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ACA APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

April 30, 2026

ACA Announces New Leadership at 2026 Annual General Meeting

On Tuesday, April 14, the Alberta Construction Association held its Annual General Meeting. Members and industry partners came together to look back on the past year and discuss the work ahead for Alberta's construction sector.

Hon. Martin Long, Minister of Infrastructure, addressed the AGM and spoke about the value of ongoing collaboration between the provincial government and our industry. Members also heard from Rodrigue Gilbert, President of the Canadian Construction Association, who shared a national perspective on workforce needs and procurement trends across Canada.



Welcoming Our New Board

During the AGM we welcomed new leadership to guide ACA in the year ahead. We are pleased to introduce the following Executive and Board members:

- Chair: Lois Innes, BFL Canada Insurance
- Vice-Chair: Ben Wagemakers, Goodmen Roofing Ltd.
- New Board Members: Shane Beazley, EllisDon, and Ryan Christensen Delnor Construction

We thank our outgoing Chair Jen Hancock, for her leadership over the past year, Jason Portas for his time as Past Chair and Tom Spatola for his term on the ACA Board.

Thank you to our local construction association partners, industry members, colleagues and guests who joined us, including MLA Nolan Dyck. ACA looks forward to continuing this work together in support of a strong, competitive and sustainable construction industry in Alberta.

Deputy Minister Construction Workforce Roundtable

Alberta Deputy Ministers Mark Kleefeld (Infrastructure), Shannon Marchand (Advanced Education) and Christopher McPherson (Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration), along with Assistant Deputy Ministers Carla Johnson (Education and Childcare), Jamie Curran (Advanced Education) and Suzanne Harbottle (Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration), joined ACA members and industry partners for a Construction Workforce Roundtable focused on the labour pressures facing Alberta's construction sector.

The discussion covered the long-term workforce challenges created by population growth, rising infrastructure demand, industrial expansion and skilled trades retirements. BuildForce Canada projects that retirements alone will require recruiting approximately 59,000 workers by 2034, with a potential shortfall of up to 15,400 workers if recruitment and retention does not improve.

The conversation highlighted the need for a more coordinated approach across the full apprenticeship lifecycle, from early awareness and registration through to certification and career progression. Alberta has a strong training and apprenticeship system, but meeting future labour needs will require a more consistent, demand-driven approach at every stage.



Alberta Trades Discovery Centre

In March 2026, the Alberta government announced the Alberta Trades Discovery Centre, which will give junior high and high school students hands-on exposure to construction trades in a professional environment. The centre will be governed by a board that includes ACA, CLRA, Building Trades of Alberta and OpenCircle.

ACA played a key role throughout this process, consistently engaging government to emphasize the importance of strengthening Alberta's skilled trades pipeline, supporting industry collaboration and inspiring the next generation of construction professionals. We look forward to contributing our expertise as this initiative moves ahead.

INDUSTRY NEWS & RESOURCES

2026 ACA Golf Tournament - July 15, 2026

Mark your calendars. The 2026 ACA Golf Tournament is a great chance to connect with colleagues from across Alberta's construction sector.

- Wednesday, July 15, 2026
- RedTail Landing Golf Club
- Shotgun start at 8:00 AM

More details on registration and sponsorship to come. For early inquiries, contact us at info@albertaconstruction.net.

Earth Day - April 22, 2026

On Earth Day, ACA recognizes members who are leading on sustainable building practices and digital project delivery. These approaches reduce waste, improve efficiency and support a stronger built environment across Alberta. ACA will continue supporting members as they adopt modern, responsible approaches to construction.

National Day of Mourning - April 28, 2026

On April 28, ACA joins the construction community across Canada in observing the National Day of Mourning. We take time to remember workers who have lost their lives, been injured or become ill on the job.

This day is a reminder of our shared responsibility to keep improving health and safety on every worksite, and ACA encourages all members to pause and reflect on April 28 and recommit to making our sites safer.

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