



SCA Board of Directors Meeting – December 2019

Summary

On December 13, 2019, the Saskatchewan Construction Association (SCA) held its fifth and final board meeting of the 2019 year. The meeting was held at the Saskatoon Inn, in Saskatoon.

The board of directors welcomed members of the Saskatoon Construction Association (SCA local) board of directors for a conversation over lunch about the local economic outlook and association business.

Over the course of the day the board discussion addressed operational, industry, and governance issues. The following summary provides an overview of items the board wished to communicate to local construction association (LCA) partners and members.

Welcome and Thanks to Board Members

At the end of 2019, five members of the SCA Board of Directors are retiring. The SCA wants to thank the following individuals for their dedication and service to the association and the industry. We could not achieve the mission of the organization with the generous engagement of industry leaders like:

- Chris Doka, Wright Construction (Saskatoon);
- Jason Duke, CertaPro Painters (Past Chair);
- Mike Lawton, Con-Tech General Contractors (Director-At-Large);
- Nick Friesen, Westridge Construction (Regina); and
- Ryan Leech, Brxton Masonry (Advisory Council).

In 2020, the SCA Board will welcome six new members. These new members are:

- Brad Barber, Clearlite Glass (Saskatoon);
- Jon Boutin, Thorpe Industries (Prince Albert);
- Brent Cherwinski, Wallace Construction Specialties (Regina);
- Bryce Chelsberg, C&S Builders (Advisory Council);
- Duane Galloway, Graham Construction & Engineering (Director-At-Large); and
- Colin Olfert, Westridge Construction (Advisory Council).



ConEx: The Builders Expo

On April 29, 2020, the SCA will be holding the first-ever ConEx: The Builders Expo in Saskatoon at Prairieland Park. Details include:

- NEW! First-ever non-residential construction trade show and conference for Saskatchewan.
- Trade show booths will showcase products, services and equipment with a particular focus on technology and innovation.
- We will have a one-day audience of more than 300 procurement officials, building maintenance and operations people, architects, engineers, general contractors, trade contractors, and suppliers attending ConEx.
- The event is all about networking and relationship building to support companies as they: find work; win work; and get more efficient/productive.
- There will be value-added education seminars and live demonstrations.
- Registration for ConEx goes live on January 15. Stay tuned for more details.

Saskatchewan Construction Week

2020 will mark the fourth annual Saskatchewan Construction Week (SCW), which will be held from April 27 to May 1st, across Saskatchewan. Details include:

- SCW is a week-long celebration of the social and economic benefits that construction brings to our province.
- NEW! This year there will be a special focus on creating easy ways for companies and individuals to get involved in SCW, including (but not limited to!):
 - Social media engagement;
 - Displaying SCW promotional material in offices and on job sites;
 - Participating in local business promotions;
 - Engaging with charities in your area for a “random act of kindness”;
 - Highlighting your construction hero; and
 - Attending or hosting a local event.
- Visit www.constructionweek.ca for more details.



Summer Meeting

Summer Meeting 2020 will take place from June 3 to June 5 at Elk Ridge Resort. Unlike previous years, 2020 will include an expanded golf tournament on the Thursday (June 4th) where we will open all 27 golf holes, opening up 72 more spots. Members will be able to sign up just for the one day. More information will be released about this event early in February 2020.

SCA Advocacy Update

This space provides a quick update on the current status of SCA's advocacy priorities:

- **Prompt Payment**
 - The SCA continues to have prompt payment as our top priority.
 - The SCA has submitted a proposal to Minister Morgan on the creation of an Authority to handle prompt payment adjudications.
 - We are waiting for the Ministry of Justice officials to release the draft regulatory framework, which we expect to see in January.
 - Once regulations are finalized, likely before the Summer 2020, education and training will begin.
 - At this point it looks like the legislation may be in force in Saskatchewan by January 1, 2021.
- **Procurement Improvement**
 - The SCA continues to work with Priority Saskatchewan, the Crowns, the cities, and with other public procurement agencies to standardize the public sector's approach to procurement and in particular to best value procurement.
 - A priority for the SCA in 2020 will be the creation of a contractor's best practices guide to procurement, that will provide guidance to government decision makers on how to get better at such things as: prequalification; contract risk management; standardized documents, templates, and processes; scoring and evaluating proposals; delivering debriefs; sharing information regarding awarded contracts; and other such topic areas.
 - Government leaders are very receptive to these discussions and we enjoy a close working relationship with them through the collaborative approach we take to engagement.

- **Prequalification**

- The SCA has completed scoping work on the development of a standardized prequalification system for use by public sector agencies. This work included focus groups with government officials and contractors.
- The Government of Saskatchewan has confirmed the importance of developing such a system and will be working with the framework provided by the SCA.
- In 2020, the plan will be to see this project developed for launch in early 2021.

- **Investment Attraction**

- The SCA remains focused on making sure that public sector policies support Saskatchewan being a destination of choice for investments.
- This requires a tax and regulatory regime that makes Saskatchewan a competitive place to do business.
- The government has been very open to engaging industry on this, and has been very responsive as well. When the SCA raised concerns about the timeline for commercial building permits, government (within about three weeks) announced a plan to move the timeline for permit approvals to a maximum of two weeks across the province.
- In 2020 the SCA will be working with its other partners in construction to develop a list of regulatory and tax improvements that the public sector can pursue to make sure Saskatchewan is a place where people want to invest.