

MEDIA RELEASE

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Prompt Payment legislation blueprint drafted OGCA, NTCCC reach agreement on proposed wording

A milestone has been reached on the road to addressing concerns over prompt payment for general and trade contractors in Ontario

The Ontario Caucus of the National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC) and the Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA) have drawn up a blueprint of what could ultimately become the basis for Canada's first legislation governing prompt payment.

"After more than a year of collaboration, we now have the groundwork for a workable piece of legislation that will see fairness from the sub-sub, to the trade contractor and general contractor and right up to the owner," says OGCA President Clive Thurston.

"This is a total industry effort," adds Richard McKeagan, NTCCC National Director. "This is great for the relationship between the trades and generals with benefits for all concerned. Prompt Payment legislation will help address problems in all sectors, up and down the construction supply chain."

Concerns over prompt payment are not new to the industry, notes OGCA Chair David Blake. "Payment periods throughout the supply chain have been routinely getting longer, creating animosity and frustration on all sides. This joint agreement will go a long way to address these concerns and ease tensions. It is a win for everyone involved."

Research shows there is support from all three provincial parties for some sort of prompt payment legislation in the construction industry, adds NTCCC Ontario Caucus Chairman, John Blair (Canadian Masonry Contractors Association). "Now that OGCA and NTCCC have agreed to what the proposed legislation could look like, relative to the terms and conditions, the Ontario industry has a good shot of being the first jurisdiction in Canada to introduce such legislation."

A joint task force of OGCA and NTCCC will present its recommendations to provincial government representatives in hopes of starting a dialogue towards ground-breaking legislation. Should the government of day agree to introduce legislation, there is still a lot of work and review to be done, OGCA and NTCCC officials agree.

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For more information or a copy of the draft document or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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The National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada

The National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC) was established in 2004 to provide an organized forum for Canada's national trade organizations to share information, resources, and to collaborate on issues that are of common interest to all. The current membership is comprised eleven (11) trade associations including: the Canadian Roofing Contractors Association, Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association, Canadian Masonry Contractors Association, Canadian Electrical Contractors Association, Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada, Interior Systems Contractors Association, Thermal Insulation Association of Canada, Heating Refrigeration And Air-Conditioning Institute of Canada-Contractors Division, Sheet Metal Contractors Association, Canadian Institute of Steel Construction, and The Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute

Ontario General Contractors Association

The OGCA represents over 200 general contractors across Ontario who build 70 per cent of all the industrial, commercial and institutional work province-wide, and the majority of AFP/IO projects which will include the Pan Am games projects. We believe strongly in creating a fair and balanced procurement system through the use of consultation between owners and the industry.