

Media Advisory

MOVING FORWARD WITH INFRASTRUCTURE

Construction Industry Roundtable:

Labour and Management Gather to Assess Current Federal/Provincial Infrastructure Spending & Strategies

Thursday, October 8, 2009 at MaRS in Toronto

WHO: Key stakeholders from Canada's construction industry, including:
Canadian labour, trade union and management representatives
Government – Federal, Provincial, Municipal

Keynote Speakers:

George Smitherman, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Government of Ontario; and,
Tim Hudak, Leader of Official Opposition, Government of Ontario

WHAT: Construction Industry Roundtable:
Infrastructure investment will lead to a more sustainable economic recovery. Construction industry experts and stakeholders will **review** and **assess** the Federal and Provincial governments' **current infrastructure investments** and **plans**.

Participants will examine the **status of infrastructure investment** and **explore any concerns** with the **roll-out** or **timing** of infrastructure and related **stimulus spending**.

The industry's **response/next steps/vision strategy** will be released following the roundtable meeting.

WHEN: Thursday, October 8, 2009 from 7:30am- 3:00pm

7:30 a.m. Registration & coffee

8:05 a.m. Remarks by The Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Energy & Infrastructure, Government of Ontario

9:00 a.m. -
11:50 p.m. SESSIONS – Will focus on five priority issues, including:

- Feedback on the roll-out of infrastructure and related stimulus spending
- Current infrastructure projects and investments
- Process to identify long-term priority projects and their links to other regional and economic development initiatives
- Streamlined approval of municipal Class EA projects based on conformity to Official Plans
- Ongoing asset management

12 noon Remarks by Tim Hudak, Leader of Official Opposition, Government of Ontario

1:30 p.m. –
3:00 p.m. SESSIONS – Recommendations and report back, conclusion

WHERE: **MaRS Building, downtown Toronto, Conference Room 3**
(SE corner of College Street and University Avenue)

WHY: This is a critical opportunity for construction labour and management to assess the situation now that infrastructure stimulus funds have been announced by both the federal and provincial governments.

Event facilitator John Butcher will guide the group as they explore:

- What has worked so far with the roll-out of infrastructure and related stimulus spending?
- What concerns does the industry have going forward?
- How can these concerns be addressed in future spending roll-outs?

The group will work together to identify and set priorities to expedite assessment and approval processes, create better procurement processes and train and employ skilled trades, among other topics.

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