



October 5, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5K9

SUBJECT: Speech from the Throne Retrofit and Training Support Commitments

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

The Speech from the Throne outlined your government's intention to reinvigorate the economy, and fight climate change, through investments in improving the built environment. We are writing on behalf of thousands of workers and small businesses from coast-to-coast-to-coast that will benefit from this commitment to express our gratitude. We also wish to underscore the important role that we play in the transition to a low-carbon economy that will benefit all Canadians.

We are glad that Canada's pandemic response has put our economy in a strong position to move forward on recovery, and value your government's contributions to date, particularly through the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program.

The plumbing, heating and mechanical industry will be responsible for delivering the facility improvements that will help your government achieve its ambitious climate targets. At the same time, our member businesses will be facing unprecedented challenges in adapting to the pandemic and training and deploying skilled workers for this task.

For years, manufacturers and contractors in our sector have developed and built products that use fuels and water more wisely. As a result, many of the technologies needed to enhance efficiency in Canada's buildings and homes already exist. Over this time, our members have coped with disparities in building codes and equipment standards that make it more expensive, difficult, and often impossible to provide the most efficient systems to customers. Likewise, customers that may want to use the most efficient equipment or systems are prevented from doing so.

Our sector is ready to provide your government with insights that will help overcome a low level of interest from project proponents who encounter building code and equipment standard misalignment and from household consumers who face higher equipment costs.

We look forward to working with Ministers in your government, provincial partners, and municipalities to ensure infrastructure dollars flow to valuable projects that can help our economy bounce back.

We wish to underscore the long-term, legacy value that recovery efforts can create in our sector and across all skilled trades if we are at the table. Our members make business decisions about training apprentices and hiring new staff with an understanding of the costs, benefits and other trade offs that help their companies grow. They also help institutional, commercial, industrial and household customers make choices about the most efficient systems and high-quality equipment that meets their needs.



In order to meet these shared goals, we need projects on which workers can be employed and apprentices can be trained. Getting infrastructure delivered will take hard work from all of us.

Sincerely,

Ralph Suppa, CAE
President & General Manager
Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating

Tania Johnston
Chief Executive Officer
Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada

cc: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities
The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change



Founded in Montreal in 1933, the CIPH is a not-for-profit trade association that is committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 283 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents, and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, heating, hydronic, industrial PVF, and waterworks, and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$7 billion annually and CIPH members have more than 20,000 employees from coast to coast.



The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) is a national, non-profit federation of autonomous provincial associations working for the betterment and advancement of the trade and mechanical contracting industry in Canada. Established in 1895, MCAC is a vibrant and diverse national association serving the needs of mechanical contractors of all sizes engaged in such disciplines as plumbing, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, controls systems, medical gases, welding, and fire suppression primarily within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors.

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