

May 27, 2020

His Worship Mayor Clark and Council  
Office of the Mayor  
222 Third Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Dear Mayor Clark and Council

We are writing today on behalf of the Saskatoon commercial/industrial and heavy civil association memberships. The local construction industry represents over 600 member businesses in the city and employs thousands of workers, making our industry one of the largest employers not only in Saskatoon but in the province.

At the beginning of the month the Government of Saskatchewan unveiled their plan for infrastructure funding on capital projects included in that funding was the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program (MEEP) meant to boost municipal economic recovery. Our members welcomed this much needed infrastructure announcement in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our industry is a key driver in the Saskatchewan economy and vital in the rebuilding of our local workforce. We generate more than \$5 billion in provincial GDP out of a provincial economy of \$73 billion or roughly seven per cent of the total economy. Investing in infrastructure projects will help boost to our local and provincial economies.

As the province begins to reopen, it is imperative that we get our local economy up and running by making sure that our local businesses lead the way in the recovery. Taxpayer funding of capital projects reflects the commitment that a community has towards its local businesses, workers and economy.

The Saskatoon commercial and heavy industrial construction associations would like to receive assurances that stimulus funding will be used to ensure infrastructure projects go forward, and will not be used to pay down municipal debt. Investments in infrastructure are a sign of council's commitment to the Saskatoon and Saskatchewan economy, the rebuilding of which begins at home and can only happen when those investments flow to private-sector contractors.

Our industry is an important one in terms of economic impact, employment and in the overall quality of life of Saskatoon residents. We are proud of our contributions to Saskatchewan and the local economy and are ready to lead this province on a path back to greater economic stability.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue and we look forward to receiving your commitment to working with local businesses to boost the local economy.

Sincerely,



Shannon Friessen  
Executive Director, Saskatoon Construction Association



Shantel Lipp  
President, Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association



**Saskatoon Construction Association**  
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