



SKCA Board of Directors Meeting – August 20, 2020

Summary

On Thursday, August 20, 2020 the Saskatchewan Construction Association (SKCA) held its fifth board meeting of the 2020 year. The meeting was held via Zoom.

SKCA President's Announcement

SKCA President Mark Cooper made the Board aware that he has, with a couple of partners, launched a new business venture – Prairie Clean Energy (PCE). Mark is serving as PCE's CEO. He is committed to only doing PCE work on his own time and avoiding all conflicts, real and perceived, with the work at SKCA. Mark plans to continue serving as SKCA President. The SKCA HR Committee will be discussing this with Mark in the coming weeks. The SKCA Board asked Mark to prepare a general announcement to the members about this new development.

Provincial Election Campaign Strategy: Advocating for YOUR Interests

SKCA's election campaign will focus on four priorities and provide members with tools to be able to respond to any interactions with government parties.

1. **No exemptions for prompt payment** – Ensuring construction companies are paid promptly for work completed. Currently, Minister Don Morgan plans on exempting the residential sector from this law. We don't believe there should be any 'free passes' when it comes to paying your bills on time.
2. **Supporting local** – Saskatchewan projects funded by Saskatchewan taxpayers should be awarded to local companies. We've presented several practices that would help this, and it's more important now than ever before to support Saskatchewan businesses.
3. **Growing the economy** –Saskatchewan needs every advantage it can get to make it an attractive place to invest, it's time to review taxation and regulatory burdens, and to educate the private sector that there's never been a better time to borrow, build and invest.
4. **Improving procurement** – All agencies funded by taxpayer dollars should have procurement practices that are consistent, transparent, and that support local vendors.



SKCA will define specific campaign requests. The campaign will include a door knock flyer for companies to distribute to employees, a targeted social media campaign, a questionnaire to both the Sask Party and NDP for their perspective on industry issues, an election-focused issue of *We Build* magazine, using Push Politics to create a template letter for members to engage candidates in their constituency, an SKCA letter to every registered candidate encouraging them to support our industry, a virtual media conference and letter to the editor for all daily and weekly papers in Saskatchewan, and vlog posts breaking down each priority.

Prompt Payment Legislation: Delayed but Definitely Not Dead

Given the delay caused by COVID-19, SKCA has recommended to Minister Morgan's office that they consider an in-force date of no later than April 1, 2021. This will allow time to set up the Adjudication Authority, train Adjudicators, and prepare the industry for the new legislation.

While Minister Morgan is considering an exemption for the residential sector, the SKCA has been very vocal in pushing back against this. SKCA will be launching a virtual letter writing campaign to encourage construction companies to write their MLAs and explain why this exemption is a bad idea. We will continue working with other industry associations to strengthen this opposition.

SaskBuilds Embraces SKCA Best Value Procurement Recommendations

SKCA has been the leading industry voice in pushing for government to make sure that Saskatchewan companies have every advantage to compete for public work, and that SaskBuilds' procurement policy for the Government of Saskatchewan and Crown Corporations provides the best possible return on investment for Saskatchewan taxpayers' money.

SKCA's guide containing 40+ recommendations to enhance Best Value procurement has been well received, with many of the recommendations already adopted (thanks to strong support from MLAs, Deputy Ministers, Crown Presidents and other senior leaders as a result of our lobbying efforts), and our seat at the decision-making table remains active as procedures are finalized and sent to elected officials.

For more information about the August 20, 2020 SKCA Board meeting, please reach out to SKCA President Mark Cooper at president@scaonline.ca.