



Alberta Construction Association

Greater market opportunities and less risk for Alberta's construction industry

ACA Newsletter May 26, 2025

Proudly serving members of



ACA Legislature Day



On May 6, the Alberta Construction Association (ACA), together with two of our valued partner organizations—the Edmonton Construction Association and the Calgary Construction Association—participated in a productive day of advocacy and dialogue at the Alberta Legislature.

Throughout the afternoon, representatives from our organizations met with several provincial ministers and senior government staff to discuss a range of critical issues affecting our members and the broader construction industry. Topics of discussion included risk management practices, the impact of international tariffs on construction materials, the implementation and enforcement of prompt payment legislation, workforce development and training initiatives, and strategies to address ongoing challenges related to immigration and skilled labour shortages.

We are especially grateful to the Honourable Martin Long, Honourable Muhammad Yaseen, Honourable Ric McIver, and the Premier's Special Advisor T.J. Keil for taking the time to meet with us. Their willingness to engage in open



Updates from ACA

- ACA is hosting with Built Environment Edmonton an evening discussing the Modern Construction workforce sign up [here](#).
- ACA recently spoke at Calgary Construction Association's AGM check out our remarks [here](#).
- Alberta Trade Definitions for 2025 are now available find out what is new for this year [here](#).
- You can sign up for our ACA Digital Tradeperson program [here](#).
- ACA published our latest construction industry statistics [here](#).
- ACA attended Lloydminster Construction Associations Try A Trade event [here](#).

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and constructive dialogue reflects a shared commitment to supporting Alberta's construction sector and ensuring it remains a vital contributor to the province's economy.



These conversations underscored the importance of ongoing collaboration between industry stakeholders and government. We were encouraged by the ministers' insights and their recognition of the value our sector brings to Alberta's infrastructure, employment, and economic resilience.

The ACA remains committed to advocating on behalf of our members and working in partnership with government to create a strong, sustainable, and competitive construction industry in Alberta. We look forward to continuing these conversations and building on the relationships forged during our visit to the Legislature.



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Power in unity: How Construction for Canadians amplified our industry's voice

Rodrigue Gilbert
CCA President



The 2025 federal election was a milestone moment for Canada — not only because of a change in leadership but because construction took centre stage in the national conversation. For the first-time ever, the Canadian Construction Association (CCA) launched a national election campaign, [Construction for Canadians](#), to highlight the critical role our industry plays in shaping Canada's economic future.

This success was made possible through the coordinated efforts of our national, provincial, and local partner associations. We extend our sincere thanks to the Alberta Construction Association (ACA) and its members for their strong support in amplifying our shared message. Your advocacy helped ensure that construction wasn't just

mentioned during this election — it was recognized as essential to Canada's prosperity.

Unifying our industry

Construction for Canadians was a coordinated, grassroots-driven movement built around a simple truth: construction is fundamental to every community, every Canadian, and every level of the economy — municipal, provincial, and national.

Thanks to your support, the campaign achieved national reach and real impact:

- 74 candidate testimonials and 84 pledges of support from across the country.
- Over 4 billion media impressions, including 165 national media hits, reinforcing the message that Canada cannot afford to overlook construction.
- Unified grassroots engagement by industry leaders from coast to coast, demonstrating the strength and reach of our national voice.

We saw candidates across party lines recognize construction as more than a budget line — but as the foundation for the homes we live in, the schools our children attend, and the infrastructure that supports our economy, from trade to transport to housing.

A new government means fresh opportunities

The election of Prime Minister Mark Carney and a Liberal government sets the stage for a new chapter in Canada's infrastructure story. During the campaign, promises were made that align closely with the

construction industry's longstanding priorities to grow the construction workforce, modernize procurement, and cure the red tape that is hampering project delivery. These include:

- Investing in critical, community-enabling infrastructure to connect Canadians and grow our regional, provincial, and economic economies.
- Investing \$5 billion for the new Trade Diversification Corridors Fund to support the development of trade infrastructure, including ports, railways, airports, and highways.
- Deploying a made-in-Canada procurement strategy that prioritizes Canadian suppliers and supply chains.

- Increasing labour mobility for skilled trades people between provinces and territories to address labour shortages.

These are positive steps. But commitments alone are not enough. Now is the time to turn promises into action.

Next steps

With the election behind us, CCA is moving full speed ahead to ensure the momentum we built with Construction for Canadians is not lost. We are also closely monitoring international developments, particularly U.S.-Canada trade dynamics, which could affect material costs, timelines, and access to labour.

With strong partnerships, a united voice, and a clear vision, we can build a more resilient supply chain, a stronger workforce, and the modern infrastructure Canadians need. CCA is committed to advocating for the tools, policies, and investments that will allow our industry to thrive—not just for today, but for generations to come.

Want to stay informed and engaged?

Sign up for CCA's [PLUS+](#) newsletter for regular updates on advocacy efforts, industry trends, and tools to support your business. Subscribe today at [ccasubscribe](#), and join a community that's shaping the future of construction in Canada.

Building the Future Workforce

On May 27th, we are hosting an evening exploring the future of the modern construction workforce in association with Built Environment Edmonton. Whether you are an industry leader, seasoned veteran, or early in your construction career, this event is for you.

Join us for an exciting evening exploring the future of the modern construction workforce. Network with industry professionals, learn about emerging workforce trends in digital and technology, and discover training opportunities shaping the modern construction landscape.

What to expect:

- Industry networking
- Workforce development insights
- Training opportunities
- Guest speakers and panelists
- Refreshments and snacks provided

For more info and how to register [click here](#).

Legislature Update

Question Period:

Health facility construction cost

During question period **Premier Smith** in answer to a question about youth unemployment said:

We agree that youth unemployment is a problem. That's why we have invested in apprenticeship programs. We're investing in dual credit. We have more collegiate programs. We want to attach young people to those very first skilled jobs that are in the

trades and professions from the very earliest grades, and we look forward to getting the members opposite to support us in that.

Education Minister Nicolaides answered a question regarding school maintenance and renewal issues in Edmonton and Calgary:

We've also announced one of the largest school construction programs in Alberta history, and through that program we will be initiating a number of different projects to modernize and/or fully replace aging infrastructure in many corners of our province.

Now, there is indeed no question that we have a lot of schools that are older schools, and we are working with our school divisions to provide funding to help them address their maintenance and repair needs and, as I just mentioned a moment ago, an \$8.6 billion commitment to build new schools, modernize and replace schools that need to be.

The legislature has now adjourned until the fall session.

Upcoming Events

[Building the Future Workforce Event](#) – May 27

[Construction Innovation Centre Forum](#) – June 11 and 12

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