





June 18, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada 80 Wellington Ottawa, Ontario

RE: Economic stimulus

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

We are truly grateful for the encouraging news regarding the announced flexibility in the Investing in Canada Plan to help infrastructure projects move through the approval process more quickly – and therefore helping Canadians getting back to work.

The construction industry has demonstrated its ability to respond quickly, safely and effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic while delivering on projects for the federal government and all levels of governments, Indigenous communities and private projects.

We are concerned that the impact of an infrastructure stimulus program may get derailed if other social priorities take precedence. We do agree that infrastructure investments can be leveraged to achieve positive societal change. Achieving diversity in the industry, reducing our environmental footprint, looking to sustainability are all important, aspirational objectives, and we continue to work toward these.

Therefore, we urge you in this critical ramp up phase to remain laser-focused on getting tenders out, reducing red tape, continuing to work collaboratively with provinces, municipalities and Indigenous communities, considering projects of all sizes, sectors and regions while ensuring they are smart and shovel ready, and remaining flexible on additional costs and time delays because of COVID-19. Businesses throughout the design, construction and facilities maintenance supply chain that have work can confidently rehire or grow their staff and employ apprentices safely and with purpose.

Similarly, investments in pre-construction services offered by engineering and architectural firms are also urgently required to ensure there will be a reliable and predictable pipeline of construction projects in the months ahead, and throughout the recovery, that will strengthen the economy and improve our communities.







We remain committed to helping our country re-build its economy and improve the quality of life for all Canadians.

Sincerely,

Mary Van Buren President, **Canadian Construction**

President and CEO, Association of Consulting Association Engineering Companies,

Canada

John D. Gamble

Mark Romoff **President and Chief** Executive Office, Canadian Council for Public-**Private Partnerships**

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C.C.:

Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry Hon. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

Hon. Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance