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Upcoming MHCA Meetings

Rental Rates Committee
MHCA Office
December 07, 2016 - 12:00
Noon

MHCA Executive Committee
MHCA Office
January 18, 2017 - 12:00 Noon

MHCA Board of Directors
Location TBD
January 25, 2017 - 12:00 Noon



PRESENCE. PROFILE. IMPACT.

Chris Lorenc's leadership of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association through 25 years of dedicated service has put the heavy construction industry at the forefront of Manitoba's economic and political scenes.

Today we give public recognition to our president for the unequalled passion and professionalism he brings to his work in the interests of the industry, our province and our country.

Chris is a man of and for his community. Raised in the North End, he is tied tightly to his Polish-Canadian roots. Those values and his years as a lawyer and city councilor have made him an asset to numerous community, industry and provincial initiatives he has led over the years.

The MHCA Board of Directors and members say 'Congratulations and thank you!' Chris, for 25 years of hard work, and your continuing stewardship, on behalf of our industry and our province.



Infrastructure minister says department in “lock-step” with industry

Manitoba Infrastructure Minister Blaine Pedersen released the department’s highway construction tendering plan for the 2017/18 season at the MHCA awards breakfast November 18. It is valued at \$502 million and is balanced in all aspects of highways work – highways construction, surfacing, grading, in bridges and repairs.

That approach, said MHCA’s new Chair, Greg Orbanski, indicates the Pallister government has been listening to the association’s advice that the capital budget needs to be balanced in the funds invested in infrastructure annually. That aspect is as important as is the level of funding, Orbanski noted.

Pedersen took to the podium last Friday to tell the MHCA membership he understands the value the industry brings to the provincial economy.

The Manitoba construction industry is and continues to be a cornerstone of our economy, and it is a key factor for growing our province’s reputation for excellence, Pedersen said.

He committed the government to investing \$500 million per year, over the next 5 years, to the highways capital budget – “predictable, stable funding you can plan on.”

“I can assure you the government has been listening,” he said, of the MHCA’s advice on the principles behind strategic infrastructure investment for maximum return to the economy.

The minister then ticked off a check-list of MHCA principles for infrastructure investment that he said had been met: predictable, sustainable funding; a balanced program; five-year capital budgets allowing industry to build capacity and competitiveness; early tender schedules and timely contract awards; focus on return on investment; embracing innovation; a transparent and dedicated revenue stream; embracing partnership with the private sector; and, regular review of the program for discipline to purpose. The 2017/2018 tender schedule can be viewed online at mhca.mb.ca/media/industry-news-reports.

Pedersen ended his address by saying the department will continue to review project priorities to make sure they are in lockstep with the industry.

MHCA President Chris Lorenc thanked the minister for his address, adding that he has been a “formidable champion at Treasury Board” for the industry. The early tendering, in particular, is a real bonus, Lorenc said.

Further, the Pallister government’s move to eliminate sole-source contracting and to commit to open, competitive bids along with the entry into the New West Partnership are all welcomed by the heavy construction industry, he said.

“So there’s lots to be thankful for.”

The Annual General Meeting followed the awards breakfast at the RBC Convention Centre, where Lorenc and outgoing Chair Derek Walker reported on the ‘Year in Review’ and also MHCA’s priorities for 2017.





ANNUAL CURLING CLASSIC

**THURSDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2017**
The Heather Curling Club
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\$250^{+GST} per team or \$62.50^{+GST} per individual

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I only plan to attend the luncheon (\$40^{+GST}): _____

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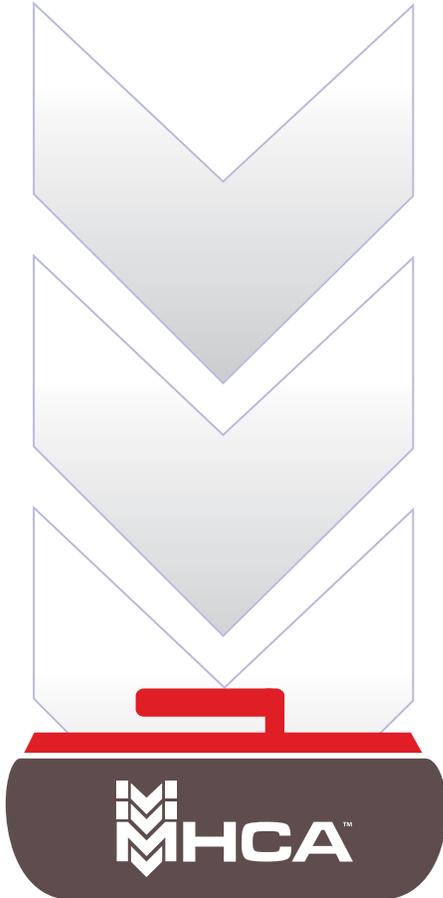
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Fill out this form in full and fax to the MHCA office at 204-943-2279.

For more information, contact Christine Miller at christine@mhca.mb.ca or 204-947-1379.

As per MHCA Board Policy, only registrations cancelled at least six (6) business days prior to the commencement of this event will be refunded.

Pallister government to rein in public sector costs: throne speech

The Pallister government has signaled it is intent on controlling public service costs, announcing in its throne speech this week that it will introduce legislation to cap public sector spending. That will apply within government and across external public entities, such as Crown corporations, universities and hospitals.

That legislation will ensure that “public-sector costs do not exceed Manitobans’ ability to sustain those services they receive in return,” said Lt.-Gov. Janice Filmon, reading the speech in the House, opening the new session of the Legislative Assembly Monday.

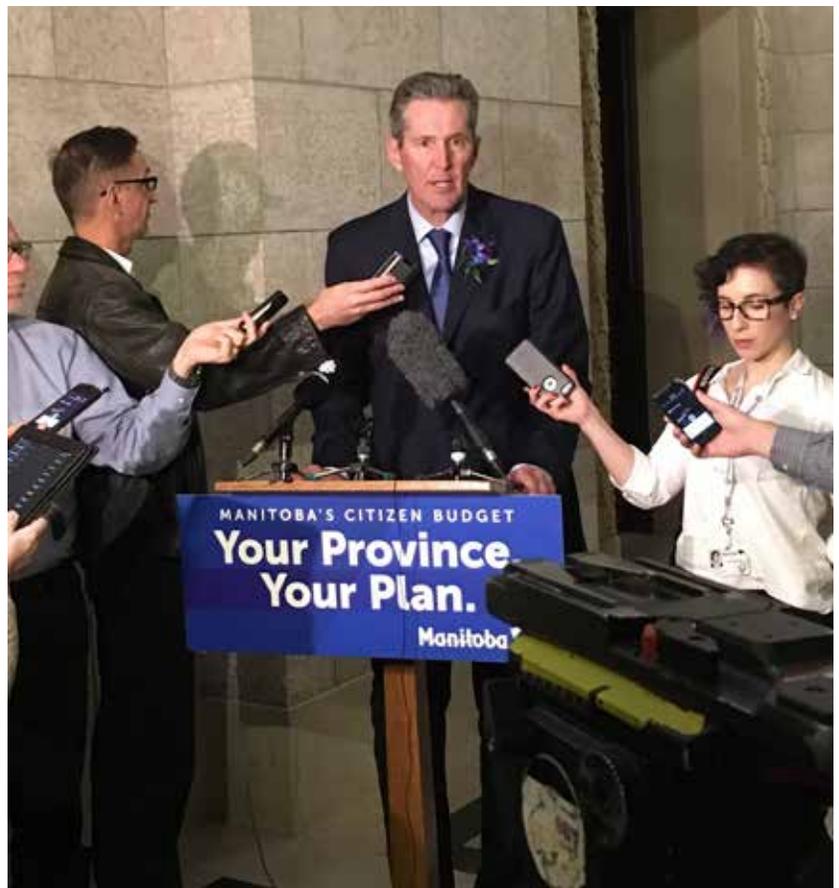
Pallister told reporters this move is directly tied to curbing spending and reining in the deficit, which is approaching \$900 million in 2016/2017. He noted this is the essence of the platform the Progressive Conservatives ran on in last spring’s election.

The throne speech, the Pallister government’s second since the party assumed power, held few specifics. They included reforming the governance of major Crown corporations, establishing a red-tape reduction task force and re-introducing a referendum law giving Manitobans a vote on increases to major taxes.

The government also reaffirmed its promise to introduce “carbon pricing.” Further, it said it will move to invest in “clean-growth opportunities” and create a retirement savings vehicle for the self-employed and for workers without workplace pension plans.

The speech also noted the fact Infrastructure Minister Blaine Pedersen last week released (at the MHCA Awards Breakfast) the tendering schedule for the 2017 season “allowing the construction industry to plan for another season of building, grading, paving, repairing and improving our roads and highways.”

MHCA Chair Greg Orbanski and MHCA President Chris Lorenc attended the legislature’s opening where the speech was read.





Trump Could Be Good for Canadian Construction: Stakeholders

Angela Gismodi, November 16, 2016

Although they admit there are a lot of unanswered questions at this point, leaders of Canadian construction associations are cautiously optimistic Donald Trump's U.S. presidential election win could be good for the national economy, business and the construction industry.

"I think a lot of people are surprised by the outcome," said John Gamble, president and CEO of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC).

"The Trump campaign was big on slogans, light on specifics. However, the potential upside is he has certainly positioned himself as being pro-business and anti-red tape and that might lead to some huge opportunities. At the moment, it's just great uncertainty."

Trump made many declarations throughout his campaign. Plans to renegotiate NAFTA and threats to cancel it, reviving the Keystone XL pipeline project in Alberta and making significant investments in infrastructure are just a few that could impact the Canadian construction industry.

"It's obviously very much early days. There is a lot of analysis and clarity to emerge in terms of what a Trump presidency means for America particularly and North America in general," said Paul de Jong, president of the Progressive Contractors Association.

Michael Atkinson, president of the Canadian Construction Association, said reopening NAFTA could be an opportunity to look at how it can be improved.

"If president-elect Trump wants to renegotiate NAFTA, having the procurement provisions apply more broadly, I think it would be a positive thing," said Atkinson. "It would be one way to modernize that agreement, but certainly CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement), Trans-Pacific (Partnership), any of these newer, international trade agreements, the procurements apply more than just to national procurement, it applies to subnational procurement as well. That is where all international trade agreements are going now."

That is important, he said, because Canadians felt shut out during President Barack Obama's infrastructure stimulus program when Buy American provisions were imposed on federal projects which meant Canadian products couldn't be used.

For Gamble, changes to NAFTA could impact ACEC's member firms who work on both sides of the border, as well as the American firms that work in Canada.

"We have a very integrated marketplace and he's called NAFTA into question, mainly in the context of the U.S. dealing with Mexico," said Gamble. The big question is whether he can renegotiate NAFTA, and if so what are the consequences for a very integrated marketplace. According to de Jong, at this point, Canada shouldn't be too concerned about any dramatic changes with respect to cross-border trade between Canada and the U.S.

"I think one of the possibilities is that the statements made in the election campaign against things like TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and NAFTA were particularly a directive against predatory activities by some of the countries that America deals with, but I don't think they include Canada," de Jong stated.

Trump has also stated significant dollars should be spent on infrastructure, fixing roads and bridges. De Jong said it's positive that Canada and the new Trump administration share common views on the importance of infrastructure investment.

"The general perspective as a North American marketplace is that's a good news story. You have that synergy north and south of the border where you have two governments focused in a similar manner on building the infrastructure capacity and framework of the two nations."

Whether or not Canada benefits from that infrastructure spend remains to be seen.

"The vast majority of the infrastructure build is at the state or local level, which is certainly the trend here in Canada," Atkinson explained. "If that is open to Canadian businesses and firms, it would be great news but that's the big question — will it be open?"

Changing climate, changing seasonal vehicle weights: Manitoba Infrastructure

The warming climate is having its effects on Manitoba roads, triggering the need to change what have been predictable, regulated winter season weights and spring road restrictions for heavy vehicles, the province has announced.

The current road restrictions dictate an increase in axle and gross vehicle weights for set periods during winter months, when pavements are frozen. The allowable weights also depend on the class of highway, and the "climate zone" where a vehicle is traveling.

And again in spring, when thaw hits and moisture rises in the base layer and subgrade, those allowable weights are reduced for set periods from the normal levels to minimize damage to the weakened surfaces.

All of the limits, and the dates at which they kick in and then get lifted, are contained in Manitoba Infrastructure policies. But higher average temperatures – triggering a later seasonal freeze-up on average and also earlier thaws – have meant that there is damage being sustained to roads, costing millions of dollars in repair, the department said at a recent industry consultation, held by the Motor Carrier Consultative Committee.

Further, the department also is proposing changes to the permitting for vehicle weights and dimensions.

The department is requesting input from those carriers and drivers affected by the changing start/end dates and allowable weights, and for the proposed changes to vehicle weight and dimension permitting. All documents and explanatory briefs prepared by MI can be viewed on the MHCA's website at www.mhca.mb.ca.

The changes have real implication for the heavy construction industry, given the size and loads of the vehicles, said Jack Meseyton, Chair of the MHCA highways committee.

Meseyton encouraged contractors to look closely at the proposed changes and return their remarks to the MHCA soon so the association can formulate its response by the deadline, which is approaching quickly.

"There is a timeline to provide comment back, by December 2. Both proposals – the winter weight/spring restrictions and vehicle weights/dimensions permitting – do affect our industry."

Migration to new MERX platform

On January 10, 2017, the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association and the Winnipeg Construction Association will co-host a Manitoba Infrastructure electronic bidding information session & webinar which will focus on electronic bidding and electronic bonding. Further information regarding Manitoba Infrastructure's electronic bidding initiative will be shared at that time.

To get a better understanding of the online bidding process and its requirements, vendors may peruse MERX's online training videos found at: <https://www.merx4.merx.com/public/Help>.

Where: Madison B room – Holiday Inn Winnipeg Airport Polo Park
1740 Ellice Avenue

Agenda: 7:30am – Doors Open
8:00am - Served hot breakfast
8:20am – Presentation followed by Q & A
10:30am – Closing

Tickets: \$35.00 + gst per person

Please contact Christine Miller, MHCA events manager at christine@mhca.mb.ca or 204-947-1379 to reserve your spot.



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Manitoba joins New West Partnership Trade Agreement

Premiers of Canada's four western provinces today announced that Manitoba has joined the New West Partnership Trade Agreement, strengthening and expanding Canada's largest, barrier-free interprovincial market.

With the inclusion of Manitoba, the partnership creates an open, common market of more than 11 million people, with a combined GDP of more than \$750 billion.

"Business owners, community leaders and chambers of commerce from across Manitoba have long called for our province to pursue new opportunities for growth and reduced trade barriers," said Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister. "Joining the New West Partnership will bring these advantages. We look forward to working with British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan to expand opportunities and support stronger economies right across Western Canada."

The agreement commits each jurisdiction to enhance trade, investment and labour mobility, and to remove barriers to movement of goods, services, investment and people within and between the provinces.

"We are pleased to welcome Manitoba into the New West Partnership," said Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall. "We've had great success over the past six years in removing barriers and opening up trade within our region. Together, we can continue to reduce hurdles affecting long-term business opportunities and make western Canada even stronger."

"Alberta is proud to work with our western neighbours to grow, strengthen and diversify the economy," said Alberta Premier Rachel Notley. "We share a common commitment to creating jobs, enhancing opportunities for enterprise and investment, and increasing prosperity throughout and beyond Western Canada."

"Western provinces are leaders in reducing barriers to trade and bringing Manitoba into the New West Partnership Trade Agreement can only strengthen our open market," said British Columbia Premier Christy Clark. "By joining forces, we can continue to expand our economies and benefit all Canadians."

The original New West Partnership Trade Agreement came into effect July 1, 2010, and has been fully implemented since July 1, 2013. For more information on the agreement, visit www.newwestpartnershiptrade.ca.

MHCA 2017 Equipment Rental Rates & Membership Directory COVER ART COMPETITION

Welcome to the MHCA 2017 Equipment Rental Rates & Membership Directory Cover Art Competition!

We invite you to create the eye-catching cover art that makes this directory stand out! Check out all the rules and regulations below:

Eligibility

Entrants must be current members of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association. The contest's artwork guidelines state that considered submissions must be two-dimensional original, hand-rendered art (acrylic, oil, watercolour, etc.), three-dimensional works (sculptures/carvings), or photography. Submitted artwork cannot have been previously published or reproduced in any format or exhibit. Also, the artist should not have future plans to sell, publish, reproduce or exhibit the artwork.

If the contest entry contains any material or elements that are not owned by the entrant, and/or which are subject to the rights of third parties, the entrant is responsible for obtaining, prior to submission of the contest entry, any and all releases and consents necessary to permit the use.

MHCA and its publisher, Lester Communications Inc., hold themselves harmless of any use of submitted materials claimed to be the ownership of the party which made submission and any and all legal issues arising with copyright of said materials will be between the property owner and the submitting party.

To enter, each artist can submit 1 (one) piece for the contest.

How to Enter

Entries must be received by **Friday, January 13, 2017**. Late entries will not be considered due to the production schedule of the MHCA Directory. The winning entrant will be contacted shortly after the closing date.

Entries must be submitted in the following formats: **PDF, EPS, or TIFF files**. JPGs are accepted but other formats are preferred. **All files need to be high-resolution 300 dpi images at 6" W by 9" H. CMYK or Grayscale are acceptable.**

Entries must be accompanied with an official entry form, containing the following information:

- MHCA member company name along with work address, telephone number and email address
- A short artist's biography
- Description of the artwork, including dimensions, medium and title



**MHCA's
2016 Cover
Art designed
by:**

SMS
Equipment,
David James

Conditions of Entry

By entering the MHCA Directory Cover Art Competition, the entrant agrees to the following conditions:

- The theme of the 2017 Directory must reflect heavy equipment
- The winning entrant agrees to permit MHCA to publish his/her own artwork on the cover of the 2017 MHCA Equipment Rental Rates & Membership Directory, which will be distributed across Manitoba
- The winning entry becomes the copyright property of MHCA
- The winning entrant agrees that MHCA has the right to reproduce the artwork for its corporate website and on promotional materials associated with the MHCA Equipment Rental Rates & Membership Directory
- The winning entrant will be publicly credited in the MHCA Equipment Rental Rates & Membership Directory as well as the official website and any other promotional materials that feature the artwork
- No copyrighted images, products, or company names can be part of the submitted entry
- Ensure that all photographs used are in compliance with current Workplace, Health & Safety Regulations

The Winner

The winning entrant of this competition will have 'bragging rights' for the year of 2017 and will receive a gift card valued at \$250 from Cabela's. The winning selection process will take place via a panel of official MHCA judges. If no suitable cover art design is submitted, MHCA reserves the right to choose the 2017 cover art.

Entries can be sent by mail or email to:

Katie Pfeiffer
ATTN: MHCA 2017 Equipment Rental Rates & Membership
Directory Cover Art Competition
katherine@mhca.mb.ca
Unit 3-1680 Ellice Ave
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0Z2

For further inquiries about this contest, contact:

Katie Pfeiffer
204-947-1379 ex. 24
katherine@mhca.mb.ca



Argentina: realizing its potential?



Peter G Hall, Vice President and Chief Economist

Is this a moment of hope for Argentina? Cynics would say that they've heard that before. In days gone by, some really believed it, put down their money, and lived to really regret it. Argentina has long been feted as an economy with enormous potential. This goes back before the turn of the last century. In the late 1800s, both Canada and Argentina were identified as the next up-and-comers in the world. Canada made it to the G7, but Argentina never got close. That potential still remains, though. Are current changes enough to turn promise into paydirt?

The Fernandez years were like many others in Argentina's modern history: mismanagement and misguided policies that set the country back years, and further sullied its reputation with credit rating agencies and investors. Wearing by economic waywardness, the population voted for change last year, putting Mauricio Macri into power with a promise of significant reform and a return to economic discipline. Any such move in Argentina generates foreign interest for one key reason: business around the world is well aware of the potential of this often turbulent land. Is the current regime really going to shed the policy approaches that have often isolated Argentina?

Such policies always punish an economy – perhaps no more so than in our highly integrated, globalized world. Trouble is, they never seem that way until the damage really sets in – and even when it does, countries can meander for years along a path that takes them further and further from the economic reality around them. Argentina is not the only one; there is a long list of countries that, from time to time, enroll themselves on this list. While this is a great shame for the economy and for the citizens that bear the brunt of the fallout, all is not lost. Behind all the mismanagement is an economy that, for the most part, never loses its core endowments: people, natural resources and other comparative advantages like location and ingenuity. The combination of these defines an economy's true potential, a frontier that is very reachable provided a country has policies in place that enable, not disable, fundamental growth.

Every country has a long-term growth path that is determined by the way its key factors of production come together to produce goods and services across the economy. The three pillars of any economy are its labour force, its capital stock (actual buildings, machinery and infrastructure), and finally the technical efficiency with which these two interact to make things – commonly known as productivity. The growth of these elements, added together, define the potential growth of every economy on the planet.

What do the numbers look like for Argentina? Three per cent seems like a generally accepted marker, split almost evenly between labour force and labour productivity growth. Match this up against recent actual performance, and it's clear that there's a sizeable gap between where Argentina is, and where it could be. Rough estimates put the gap at about 17 per cent. Alter policies to accommodate the growth potential, and it means Argentina could see very strong growth for a number of years. But suppose we grew the economy at this three per cent rate from 1980 to the present? Underperformance over that long period suggests that Argentina could have a GDP gap of as much as 45 per cent. The growth needed to close this gap would be double digit for a long, long time. If so, the opening of this market could be one of the big events of our current economic episode.

Similarities between the Canadian and Argentine economies make a case for a very symbiotic relationship. Capabilities in the energy, mining, and agriculture sectors are a start. Well-educated, cosmopolitan populations in both places are a further enabler. Long-standing business ties are yet another plus for a reinvigorated relationship. Diplomatic relations are also critical. Significantly, Canada's Prime Minister is in Argentina this week to meet with President Macri and discuss Canada-Argentina relations. If the market is really opening up – and if Argentina can convince the rest of the world that policy changes are not just for now, but for the long term – the growth potential for the country and for those interacting with it are very promising.

The bottom line? Argentina is reforming its economic policies. If permanent, this will be a powerhouse economy with a vast storehouse of potential.



Economic growth must drive public policy decisions

Chuck Davidson, MHA Insert; Winnipeg Free Press, November 09, 2016

According to the province of Manitoba's own economic forecast, the province's real GDP is expected to grow by 2.1 per cent this year - well above the Canadian average of 1.3 per cent - and by 2.2 per cent in 2017.

When looking at other key economic indicators such as Manitoba's unemployment rate of six per cent — again, better than Canada's seven per cent — and retail sales that have increased by 6.7 per cent in the first six months of 2016, you would think Manitoba's economy was firing on all cylinders. But that's not the case. According to the Manitoba Prosperity Report, which compares a number of key economic indicators with the three other Western provinces, Manitoba has some work to do to compete.

Take, for example, both high school and post-secondary graduation rates. While Manitoba is experiencing improvements in both of these important categories, we still rank dead last when compared with the provinces that make up the New West Partnership.

In addition, when it comes to average weekly wages, a Manitoba worker earns almost \$300 less per week than that same worker in Alberta, and \$100 less than someone in Saskatchewan. When you add in the fact that the Basic Personal Tax Exemption in both Alberta and Saskatchewan is almost double the exemption in Manitoba, and that personal income tax rates are significantly better in those provinces, the financial benefits of living in those provinces become clearly evident.

There is no question the Pallister government's first six months in office have proven to be challenging, with its first budget projecting a deficit of over \$900 million and Finance Minister Cameron Friesen indicating that it would be another eight years before Manitoba would be able to balance the books.

This prompted S&P Global Ratings (previously known as Standard and Poor's), to bump the province's credit rating to AA- from AA. The agency says the downgrade reflects the expectation that Manitoba will have a sustained debt burden for several years that is higher than that of its peers, and that the negative outlook reflects the view that the province faces significant challenges bringing itself back into fiscal balance.

While it may look bleak for the Manitoba economy in the short term, some of the measures the current government is undertaking do provide confidence to the business community over the long term.

The provincial government has started the process of conducting a comprehensive value-for-money review of government spending to ensure better value for taxpayer money. At the same time, it has committed to establishing a Red Tape Reduction Task Force to cut unnecessary red tape that stifles growth and kills job creation. The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce (MCC) believes that measures such as these are crucial to getting our provincial finances in order and restoring confidence in the business community.

Prior to the spring provincial election, MCC and five other prominent business organizations in the province urged political parties to support seven key public policy pillars that are critical to "Growing Manitoba's Economy."

Based on Manitoba's financial situation, the most critical of those seven pillars is fiscal competitiveness.

Manitoba must have an effective and fiscally prudent government committed to creating a competitive tax jurisdiction to attract and retain new investment.

MCC has argued that for Manitoba to achieve the level of prosperity needed to take our economy to the next level, the provincial government must share with Manitobans its commitment to ensuring that economic growth is the driving force behind all its decisions.

And while there is still a lot of work to be done, it appears the government is listening.

MHCA

Manitoba Heavy Construction Association

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Members can now view the full report online
at www.mhca.mb.ca/publications/annual-report

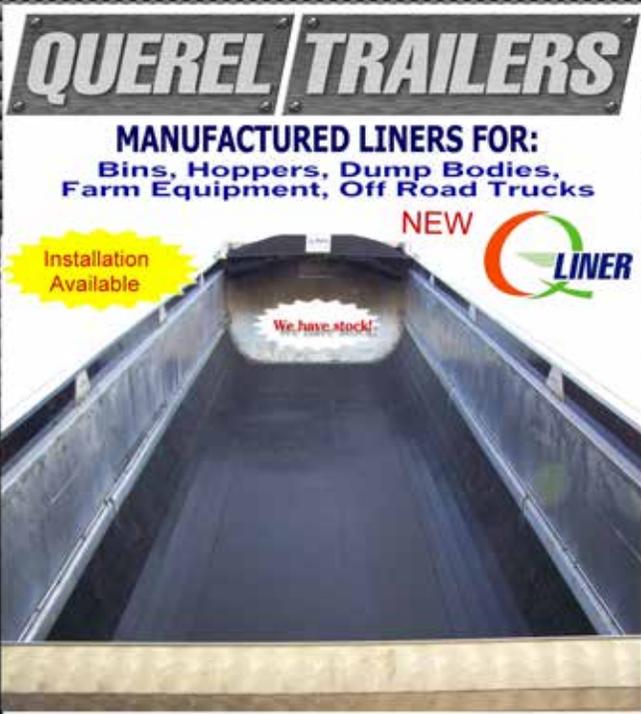
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Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Manitoba Infrastructure Project Awards.

Manitoba Heavy Construction Association would like to congratulate the winners of this year's Manitoba Infrastructure Project Awards. Presented by Manitoba Infrastructure Minister Blaine Pedersen at the MHCA Awards Breakfast on Friday, November 18, the following companies were recognized for their outstanding work.



Grading Category
Hugh Munroe Construction Ltd.
6.0 km west of PR 596 to 10 km east of PR 596



Paving Category
Coco Paving (Canada) Inc.
PTH 2 to 3.2 km north of PR 256



Special Projects Category
Sigfusson Northern Ltd.
South Indian Lake ferry crossing on PR 493 crossing the Churchill River to access the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation



Major Structures Category
M.D. Steele Construction Ltd.
Over Whitemouth River on PTH 1E eastbound lanes



Minor Structure
M.D. Steele Construction Ltd.
PR 445 and PR 257



Glacial Aggregates Inc



City Mix Inc.



Earth Max Construction Inc.

Congratulations to the 2016 MHCA Milestone Award Winners

Manitoba Heavy Construction Association would like to thank and congratulate the following companies on their recent milestones as MHCA members.

40 YEARS

Standard Limestone Quarries

35 YEARS

Armtec Limited Partnership
Crown Utilities Ltd.
Suncor Energy

25 YEARS

Engineered Pipe Group
Moose Jaw Refinery
Morsky Construction Ltd.
Mueller Canada

Ranger Insurance /Arthur J.
Gallagher Canada Ltd.
Westcon Equipment & Rentals Ltd.

10 YEARS

Bonneville Transport Ltd.
C & T Rentals
City Mix Inc.
Earth Max Construction Inc.
Glacial Aggregates Inc.
Grant Aggregate & Industrial Supply Inc.
Inground Construction Ltd.
Lakefront Restorers/5726841 Manitoba Inc.
Lopes Excavations Ltd.
Marsollier Petroleum Ltd.

Mid Canada Environmental Services Ltd.
Money In Motion
Multicrete Systems Inc.
Nelson River Logging Ltd.
Orica Canada Inc.
PB Industries Ltd.
Renaissance Transport Ltd.
Rob Smith And Son Backhoe And Trucking
Taranis Contracting Group Ltd.

Standard Limestone Quarries

Renaissance Transport Ltd.

Westcon Equipment & Rentals Ltd.







Thank you to the Sponsors of the 2016
MHCA Annual Chairman's Gala



Special Thank You to Manitoba Infrastructure
for sponsoring the Awards Breakfast



MHCA showcases 2016 achievements at Annual General Meeting, Chairman's Gala

The Manitoba Heavy Construction Association has welcomed its new Chair, Greg Orbanski, in style. Orbanski formally assumed the role at the annual Chairman's Gala, November 18, at the RBC Convention Centre ball room. MHCA hosted a dinner of more than 630 members, guests and dignitaries, including Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman.

The Gala saw Chair Derek Walker hand over the 'gavel' to his successor, Orbanski.

Walker thanked the association's 400+ members for helping to keep the MHCA and the industry strong in a challenging year. "I want to say that I have the utmost confidence in passing the gavel to our incoming Chair, Greg Orbanski, that the tasks at hand remain in solid hands."

In turn, Orbanski thanked Walker for his tireless dedication to the association. "This past year, in particular, has demanded a lot of time from our MHCA leadership, from Derek.

"Derek has made this association and our industry stronger. We owe him a debt of gratitude."

The evening capped the MHCA Awards Breakfast and the Annual General Meeting earlier that day, where Walker and MHCA President Chris Lorenc presented their reports. The Annual Report, which also reports on the WORKSAFELY™ programs and the financial accounts, is available to members online at www.mhca.mb.ca.

Walker told the breakfast crowd that the big files on the to-do list in 2016 included the change of provincial government, the increasing introduction of 'reprisal clauses' in tender rules by governments across the country, and the slow start to the 2016 construction season in the city of Winnipeg and the province.

The MHCA's timely work saw the commitment by the Pallister government to infrastructure investment of no less than \$1 billion annually, the commitment by Manitoba Infrastructure to remove proposed reprisal clauses from draft new public work tendering and contract rules and, in Winnipeg, the decision by the city council to add work to the end of the construction season, from any surplus and by advancing \$8 million from the 2017 budget.

"The association's successes and achievements could not have been done without the ongoing support of our members, stakeholders and supporters," he said.

Lorenc said 2017 is shaping up to be a busy year, as well. He told the members that the industry's interests are best served by strategic investment in trade infrastructure at all levels of government.

That agenda is being pushed by the MHCA, and the national organizations in which it is a member, through initiatives such as Trade Team West, which calls for infrastructure funding programs to focus on nation-building projects that connect trade corridors, inland and marine ports, air, rail and border crossings.

"Infrastructure – the work we do – keeps our economy growing. Infrastructure supports trade and trade is the heart of economic growth," Lorenc noted.

Lorenc said he has heard the MHCA's messages affirmed in the visions laid out by the Trudeau government in recent statements by the federal Finance and Transportation ministers. Those ideas include the announced infrastructure bank and Transportation 2030, which embraces all the foundational aspects for strengthening trade included in the Trade Team West proposal.

Full reports on 2016's advocacy achievements and 2017's priorities will be carried in coming editions of the Heavy News Weekly.

SAFETY TALK



Shoveling Snow Manual Material Handling

Winters in Manitoba usually means tons of snow! Shoveling is one of the leading causes of strains and muscle injury throughout the heavy construction industry in the winter.

Explain dangers

The following hazards may result in strains or sprains:

- Ground instability
- Twisting your back when shoveling
- Lifting heavy loads with a shovel
- Stretching to reach the snow you are shoveling
- Bending while shoveling or digging for long periods

Identify controls

These safe work procedures can protect you from injury:

- Face yourself in the direction you will throw the shoveled snow and stand with feet apart, with one in front of the other to improve stability
- Allow your whole body to help, instead of just your arms and back

- No matter the material you are shoveling, always try to “skim off the top.” Do not pick up more than 10 pounds with any shovel at one time
- Avoid stretching and reaching
- Always select the right tool for the job; pay attention to blade type, handle length, and grip of shovel
- Take mini-breaks after 20-30 minutes of continuous shoveling or digging

Demonstrate

Have the crew describe a few tasks where shoveling is required:

- Can shovel use be eliminated by mechanical means?
- Is the proper shovel available on the job?

Print and review this talk with your staff, sign off and file for COR™ / SECOR audit purposes.

Date: _____

Performed by: _____

Concerns:

Employee Name:

Supervisor: _____

Location: _____

Corrective Actions:

Employee Signature:



**TO REGISTER,
PLEASE CONTACT:
Kristen Ranson
kristen@mhca.mb.ca**

Training Schedule

**WINNIPEG - MHCA Office
3-1680 Ellice Ave.**

**BRANDON
St. John's Ambulance
Shopper's Mall, 1570 8th Street**

**DAUPHIN - Canway Inn
1601 Main St South**

NOVEMBER
30 Auditor Refresher 1/2 day PM (No Charge)

NOVEMBER
There is no training in Brandon for this month.

NOVEMBER
There is no training in Dauphin for this month.

DECEMBER
8 e-COR Account Management Fundamentals – Getting Started 1/2 day AM 
8 e-COR Creative Form Building 1/2 day PM 
12-13 **COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence**
14 **COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management**
15-16 **COR™ Auditor**
19 Flagperson 1/2 day AM
19 Committee/Representative Training 1/2 day PM
20-21 Traffic Control Coordinator
22 Excavation & Trenching 1/2 day AM

DECEMBER
2 Supervisor - Team Leader 1/2 day AM 
2 Human Resource Practices 1/2 day PM 
9 Written Communication 1/2 day AM 
9 Verbal Communication 1/2 day PM 

DECEMBER
There is no training in Dauphin for this month

JANUARY 2017
9-10 **COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence**
11 **COR™ Principles in Health & Safety Management**
12-13 **COR™ Auditor Training**
16 Team Leader 1/2 day AM 
16 Human Resource Practices 1/2 day PM 
17 Flagperson 1/2 day AM
17 Committee/Representative Training 1/2 day PM
18-19 Traffic Control Coordinator
20 Excavating & Trenching 1/2 day AM
20 Auditor Refresher 1/2 day PM (no charge)
31 Train the Trainer

JANUARY 2017
9-10 **COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence**
11 **COR™ Principles in Health & Safety Management**
12-13 **COR™ Auditor Training**

JANUARY 2017
16 Safety Administration 1/2 day AM
16 WHMIS 1/2 day PM
17 Fall Protection Awareness 1/2 day AM
17 Back Injury Prevention 1/2 day PM
18 Roadbuilders Safety Training System 1/2 day AM
18 Building a Respectful Workplace 1/2 day AM
19 WCB Basics (contact WCB)
20 Train the Trainer

 Leadership Certificate Program/Gold Seal
 e-COR training and information session

Construction Safety Excellence™



Year in review

WORKSAFELY™ Back to You with Don Hurst

WORKSAFELY™ is responsive to industry's needs. Sometimes because of unique contract conditions, companies require specific training on short notice.

Recently, WORKSAFELY™ received an urgent request to deliver training to one of our COR™ certified companies. Due to condition of contract, the Prime Contractor stipulated that all supervisors on site must have WORKSAFELY™'s COR™ Leadership and Safety Excellence training in order to begin work. Our WORKSAFELY™ team ensured that all supervisors received the necessary training on short notice, enabling the company to meet the requirements of its contract.

While being sensitive to the needs of our companies, and striving for our industry to be highly productive, we understand that these rare instances may arise. To ensure your company is up to date with any required training, WORKSAFELY™ also offers a range courses on a regular basis. Please see page 19 for training being offered across the province. Please contact Kristen Ranson at kristen@mhca.mb.ca for more training information.

KNOW YOUR WORKSAFELY™ ADVISOR

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To contact your WORKSAFELY™ Advisor assigned to your area, please see mhca.mb.ca/worksafely/know-your-advisor

REGISTRATION OPEN

Heavy Construction **EXPO**

APRIL 4 & 5, 2017

Victoria Inn Convention Center Winnipeg

Go to mhca.mb.ca/expo

- Early Bird registration closes
January 20, 2017
- Regular registration closes
March 17, 2017



It's time to get your rates in!

Development of the 2017 Rental Rates and Directory has begun.

If you know of any new rates that should be in this guide, please email them to katherine@mhca.mb.ca

by **November 30, 2016.**

Note: Due to publication deadlines, we cannot guarantee that rental rates received after November 30 will make it into the 2017 guide.

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Your invitation to the WCR&HCA 2017 Convention

Join the Western Canada Roadbuilders
& Heavy Construction Association at the 2017 Convention

Los Cabos, Mexico

It's not the Mexico you think you know!

Sunday, January 29, to Wednesday, February 1, 2017

JW Marriott Los Cabos Beach Resort and Spa

Convention features and highlights include:

- Keynote speakers: Neil Pasricha (bestselling author of *The Book of Awesome*) and Gary Doer (former Canadian Ambassador to the United States and former Premier of Manitoba)
- Four outstanding evening social events including the grand finale with entertainment by the award-winning Canadian Rock Band Trooper
- The AON Golf Classic at the spectacular Puerto Los Cabos Golf Course bearing the proud signatures of Jack Nicklaus and Greg Norman
- Accommodations at the luxurious JW Marriott Los Cabos Beach Resort and Spa
- An educational program that will address today's emerging issues and trends
- 4 great days of networking and sunshine!

Register now to be
"WHERE THE WEST MEETS!"

For all registration, hotel & travel information,
visit www.wcrhca.org

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE – December 9, 2016

Los Cabos, Mexico

January 29 to February 1, 2017

JW Marriott Los Cabos Beach Resort and Spa

www.WCRHCA.org

Proudly hosted by:

