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Construction is critical to Alberta's economy...

Whether it's a new school, factory, or road, the men and women of Alberta's construction industry build safe, quality structures that benefit us all.

Alberta's construction industry generates more than \$40 billion a year in economic activity and employs 190,000 Albertans.

ACA's Role...

Alberta's general contractors, trade contractors, manufacturers, suppliers and professionals work together through their Local, Alberta, and Canadian Construction Associations to strengthen industry partnerships and promote the construction industry.

2000+ industry leaders belong to the Alberta Construction Association (ACA). Other construction industry and trade associations also belong as associate members.

The ACA was created to facilitate joint action at the provincial level on behalf of its members. The ACA also serves the industry in responding to national issues through membership in the Canadian Construction Association.

ACA leads Alberta's construction industry through **government advocacy, industry practices, and promotion of a skilled workforce** (see ACA Accomplishments on reverse).

ACA communicates to industry through its monthly newsletter, the Provincial, our website, [www.abconst.org](http://www.abconst.org), and through the Alberta Construction Magazine.

How does industry get involved?

ACA efforts rely on the expertise of numerous industry volunteers. If you would like to serve the industry by volunteering for the ACA Board of Directors or one of the ACA Committees, please contact the Chief Operating Officer of your Local Construction Association. (Calgary, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Lloydminster, Medicine Hat, Peace River, Red Deer). You can also contact ACA about joining e-mail groups that provide input for specific topics such as apprenticeship or the WCB.

For contact information for Local Construction Associations, consult the links on the ACA website. [www.abconst.org](http://www.abconst.org)

## ACA ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### Government Advocacy

Apprenticeship, builders' liens, employment standards, environment, occupational health and safety, tendering regulations, and the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) are just some of the many provincial government activities that impact Alberta's construction industry.

ACA advocacy has:

- Led to establishment of the Provincial Capital Fund with more than \$12 billion invested for provincial infrastructure projects since 2003.
- Created a joint industry/ government committee to address project scheduling and address onerous contract provisions
- Reduced the holdback from 15% to 10% under the Builders' Lien Act
- Developed a toolkit to assist industry to comply with privacy legislation and seminars to improve compliance with Employment Standards
- Supported workplace safety over inappropriate application of Human Rights Legislation and rulings regarding drug and alcohol testing.
- Separated industry pooling of WCB premiums so that higher risk industries are not shielded from the true costs of their WCB coverage
- Deferred the Government's decision to proceed with potentially expensive Long Standing Contentious WCB Claims
- Encouraged the use of properly qualified contractors selected through open and transparent bidding for publicly funded projects

### Industry Practices

ACA and its members developed and operate a number of business tools to promote uniform standards of bidding and contractual practices, and to improve industry productivity and competition.

#### Standard construction documents and guides,

developed in cooperation with design professionals and owners, reduce the potential for costly mistakes and disputes. ACA Subcontract Form A, standard documents and Plain Language Guides (Bonding, Construction Insurance, Fleet Safety and the Alberta Builders' Lien Act) are widely used throughout the industry. For a complete list of ACA documents go to the Documents link on our website [www.abconst.org](http://www.abconst.org).

**Law and the Construction Industry** educational course.

### Market Information

Searchable **Member Directories** for Alberta at [www.abconst.org](http://www.abconst.org) and across Canada at [www.cca-acc.com/directories/associations/associations\\_e.asp](http://www.cca-acc.com/directories/associations/associations_e.asp)

### Promotion of A Skilled Workforce

ACA led members, industry and government to create the **Trade-Up** CD-Rom and companion website [www.careersconstruction.com](http://www.careersconstruction.com) to promote careers in construction. The website has received over 20 million "hits". ACA and its partners are updating the website as part of a new campaign targeting students, teachers and the public.

ACA led the creation of an industry government partnership to support apprentices through matched funds for **apprentice scholarships**. ACA is the first Platinum Donor, offering 30 annual scholarships, of \$1,000 each, in perpetuity for Alberta apprentices. Employers can also access the matched funds for scholarships.

#### ALBERTA CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

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