



# PC Caucus Briefing

Presented by:

Brad Smith, Executive Director

Mainland Nova Scotia Building Trades Council

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# Our Mission

*The Mainland Nova Scotia Building and Construction Trades Council is committed to providing access to highly trained, safe working industrial-commercial-institutional (ICI) tradespersons. By forging partnerships with owners and developers, we are driven to become synonymous with sound investment and growth in mainland Nova Scotia.*

# Affiliated Unions



Included in the Building Trades are the following Unions:

- International Brotherhood of Boilermakers - Lodge 73
- International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers - Local 1
- Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters, Millwrights and Allied Workers - Local 83
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - Local 625
- International Union of Elevator Constructors - Local 125
- International Association of Heat & Frost - Local 116
- International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers - Local 752
- Labourers' International Union of North America - Local 615
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America - Millwrights Local 1178
- International Union of Operating Engineers - Local 721
- International Union of Painters & Allied Trades - District Council 39, Local 1439
- Sheet Metal Workers' International Association- Local 409
- United Association of Journeymen Plumbers & Pipefitters - Local 56
- United Association of Journeymen Plumbers & Pipefitters - Local 244

# Economic Prosperity



- The Building Trades play a fundamental role in the economic prosperity of Nova Scotia
  - Have a long established history and strong partnership with contractors and owners
  - We work on the front lines of labour supply and demand
  - The Building Trades brings an HR component that takes the chaos out of the industry
  - Proactively manage the supply of skilled tradespeople
  - Provide worker stability, and a ready skilled labour supply that responds effectively to changing labour demands

# Build Right NS

**MAINLAND  
NOVA SCOTIA  
BUILDING TRADES**

www.BuildRightNS.ca

**BUILD RIGHT**  
NOVA SCOTIA

An Initiative of Professional Unionized Contractors and Tradespeople.

WHO WE ARE   WHY CHOOSE US   WHAT IT MEANS   CONTACT

BUILD BETTER.  
LIVE BETTER.

**WHO**  
We Are

Expert unionized contractors and tradespeople working together to bring the best in construction quality to Nova Scotia.

[Learn More](#)

**WHY**  
Choose Us

**WHAT**  
It Means

# Build Right NS



- Campaign has garnered local, national and international recognition
- Collaboration between, owners, contractors and unions has been taken to a new level
- Example: building state-of-the-art greenhouse for local youth-run social enterprise Hope Blooms



# ICI Sector



- Construction is a key economic indicator and its health is an important reflection of our overall economy
  - The Industrial-Commercial-Institutional sector represents over 10% of Nova Scotia's GDP
  - An estimated 14,000 tradespeople work in the sector, and 11,000 of them belong to the Unionized Building Trades
  - There are 6,000 apprentices in the province's trades – the Building Trades have over 2,700 of those – accounting for the vast majority of construction apprentices

# Economic Development



- Economic development and job creation are vital to the Building Trades
  - Roughly 15% of the Building Trades workforce are inter-provincial commuters
  - In a province with one of the highest costs of living, Nova Scotia had the second lowest average weekly wages in Canada
  - Nova Scotia's construction sector's weekly wages are 24% less than the national average
  - We believe that by working together with government and industry, we can create more training opportunities and good-paying jobs right here at home



# Priorities



- The Mainland Building Trades have identified a number of priorities including:
  - Apprenticeship Training
    - The Building Trades have 2,700 apprentices
    - Member of the inaugural Apprenticeship Board
  - Enforcement
    - Two enforcement officers not enough
  - Provincial Tendering Practices
    - Need to reward companies who comply with regulations, not those who don't
  - Wages & Benefits
    - Higher wages are a key factor drawing workers to Western Canada
    - Roughly 15% of the Building Trades workforce, or close to 1,700 workers are inter-provincial commuters
    - NS has no "fair wages" legislation
  - Labour Representation on Government Committees
    - We represent 11,000 tradespeople it is essential that there is representation from labour on these committees

# Questions?

[www.mainlandbuildingtrades.ca](http://www.mainlandbuildingtrades.ca)

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