

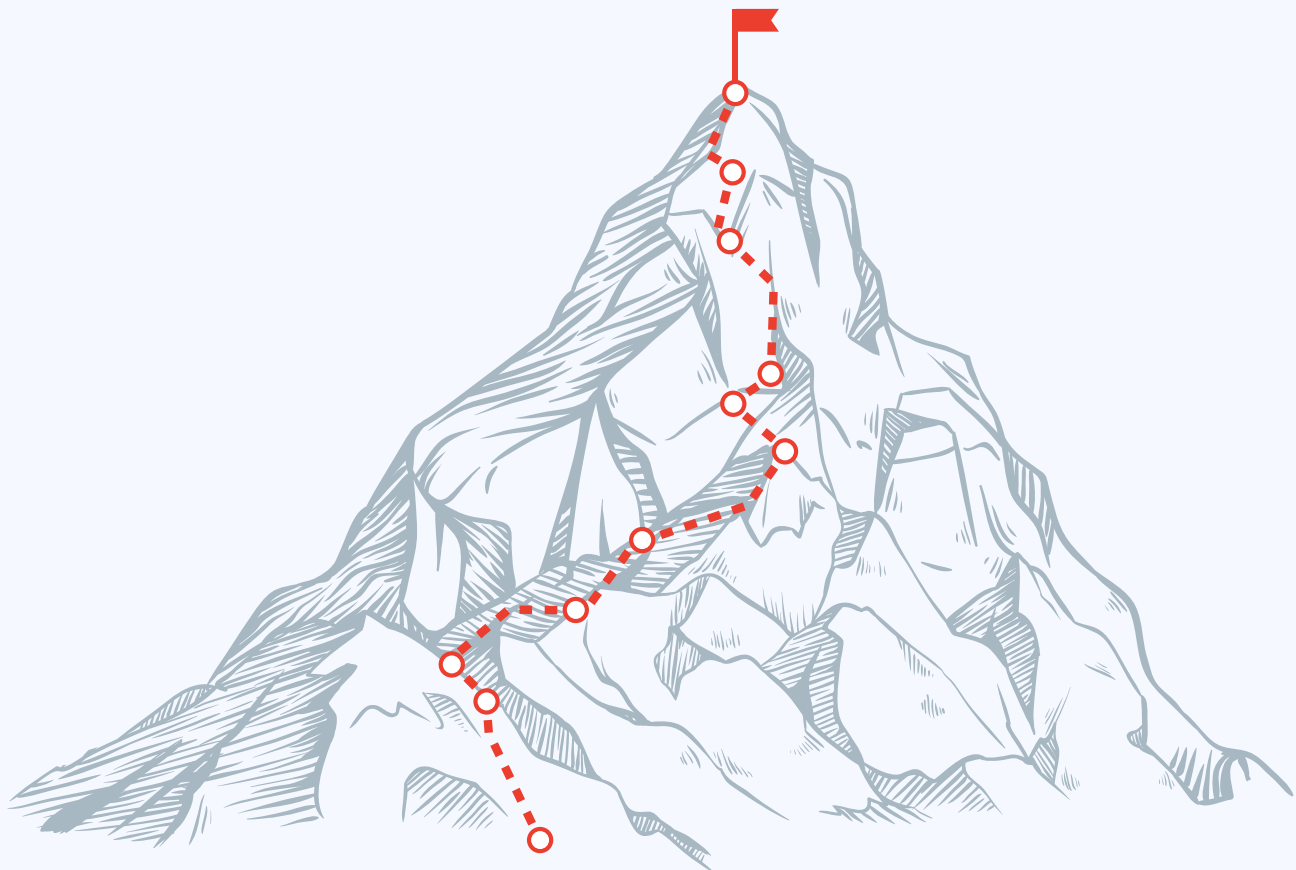
Building a stronger
SASKATCHEWAN



Together, We Build

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Who We Are

Construction Associations of Saskatchewan

We represent the unified strength of the five Construction Associations across Saskatchewan since 1931, collaborating to provide comprehensive services to contractors and commercial entities within the construction sector. Our collective efforts streamline operations, enhance services, and offer robust advocacy, delivering extensive cost savings and stronger representation for our members.

Rooted in rich histories and extensive expertise, our Associations are dedicated to advancing the construction industry while preserving our traditions and honouring our past. We support the construction community through valuable networking opportunities, educational initiatives, access to project tenders, and more. Together, we build a stronger future for Saskatchewan's construction industry.

Saskatoon & Region Home Builders' Association

The Saskatoon & Region Home Builders' Association has served as the expert voice of the residential construction industry in Saskatoon and area since 1955. We represent professionals who include new home builders, renovators, land developers, trade contractors, product and material manufacturers, building product suppliers, lending institutions, insurance providers, and other service professionals. Our members are professional, ethical companies and organizations that you can trust to protect one of your biggest investments – your home.

The Association works with its professional members to improve the industry we represent by fighting for affordability, quality and choice, whether you are building, buying, renovating or improving your home. For our professional members, the Association provides professional certification, training, advertising opportunities and credibility to help them improve the services they provide to the public. We also work closely with municipal and provincial governments on those issues that put affordability, quality and the industry's reputation at risk. We believe that education is key to making smart choices. If you are planning to purchase, renovate or improve your home, we can help make the right decision and protect yourself and your home.

Impact in Numbers

1000+ Members



49000+ jobs impacted



7% of Provincial GDP



CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Priorities

▶ **Building Futures**
Encouraging Youth in Construction



▶ **Government-Industry Partnership**
Advancing Construction Success



▶ **PST on Construction**
and Infrastructure



Building Futures

Encouraging Youth in Construction

The key to success in the construction industry is a skilled workforce, which can only be achieved by encouraging Saskatchewan's youth to pursue careers in construction. According to BuildForce Canada, an alarming **23% of the Saskatchewan construction workforce is forecasted to retire over the next decade**. This statistic raises concerns not only about the loss of physical capacity but also about the invaluable experience and knowledge that will be lost as seasoned professionals exit the industry.

To ensure stability and sustainability for the future, it is essential for our industry, in partnership with the Government of Saskatchewan, to strategize collectively. By collaborating, we can raise awareness among youth about the career opportunities in construction that may otherwise be overlooked.

Why Youth is Important to Construction Industry Success

Addressing Workforce Shortages: Attracting youth to the construction industry is crucial for mitigating the impending workforce shortages. With a significant percentage of the current workforce nearing retirement, engaging the younger generation is essential to maintain productivity and meet project demands.

Long-Term Industry Sustainability: Investing in youth ensures a sustainable workforce for the future. By cultivating interest in construction careers, we can build a pipeline of skilled professionals who will contribute to the industry for years to come.

Skill Development and Training: Engaging young people in training and apprenticeship programs provides them with valuable skills and qualifications. This commitment to skill development not only benefits the individual but also strengthens the overall workforce.

Infusion of Fresh Talent and Ideas: Young individuals bring fresh perspectives, innovative ideas, and modern approaches to problem-solving. This infusion of new talent can enhance efficiency and creativity on construction projects, driving the industry forward.

Community Engagement and Support: Involving youth in construction initiatives fosters community engagement and support. Young professionals who feel connected to their communities are more likely to invest in local projects and contribute positively to the industry.

Conclusion

By focusing on these key areas, we can work together to create an environment that attracts and nurtures the next generation of skilled workers in the construction sector. Ensuring that youth understand the diverse opportunities available in construction is essential for building a robust and capable workforce that can meet the demands of a growing economy.

Government-Industry Partnership

Advancing Construction Success

The construction sector is a vital engine of economic growth, infrastructure development, and job creation within our communities. According to the Government of Saskatchewan recent Saskatchewan Construction Week news release, last year, the construction industry saw a remarkable **13.6% growth in real GDP**, bringing the sector's **real GDP to \$6 billion**. Currently, **over 43,000 (seasonally adjusted) individuals are employed** in the province's construction industry, highlighting its significance as one of the most important sectors for job creation in Saskatchewan.

To sustainably advance our industry and effectively deliver infrastructure in our province, it is crucial to cultivate strong partnerships between government entities and industry stakeholders.

Why Government-Industry Partnership is Important

Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development: Collaborative efforts can lead to strategic planning and investment, ensuring that infrastructure projects meet community needs and drive economic growth.

Cost of Construction: By forming information and feedback loops, government and industry can better understand cost drivers, leading to more accurate budgeting and resource allocation.

Contract Structures and Risk Management: Developing effective contract structures through partnership can mitigate risks for all parties involved, ensuring fair and efficient project delivery.

Early Contractor Involvement: Engaging contractors early in the planning process enhances decision-making and project outcomes, allowing for innovative solutions to be identified before construction begins.

Attracting the Next Generation of Workers: Celebrating construction's achievements and contributions to society improves the industry's image, helping to attract and retain new talent in the workforce. By showcasing the impact of construction and its importance in community development, we can foster a more positive public perception of the industry.

Collaborative Problem-Solving: Working together allows for shared learning and solutions to common challenges, facilitating smoother project execution and fostering stronger relationships.

Conclusion

Together, we can champion the construction industry as a powerful, local force driving economic growth and infrastructure development. Let's work hand in hand to ensure our sector thrives and continues to contribute meaningfully to our communities.

PST on Construction and infrastructure



In April 2017, Saskatchewan expanded its Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to include construction services, with the Ministry of Finance projecting an annual revenue of \$350M to \$400M. However, a 2019 Economic Impact Study by Praxis Consulting revealed significant negative impacts on the province's economy, construction industry, and overall competitiveness.

By 2023, the construction sector's real GDP grew by 13.6 percent, reaching \$6 billion, showcasing the industry's ability to drive productivity and meet demand. Given this positive shift, removing PST on construction services would not only attract further investment but also help reduce rising construction costs.

As Saskatchewan approaches a provincial election, we urge all political parties to acknowledge the negative effects of PST on construction and support its removal.

Why Removing PST on Construction Services is Crucial:

Economic Competitiveness: Saskatchewan's current PST structure places it at a significant disadvantage compared to neighbouring regions and other provinces. Alberta, all three territories, and Montana have no sales tax at all. In Manitoba, British Columbia, Minnesota, and North Dakota, PST is applied only to construction materials—not labour—and is not itemized on construction contracts. Meanwhile, provinces with a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) system, such as Ontario and the Maritimes, apply tax to the full contract, including materials, labour, and markup. However, they offer input tax credits, allowing businesses to recover the GST/HST paid on purchases and expenses. Saskatchewan's unique PST structure, which applies to both materials and labour without offering these recovery mechanisms, discourages investment and makes the province less competitive in attracting and retaining construction projects.

Cost Pressures & Project Viability: Rising construction costs, compounded by the PST, are creating serious challenges for project viability. This has led to "descoping," where project owners are not only cutting design features but also essential, practical elements, like reducing square footage for future growth or eliminating underground parking. These compromises are driven by contractor pricing that often exceeds initial estimates, leading to a growing gap between project budgets and actual costs.

Impact on Saskatchewan's Infrastructure Development: As a result of these rising costs, vital infrastructure projects are being delayed or scaled back. This is particularly concerning for public tenders—such as those overseen by SaskBuilds—where project budgets frequently fall short of actual costs, stalling essential developments across the province. Removing the PST would help align project budgets with market realities, promoting the completion of necessary infrastructure.





Affordability, Consumer Benefits & Housing Need: The PST adds approximately \$13,500 to the cost of building a typical \$450,000 home. With rising housing prices and increasing demand for new homes, removing the PST would help lower barriers to homeownership, encourage affordable housing development, and support Saskatchewan in avoiding a potential housing crisis.

Encouraging Growth: The construction industry is a cornerstone of Saskatchewan's economy. Lowering construction costs by removing the PST would not only enhance the province's competitiveness but also attract investment, create jobs, and stimulate economic growth, while enabling the construction of critical housing and infrastructure projects.

Conclusion

The expanded PST on construction has not only underperformed in terms of revenue generation but has also harmed Saskatchewan's economy. By removing this tax, Saskatchewan can foster economic growth, attract investments, and help alleviate the housing crisis. We call on political parties to commit to repealing the PST on construction services to ensure the long-term prosperity of the province.

Key Findings from the Economic Impact Study:

- **Decline in Investment:** Over a 24-month period (April 2017–March 2019), construction investment dropped by approximately \$1.6B due to the expanded PST.
- **Reduction in Economic Growth:** This led to a 1.6% decline in Saskatchewan's GDP, translating to \$1.2B in lost economic activity.
- **Job Losses:** The construction ecosystem saw a loss of 11,400 jobs, impacting businesses ranging from construction to finance and real estate.
- **Government Shortfall:** Despite generating revenue, the expanded PST caused a \$125M annual shortfall in anticipated tax revenues due to the loss of investment and economic activity.



Questionnaires: Political Parties and each Candidates

As we approach this crucial election campaign, our Association is committed to engaging with political parties and individual candidates to ensure that the voices of our members are heard. Here's how we will facilitate this process:

1. Political Parties

The Association's Advocacy Team will create and distribute a questionnaire to all registered political parties in Saskatchewan. Once we receive their responses, we will compile and share the information with our members through newsletters and various communication channels. This will provide our members with insights into each party's stance on key issues affecting the construction industry.

2. Candidates

We will also distribute the questionnaire to candidates from the Saskatchewan Party, the New Democratic Party (NDP), and the Saskatchewan United Party. This will allow us to gather their perspectives on relevant issues, helping our members understand where each candidate stands.

3. Member Engagement

To encourage active participation, we will provide a message template in our newsletter that our members can easily copy and paste. This template will facilitate communication with local candidates, urging them to respond to our questions and engage in discussions about the construction industry's needs.

Foundation of the Initiative

This initiative is anchored in the **3 C's**:

Communication: Ensuring open dialogue between our members, political parties, and candidates.

Collaboration: Working together to amplify the construction industry's concerns and priorities during the election.

Captivation: Engaging our members and the broader community in meaningful conversations about the future of our industry.

By following this structured approach, we aim to strengthen our advocacy efforts and ensure that the construction industry's interests are front and centre during the election campaign.

Attachment: Appendix A (Additional details and templates can be found in Appendix A)

Unlocking true potential of social media

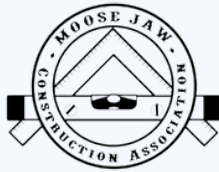
There's no denying that social media has become an essential part of advocacy and campaigning. In today's world, a strong digital presence is more important than ever. Here are the key benefits of using social media as a powerful tool:

1. Immediate Access to Information
2. Engaging with the Community
3. Amplifying Messages

By leveraging multiple social media accounts, we can share the same message across various platforms, reaching a diverse audience—from Eldorado to Estevan—more effectively.

We encourage all our members and the construction industry to engage with us on social media! Your participation helps strengthen our collective voice and expand our impact.

Saskatoon & Region
Home Builders'
Association



Together, We Build Saskatchewan



SASKATOON CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

532 2nd Ave N, Saskatoon, SK S7K 2C5

REGINA CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

1935 ELPHINSTONE ST, REGINA, SK S4T 3N3

PRINCE ALBERT CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

70 - 17 ST W, PRINCE ALBERT, SK S6V 3X3

MOOSE JAW CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

1935 ELPHINSTONE ST, REGINA, SK S4T 3N3

SASKATCHEWAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION INC.

1935 Elphinstone St, Regina, SK S4T 3N3



Together, We Build Saskatchewan





Saskatoon & Region
Home Builders'
Association



Together, We Build Saskatchewan



Subject: Construction industry seeks your support on industry priorities

Dear {CANDIDATE},

My name is {INSERT NAME HERE}, and I am an {OWNER/EMPLOYEE} with {INSERT COMPANY NAME HERE}. Thank you for running to be MLA in my home constituency of {NAME OF CONSTITUENCY HERE}.

I am writing today to ask you to support the construction industry priorities outlined by the Saskatchewan Construction Association on behalf of Saskatchewan's dynamic and important construction industry.

The Construction Associations of Saskatchewan collectively represent 780+ members across the province with an estimated membership workforce of 9000+ skilled workers who are dedicated to building the critical infrastructure for our province.

Collectively, these businesses have a substantial impact. Construction directly accounts for 6% of the provincial GDP, we need each other – and we all need a government that is committed to the construction industry's priorities:

- 1. Building Futures: Encouraging Youth in Construction**
- 2. Government-Industry Partnership: Advancing Construction Success**
- 3. PST on Construction and Infrastructure**

Today, I am asking you to acknowledge the importance of the construction industry to Saskatchewan and to commit to supporting these priorities if you are elected.

You can read more about the details and specific calls to action under each of these priorities in a document put together by the Saskatchewan Construction Association [here](#).

I'd be happy to chat with you about why I think these issues are important, and I know the team at the Construction Association would speak with you too.

Thank you for running to be our MLA, best of luck with the election, and we look forward to hearing back from you about your support for these priorities.

Sincerely,

INSERT NAME HERE







Together, We Build Saskatchewan

