

The Honorable Scott Moe
Premier of Saskatchewan
226 Legislative Building
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

March 22, 2020

Dear Premier Moe;

On behalf of our province's employers and workers, please accept our sincere gratitude for the strong and purposeful leadership you've demonstrated in this crisis. Once again, Saskatchewan has led the way in the measures being implemented to address this pandemic.

The measures you've implemented to keep our province safe have been well-timed, prudent and, we hope, effective. We are now requesting some clarity regarding the rules around public gathering numbers. Many employers in the construction industry are unsure whether or not this impacts their ability to carry on with their work on the multiple sites still in operation throughout the province.

The province of British Columbia has allowed construction sites to continue their operation within the following guidelines:

- There should be no more than 50 people in the same space in any circumstances.
- Where possible, employees should maintain a distance of two metres apart from each other.
- Post signage that limits the number of occupants in any elevator to four people at a time.
- Reduce in-person meetings and other gatherings and hold site meetings in open spaces or outside.
- Increase the number of handwashing stations and post signage that identifies their location.
- Maintain a list of employees that are currently working on sites and update this list daily.
- All common areas and surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day
- Anyone with COVID-19-like symptoms, such as sore throat, fever, sneezing or coughing, must self-isolate at home for 14 days

In making your decision, we urge you to seriously consider the impacts to the important core services provided by the construction sector.

There has never been a more important time for the construction industry to step up and support our province. In this time of acute crisis, unfettered access to fully functioning infrastructure is paramount. ***Our contractors can ensure that happens.***

Safety of workers is crucial. Construction sites already have extensive safety protocols in place that protect the health and well-being of employees on a daily basis. Employees predominantly work independently, and sites are commonly closed to public access. If you want to ensure workers that are still employed will be working in a safe manner, ***construction can ensure that happens.***

In the midst of massive layoffs, business failures, and economic collapse, it is critical that you provide opportunity for continuation of employment in situations where the risk of spreading the virus is low. ***Construction can ensure that happens.***

We urge you to allow construction sites to continue to operate, while following the safety protocols your government has outlined. Not only is this the right decision for the 11,000 businesses and 53,000 employees that rely on these jobs, it is the right decision for the people of Saskatchewan that are depending on the core services provided by the construction industry.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Cooper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Cooper, President & CEO
Saskatchewan Construction Association

SASKATCHEWAN MUST BUILD ON



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Low", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen Low, President
Merit Contractors Association

Cc: Honorable Members of Executive Council
Mayor Michael Fougere
Mayor Charlie Clark
SUMA
SARM