



Alberta Construction Association

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Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Transmitted via email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

RE: Accelerating Economic Recovery through Shovel Ready Construction Projects

Alberta's construction industry appreciates the support your Government has provided to employers and their employees in this most challenging time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, Alberta's economy has been severely impacted both by the collapse in oil & gas prices and investment and by COVID-19. As a result Alberta's Construction Industry has experienced significant revenue reduction over the last few years and was already in recession prior to the onset of COVID. The prospect of further market erosion due to project postponement or cancellation is compounding this situation.

With many contractors citing little more than eight weeks backlog of work and with the prospect of further revenue reduction looming, their ability to be able to sustain staffing levels or even fund wage subsidies will be severely compromised.

Alberta's construction industry is largely comprised of small businesses that are collectively generating 8% of provincial GDP and employing one in 10 working Albertans. Based on the current capacity that exists within the industry it is well placed to be the engine for economic recovery and growth in the province.

Our industry can assist in the identification of shovel-ready projects and in forms of project delivery conducive to rapid mobilization of resources. For example, many of our municipal and other public sector authorities have significant backlogs of deferred maintenance and greenhouse gas reduction projects that could quickly be tendered.

We welcome the opportunity for dialogue and partnership. Please contact ACA Executive Director Ken Gibson (ken.gibson@albertaconstruction.net) to initiate next steps in dialogue.

Sincerely,

Frederick Vine, Chairman

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