Fair, therefore we were not sure how many people would attend. We had approximately 300 people attend with 20 companies setting up a booth. Most people attending were newcomers to Canada with a few positions filled. We are happy with the results.

Highway Safety

Speeding and distracted drivers continues to be a serious issue. We have met with the Department of Public Safety, requesting to have increased police enforcement in work zones. We are currently waiting for their plan on how to tackle this safety issue.

2025 Spring Mixer

Our Spring Mixer was held in Moncton with approximately 120 members attending. Presentations were in the afternoon followed by a reception and dinner.

2025 Summer Meeting

Our Summer Meeting & golf tournament will be held in Bathurst, July 18th & 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom McGinn, Executive Director



ASSOCIATION DE LA
CONSTRUCTION DU QUÉBEC

CCA Partner Association Report – May 2025, Association de la construction du Québec

ACQ Annual Conference 2025

The ACQ Annual Conference was held May 1-2 under the theme "Incarnons l'audace" (Embodying boldness) and several keynote speakers were invited to speak. Audrey Murray, CEO of the Commission de la construction du Québec, France Margaret Bélanger, Executive Vice-President of the Montréal Canadiens, Jean Boulet, minister of Labour, and former Québec Premier Jean Charest had an opportunity to address all participating contractors. A video from Premier François Legault was aired as a tribute to the arduous work of ACQ members and their contribution to the Québec economy.

During the prestigious **Soirée annuelle des prix Construire**, the ACQ was also proud to pay tribute to distinguished companies from the institutional-commercial, industrial, and residential sectors for their work and their involvement.

Annual General Meeting

At its Annual General Meeting held in Gatineau, the Association de la construction du Québec (ACQ) nominated its new Board of Directors. The new Board is marked by both continuity and renewal as Éric Fraser was entrusted with its presidency for a second consecutive year.

The newly formed Board of Directors consists of several re-elected Directors, reflecting their continued engagement toward the ACQ: Thomas Smeesters (Vice-President), Martin Laurendeau (Treasurer), Sophie Brunet, Benoît Dubé, Cindy Drouin, Marie-Claude Fournier, Jean-Sébastien Hébert, Patricia Jean, Max McLean, Caroline Potvin, Josiane Pouliot and Nathaly Riverin. The Board also welcomes two experienced members: Gaëtan Gingras and Michel Khouday. Their nomination brings to the Board diverse skills and a new perspective.

A look back at the federal electoral campaign

The ACQ is proud to have given its support to the ACC's *Construction for Canadians* campaign launched during the federal election.

Furthermore, the ACQ held an event entitled "Des solutions à la crise de l'habitation" (Solutions for the Housing Crisis) in collaboration with the APCHQ, the CORPIQ and IDU. More than a hundred were present to listen to Xavier Barsalou Duval (Bloc Québécois), Konstantinos Merakos (Conservative Party of Canada) and Steven Guilbeault (Liberal Party of Canada) introduce their party's housing platform.

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ASSOCIATION DE LA
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Follow-up on the U.S.-Canada trade situation

As is the case for the entire industry, the ACQ is concerned about the impacts on supply chains and the cost of materials arising from the measures enacted by the U.S. Government, namely on steel and aluminum. Should Canada institute other retaliatory measures, the ACQ encourages the federal government to specifically target products affected by the countermeasures to minimize any effect on Québec's construction companies. The ACQ is keeping abreast of the situation, its evolution, and discussions by newly elected authorities.

To help contractors during this uncertain and rapidly changing situation, the ACQ has made available a continually updated [section on the impacts of tariffs](#) on its web site. This platform gives detailed information on tariffs and their consequences on both ongoing and future contracts. With a group including other industry associations, the ACQ continues its representation to the Government of Québec.

The ACQ proposes a national infrastructure assessment for Québec.

The ACQ is concerned about the slowdown and postponement of several infrastructure projects. To meet these challenges, we recommend creating a committee tasked with executing a national infrastructure assessment in the province of Québec to produce an independent and apolitical analysis. The committee, including experts from various fields, would allow for strategic planning of investments based on objective criteria such as the state of infrastructure, demographic projections and climate-related challenges. This process, inspired by the federal government's existing process, would ensure efficient management of public resources while reducing the boom-and-bust cycles which weaken the construction industry. [An open letter on this topic was published in La Presse on May 5.](#)

Ratification of collective agreements 2025-2029

Last April 15, the ACQ and the Alliance syndicale signed new IC/I Collective Agreements which came into force last April 27.

For the ACQ, ratifying those collective agreements allows for stability and predictability in the industry. The objective, to offer competitive working conditions, was met and will foster retention during this labour shortage.

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Association
des constructeurs
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**Short-form Provincial Report presented to
the Canadian Construction Association**

**By
l'Association des constructeurs de routes
et grands travaux du Québec**

May 2025

ACRGTO

- Sixteen construction associations in Québec came together to discuss the threat of American tariffs with the government.

(February 17, 2025, [Devant la menace tarifaire, les associations de l'industrie québécoise de la construction se mobilisent – Association de la construction du Québec](#))

- Ratification of the collective agreement for the 2025-2029 period of the civil engineering and roadwork sector.

(April 10, 2025, [La convention collective 2025-2029 en construction ratifiée par les entrepreneurs du secteur génie civil et voirie](#))

Finances

- The government tabled its budget on March 25, 2025, having promised to bolster the construction industry to help the economy in the context of a tariff war. The Plan québécois des infrastructures (PQI) increases by \$11B to \$164B over 10 years. The roadwork sector received an additional share of \$3.4B to attain \$35.8B over 10 years. Despite this, the budget shows the largest deficit in the province's history (\$13.6B).

([Budget provincial 2025-2026 : de modestes avancées quant au déficit de maintien des actifs](#))

- Since the budget was announced, we have learned that the government must make budgetary choices. Some infrastructure projects have been postponed or cancelled despite PQI increases.
- Standard & Poor's lowered the province of Québec's and Hydro-Québec's credit scores, which directly affects the government's capacity to pay.

(April 16, 2025, [Les cotes de crédit du Québec et d'Hydro-Québec abaissées | TVA Nouvelles](#))

Government engineers

- On May 2, government engineers triggered an unlimited strike, delaying/cancelling several roadwork projects and calls for tender. On May 13, it was announced that the strike was suspended and that negotiations with the government were restarted. An agreement must be reached by May 23 to prevent a new strike.

Mobilité Infra Québec

- The future new agency dedicated to large mobility and transport projects is searching for its new leader, who should be nominated by the beginning of the summer of 2025.

(February 10, 2025, [Agence des transports | Québec à la recherche de son « top gun » | La Presse](#))

Northvolt

- Due to the Swedish company's financial difficulties, the Bécancour plant project is compromised.

Bill 69, An Act to ensure the responsible governance of energy resources and to amend various legislative provisions

- A detailed study of the Bill started in February 2025.

Bill 89, An Act to give greater consideration to the needs of the population in the event of a strike or a lockout

- Bill introduced on February 19, 2025. Currently at the detailed study step. Very unwelcome by unions.

Eastern Structuring Project

- Launch of a large streetcar project for the eastern portion of the island of Montréal and suburbs, under the potential supervision of Mobilité Infra Québec.

(March 4, 2025, [Est de Montréal | Le tramway mis sur les rails | La Presse](#))

TGV Québec-Toronto

- Announcement made by the federal government on February 19, 2025.

Québec City streetcars

- 121 Canadian and international businesses expressed interest in undertaking the Québec City streetcar project.

(February 19, 2025, [121 entreprises intéressées par la réalisation du tramway de Québec | JDQ](#))

- Since municipal elections are taking place in the fall, the project's future is uncertain. Certain candidates and part of the constituency are opposed.

(April 6, 2025, [Élections municipales: Sam Hamad proposera autre chose que le tramway | JDQ](#))

Third Link in Québec

- The government granted a \$46M engineering contract for the design and build phases.

(April 17, 2025, [Documents sauvegardés](#))

OGCA Report to the
Canadian Construction Association (CCA)
June 2025

US/Canada Tariffs Trade War

The US-Canada trade war has been a central focus for the construction industry with some notable impacts on the construction sector in Ontario in the first half of 2025.

Firstly, we have Tariff Impacts. Ontario has banned U.S. construction companies from bidding on public sector contracts as long as U.S. tariffs are in place. This move is aimed at protecting local businesses and ensuring that the economic fallout from the trade war does not further harm the province's construction industry.

Secondly the industry is affected by Material Costs. The tariffs have led to increased costs for construction materials, particularly steel and aluminum, which are essential for many projects. This has resulted in higher project costs and delays as companies navigate the new pricing landscape.

These developments are creating a complex environment for the construction sector in Ontario and it changes with every social media post issued by the US President.

Infrastructure Ontario

The OGCA continues to meet with representatives from Infrastructure Ontario (IO) to address the issues affecting general contractors. In the most recent meeting, both groups met to discuss: tariffs; the timing of initial payments from IO to contractors; capital repair project pipeline visibility; and onerous and problematic contract language.

Additionally, IO has received government approval for the use of supplementary conditions to the CCDC 2, CCDC 31 and OAA 600, which may be modified for project-specific purposes. The OGCA and OAA continue to review the IO approved version to see if they align with industry submissions.

WSIB Update

The OGCA, through the Construction Employers Coalition (CEC) continue to address the following items with the WSIB.

Discussion Re: Bill 229 -Omnibus Legislation

Schedule 6 of the Bill, a component included expanded presumptive diseases for firefighters, which are Schedule 2 employers – municipalities. The Bill recommends that the new costs associated with the presumptive diseases is to come out of Schedule 1 surplus, which is a new concept an has never occurred prior to this. The CEC noted that a preliminary legal analysis needs to be conducted to ascertain the impacts.

WSIAT Redaction Issue

This is an issue for employers who have a medical related issue with the WSIB claim file. Although it is normal for the WSIB to redact unrelated medical information, redactions appear to be occurring more often and more aggressively. Due to the increase in redaction, this triggered an appeal to WSIAT and the CEC obtained intervenor status. More information to follow.

WSIB Periodic Review

Other jurisdictions in Canada have regulatory scheduled reviews to identify/discuss/address emerging workers' compensation issues. Unfortunately, in Ontario, "nothing happens until it happens," which has triggered a request for the regular review of workers' compensation.

2025 Premium Rates

The construction industry's health and safety performance is improving, and yet WSIB premium rates are increasing, especially in the G6 (Non-Residential Building Construction) category. This category houses all general contractors and through discussions the industry has noted that although the performance of firms in this group has bettered, the rates are increasing, without explanation. The CEC has put forward a request for a technical information session for the construction industry to meet with the WSIB.

\$2 Billion Surplus Distribution – Feb/Mar/2025


Due to economic uncertainty flowing from tariffs/trade war, the WSIB released \$2 Billion of surplus as a distribution to all qualifying employers. An additional \$2 Billion of surplus is now slated for distribution to "safe, Schedule 1 businesses" later this spring. Details will follow on the WSIB website.

FREE ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCES

All WSIB registered businesses are now provided with free access to health and safety resources through the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety's – Business Safety Portal. This equates to an up to \$1,700 /year value. The resource contains: ready made templates; How-to guides; and is available through WSIB.CA.

Please contact me if anyone needs further clarification on any of the tabled items.

Sincerely,



Giovanni Cautillo
President
Ontario General Contractors Association



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Winnipeg Construction Association

WCA Report to CCA for May 2025

Construction Industry Update.

According to **Statistics Canada**, Manitoba building permit values are up compared to the same period last year. Total permit values are **up by 14.4%** compared to 2024. Total residential permit values are up by 20.9%. Non-residential construction permits are up by 6.9%. Institutional permits are up by 13.7% but industrial in down by 8.7% year on year.

WCA BuildWorks

In April 2025, WCA hosted 140 projects which is significantly lower than the ten-year average of 193 projects for that month.

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 1300 projects potentially worth between \$36.3Bn and \$53Bn. WCA members receive a weekly update on new information on projects in the pipeline.

Advocacy/Government Relations.

Prompt Payment – The prompt payment system is now in place effective on all prime contracts entered into on or after April 1. The Manitoba Prompt Payment Adjudication Authority has been established to train, certify and manage adjudicators.

Construction Industry Wages Act (CIWA) – A cross-industry committee has provided a recommendation to the Minister in early 2025, but an announcement on wages has not been made. The recommendation was 2% increase every year for 3 years

Contract Clauses – WCA is actively working with the University of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg to create a more fair contract. The U of M contract adopted the CCDC2 2020, but included 30 pages of supplementary conditions. There is progress on its improvement. City of Winnipeg has recently appointed a Chief Construction Officer, Tom Sparrow. We will be working with him to promote the adoption of the CCDC contracts at the City of Winnipeg.

Upcoming Events.

May 7, 2025 – **WCA Career Expo**

May 14, 2025 – **WCA Spring Golf**

June 18, 2025 – **Summer Golf**

June 25, 2025 – **WCA BBQ**



MANITOBA HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION (MHCA)
Unit #3-1680 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3H 0Z2

May, 2025

REPORT TO THE CCA - ADVOCACY UPDATE FROM THE MHCA CHAIR

The following are highlights of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association's (MHCA) policy and advocacy activity.

CANADA

- As part of WCR&HCA, and with CCA, CICC and external consultant Prospectus, re-launching the campaign for federal support of the Canada Trade Infrastructure Plan. We are urging Prime Minister Mark Carney to
 - o Commit to launching first steps towards a Canada Trade Infrastructure Plan (CTIP), in Budget 2025
 - o Strike a resourced working group of federal, provincial and private-sector representatives to guide implementation of a CTIP, which would coordinate federal/provincial trade infrastructure investment

MANITOBA

- Formally working with Manitoba Transportation & Infrastructure to accelerate tendering, allowing for early design engineering assignment; goal is for 80% of construction tenders advertised to industry by end of February of each program year
- MTI/MHCA specification working group is undergoing comprehensive review of 'bundles' of roadbuilding specifications; industry will be asked for comment/input in the process which will take approximately two years
- MTI 2025 highways capital program for 2025 increased by \$15 million – 3% -- from 2024's \$500 million.
 - o MHCA pressing MTI/Province of Manitoba to reinstate the carryover of unexpended funds, to prevent unplanned carryover of construction projects/expense as a "first charge" on successive budgets
- Proposing, as part of the provincial minister's Quarry Rehabilitation Advisory Council, raising quarry rehab standards, to see spent quarries returned to community use befitting the environment
 - o Ensuring fees collected are sufficient to rehab work required and are allotted fully for those purposes

WINNIPEG

- Working, with Winnipeg's Public Works, to accelerate the process for tendering construction projects
 - o Pressing for post-project review and evaluation of performance of public owner, engineering design/contract administrator and contractor to learn and improve
- City of Winnipeg Chief Construction Officer, with Corporate Finance/Materials Management and Procurement, halted social procurement pilot clauses in heavy construction tenders and contract documents to date this year
 - o Follows up on MHCA/Winnipeg Construction Association letter to Social Procurement administration (and political offices) requesting a pause on pilot clauses
 - o Future pilot clauses will be subject to Corporate Finance review prior to inclusion in tenders
 - o MHCA has asked that industry be consulted in the preparation of clauses in the future
- Winnipeg Mayor, at the urging of MHCA, recently agreed to create at the executive 'C' suite level a Chief Economic Development Officer, to 'champion' economic growth, ensuring it sits at the core of all City of Winnipeg financial, fiscal and development policies and plans.

Respectfully submitted,

John Highmoor, B.A., B.Sc. (C.E.)
Chair, MHCA



**Western Canada Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction
Association (WCR&HCA)**
Unit #3-1680 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
R3H 0Z2

May 7, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the Western Canada Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association (WCR&HCA) Board of Directors, its four member associations and the heavy civil industry from across the four western provinces, <https://wcrhca.com/about/> we congratulate your election as Canada's Prime Minister.

As you begin your mandate, we support your plans to grow Canada's economy, in the face of unprecedented challenges and new global realities.

The Board reflected at its May 6 meeting not only on the positions you articulated during the 2025 election, but also comments made in Ottawa at your press conference on May 2, 2025. We noted you spoke to the imperatives of focusing on national purpose, benefit and unity in a collaborative '*Team Canada*' approach. We agree.

In early February 2025 the WCR&HCA Board in response to the Trump tariffs, called upon political leadership at all government levels, to embrace a *four-pronged national approach*:

1. Eliminate internal trade barriers to free approximately \$200 billion of economic activity annually.
2. Ensure that Canada builds the necessary assets - including pipelines - to export our products east, west, north - the northern port of Churchill - so that our oil, gas, LNG, mineral resources, ag products which the world needs, can efficiently reach global markets and expand our global trade profile.
3. Harness the full value of existing Free Trade Agreements and engage in trade discussion with more countries to further grow and diversify our global import/export market profile; and
4. To help achieve the above, ensure a strategic and sustained nation-building effort to invest in Canada's trade gateways and corridors as called for in the Canada Trade Infrastructure Plan (CTIP) <https://ctip-picc.ca/>

Canada's Premiers and Territorial Leaders in their July 2023 meeting of the Council of the Federation, endorsed the principles of CTIP to invest in *shovel worthy*, not just *shovel-ready*, projects. Its criteria prioritize projects that offer national and global trade-productivity gains, maximizing the ROI to GDP.

CTIP, proposed as a multi-year strategy for trade infrastructure investment, offers a path to restoring Canada's significantly diminished global reputation¹ as a reliable trade partner, to attract necessary investment.

¹ In 2008-09 Canada was ranked 10th globally in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index for transportation infrastructure reliability. However, with the expiry of trade programs like APGCI, which specifically targeted trade corridors, by 2019 the Index showed Canada's reliability reputation precipitously dropped to 32nd. World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2019 https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_TheGlobalCompetitivenessReport2019.pdf

We are pleased to note that much of the above multi-layered approach appears to have been reflected in the Liberal Party platform during the election and your referenced May 2 press conference. We submit harnessing that approach will help Canada emerge more resilient and stronger.

As you plan your first 100 days in office as Prime Minister, and as part of a *'Team Canada'* approach, we respectfully urge that you deliver your vision, proposed direction and destination for Canada in a major policy address from a location in western Canada.

In addition to the Premiers of the four western provinces, we have copied in the Boards of Directors of our four member associations; Rodrigue Gilbert, President of the Canadian Construction Association, and Brad Scott, Chair of the Civil Infrastructure Council Corporation.

In closing, we again congratulate your election, and urge your implementation of the above approach.

As an industry proud of its roots, historical and ongoing contributions to Canada, we are ready to assist your government in achieving national growth and unity objectives.

We look forward to your reply.

Respectfully submitted,
Western Canada Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association




Per:

Joe Kabarchuk, P.Eng.,
WCR&HCA Board Chair

Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B.,
WCR&HCA President & CEO

cc. Hon. David Eby, Premier, Province of British Columbia
Hon. Danielle Smith, Premier, Province of Alberta
Hon. Scott Moe, Premier, Province of Saskatchewan
Hon. Wab Kinew, Premier, Province of Manitoba
WCR&HCA Board of Directors
Board Chairs and Boards of Directors of:
BC Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association
Alberta Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association
Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association
Manitoba Heavy Construction Association
President, Canadian Construction Association
Chair, Civil Infrastructure Council Corporation



Construction Association of Saskatchewan Update

May 2025

The Construction Association of Saskatchewan continues to address tariff challenges while working with municipal and provincial governments to remove red tape during this critical time—ensuring our members can focus on what they do best: building Saskatchewan.

Advocacy

The Saskatchewan Construction Round Table is now established and operating with support from our partner associations. Through our advocacy efforts, the Government of Saskatchewan has rolled back some of the contract terms introduced in response to the tariff threat. These terms were unreasonable and are a good example of how decisions can be made without input from the industry.

Governments at both levels are beginning to recognize the value that CASK brings to the industry. The Assistant Deputy Minister of SaskBuilds and Procurement is now in regular contact with us. The Cities of Saskatoon and Regina will be forming a task force to help ensure construction projects remain on scope, on budget, and on schedule. CASK continues to highlight the challenges within procurement processes, which are often overly complex and difficult to navigate. We are collaborating with the cities to identify such challenges and implement practical solutions.

We have been in conversation with CCA President Rod Gilbert and hope to finalize a date in late October that he will be able to join us for our annual Lobby Day at the Legislature.

Association Update

As we transition from spring to a much-needed summer here in SK, CASK has multiple events lined up. We will kick off summer with CASK's Annual Summer Meeting at Elk Ridge with this year's theme being "Christmas in June." And Golf Tournaments across the province will occur throughout August and September.

CASK will also celebrate SK's provincial construction industry in partnership with Safety and Home Builder Associations from September 22nd to 26th. Lastly, the legal formalities are still underway in the background to dissolve the former entities and transferring over all the legal assets to CASK.

For more information visit: [Constructionsk.ca](https://www.constructionsk.ca)

Alberta Construction Association

May 2025 Report to Canadian Construction Association

Advocacy

Over the past few months, the Alberta Construction Association has engaged with the Government of Alberta and other provincial agencies on a number of key issues affecting our members.

New Minister

A new provincial Infrastructure Minister was appointed, and since then, we have met with him on a number of occasions, including him being a featured guest at our AGM. Our interactions to date appear to be positive and we will continue to build off that relationship.

Additionally, ACA hosted a Day at the Legislature on May 6th with our Board members and Local Construction Association partners. The group met with a number of different government ministers on key themes: risk management and procurement; predictable and sustainable infrastructure investment; and developing a skilled workforce in Alberta. It was a very productive session to further ACA advocacy to cabinet.

Meeting with Deputy Ministers

As part of our AGM, our board and local construction association partners met with Alberta government Deputy Ministers. This meeting focused on several key issues facing our industry, including contracts and procurement processes, workforce development strategies, and the need for sustainable and predictable infrastructure funding.

We found the session to be highly constructive, offering a valuable opportunity for stakeholders to share their insights and experiences directly with senior government leaders. These types of open, solution-focused discussions are vital in fostering stronger partnerships and shaping effective policies that support both industry and public interests. As we move forward, we will be looking to do more of these types of meetings.

Contract Modernization

We continue to work with the government on contract modernization and how best to assign risk. We have been meeting with Alberta Infrastructure for some time on these issues, and the new version of their contracts did not meet the expectations of industry.

As part of these discussions, we have been represented on the Industry Liaison committee dealing with risk allocation and continue with other stakeholders to meet with the Ministry of Infrastructure to try and gain more recognition around this issue.

A new aspect of this conversation is around tariffs and how they will affect existing and new contracts and who will be held responsible for that risk. As we continue to advocate that unexpected risk factors can do long-term damage to the industry.

This is a long-term advocacy issue for ACA and will likely continue for 2025 to be a point of priority.

Workforce Development

Our Digital Tradesperson Project began to look for applications starting in March as we began our implementation. Our first VDC course will be delivered in June. The second and third VDC courses will be finished in time for an offering in the fall, which is anticipated to be more accessible to field staff as the construction season winds down. The course will also be turned into an online version to increase accessibility for our busy members.

ACA is also working on a number of other courses to support our members in being even more productive. Under the title “Modern Construction Workforce,” we are developing four courses to enhance our members ability to adopt digital construction methods by enabling training opportunities. These courses are designed to develop awareness, and we hope to begin providing training in the fall of 2025.

Industry Overview

The start of this year has been very busy for the industry. With tariffs, counter-tariffs, federal election along with increased projects, such as building schools program, and changes in the Dow plant project, many of our members have been working really hard to keep up with the pace. Owners have looked to expedite projects, in many instances, however labour is still an issue that may not allow for these tightening timelines.

Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association (ARHCA)

As of April 29, 2025

Letters to the Minister

- Two letters were sent to Minister Dreeshen regarding the treatment of Tariffs in TEC contracts.
- Both letters identify the need for relief from tariffs and warnings of price increases and material quote validity periods. The HMC committee asked for a delay in the closing of the open CMA tenders that were due to close on March 27. The general letter asks for tenders to proceed. These two letters cross reference each other, noting the apparent contradiction in go vs no go requests and explains the rationale.
- A copy of the general letter were emailed to all members and copies sent to municipal government associations.

Advocacy and Government Relations

- ARHCA completed the survey for the federal consultations on the 2nd round of tariffs. We received additional feedback on tariff contingency values from ARHCA committees to supplement the information that was shared amongst the executives and were able to provide suggested values for four asset classes.
- The ARHCA Board and Committee chairs then met with the Minister of Transportation in Calgary on April 3rd to discuss Tariffs. Paul Smith, Rob Quintin, and Minister Dreeshen were in attendance.
- ARHCA staff are tracking data on tender release to ensure that 6 tenders per week are being issued as promised.
- A Productivity Summit is being Scheduled. ARHCA's Board is working on finalizing an agenda and gathering measurable commitments from stakeholders.

Workforce Development and the Job Board

- The job board is in the set-up phase. The papers have been signed, and the system is expected to be operational within six weeks.
- Marketing material is being developed to support the job board launch.
- With the addition of the job board, we aim to provide resources for members and enhance visibility for job opportunities within the industry.
- We will be working on finalizing the set up so we can start testing.

Events

- ARHCA staff organized the 2025 Safety Forum. Members connected with legal, government, and training experts for essential dialogue on prime contractor roles, interpretation, and implementation. We had 80 attendees this year compared to last years 56 attendees.
- Due to high engagement from members in the Grande Prairie area, ARHCA staff are working on a Membership Appreciation BBQ.
- ARHCA 70's Anniversary planning has begun. A committee is being formed to include long-time members.

BCCA UPDATE: May 2025

TOP PRIORITIES

Focus:

- Prompt Payment, Adjudication, and Lien Reform
- U.S. Tariffs – and Responses
- Labour Shortages and Cost Escalations
- Public Sector Engagement and Poor Procurement Practices

UPDATES & GENERAL CONCERNS

Key Updates:

- [BC Construction Industry Welcomes News of Prompt Payment Legislation Advancement](#)
- Post Election Federal Representation: 20 Liberal MP's (up 5), 19 Conservative MP's (up 6), 3 NDP MP's (down 10), 1 Green MP (unchanged)

General Concerns:

- Ongoing insecurity with regards to economic uncertainty
- Hiring slowdown/caution resulting from economic uncertainty
- Gov't consultation with industry is slow moving

NEW ADVOCACY EFFORTS

New "BCCA Members Only" Webinar Series for RCA Members

We've held 5 sessions of this new series since December 2024:

- December: "COCA Presentation to BCCA Provincial Regions & Members" – 17 attendees
- January: "Unlocking the Value of CCDC Contracts" – 24 attendees
- February: "U.S. Tariffs" – 301 attendees
- March: "Guide to BC Trade Definitions" – 87 attendees
- April: "U.S. Tariffs (Round 2)" – 265 attendees

We've now held 5 "Members Only" sessions attracting a cumulative attendance of just under 700 RCA members.

"Owners Only" Webinar Series for Public Sector Owners

We held sessions in December 2024, January and March 2025:

- December: "Fairness at any Scale: Practical Insights for Public Sector Owners" – 137 attendees
- January: "Construction Management: Delivery Methods - What Owners Need to Know" – 218 attendees
- March: "U.S. Tariffs and Their Impact on Construction" – 344 attendees

We've now held 17 "Owners Only" sessions attracting a cumulative attendance of more than 3,100 public owner representatives.

BCCA UPDATE: May 2025

BCCA SPRING STATS

We published our Spring 2025 Stat Pack and Annual BC Construction Industry Survey Report during Construction Month in April, calling to attention key industry priorities, most notably payment certainty.

- [Spring Stats Release](#)
- [2025 BCCA BC Construction Industry Survey Report](#)
- [2025 BCCA Spring Stat Pack](#)

CONSTRUCTION MONTH 2025

Construction Month in April has become a staple for the industry in BC. BCCA once again administered a very effective and high-profile month of celebrations and communications across the province, now for the 8th year running. Some highlights included:

- 85 member organizations hosted 3,800 participants at 92 #LunchBoxCelebrations across the province.
- Celebrations across BC at 5 Contractor Breakfast events hosted by the NRCA, SICA, VICA & VRCA respectively.
- Productive conversations during BCCA's annual Day at the Legislature on April 8th.
- Several meaningful announcements picked up well by media:
 - [Celebrated the 2025 BCCA Builders Code Champion Award Winners](#)
 - [Published BCCA's 2025 Spring Stats](#)
 - [Welcomed Important Updates from Government on Prompt Payment Legislation](#)
 - [The BCCA Past Chair Legacy Fund](#)

Visit constructionmonth.ca for more details.

BCCA PAST CHAIR LEGACY FUND

The BCCA Past Chair Legacy Fund has been designed to support the development of the construction industry by helping to cultivate a skilled and professional workforce in the construction sector by providing funding to eligible trade and other professional construction career pathways.

[Read the full release.](#)

BCCA HONOUR THE WORK INITIATIVE

The Honour the Work initiative, launched in partnership between the BCCA and the BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association, is geared towards promoting skilled trades to elementary students. The pilot phase of the project was launched in School District #33 in Chilliwack on May 6.

[Read the full release.](#)