



Upcoming Events

- **FeSKival | June 11-14, 2021**
 - SKCA is pleased to be one of the many partners in Saskatchewan's business community that is celebrating FeSKival; a weekend of virtual concerts celebrating local musicians and local food – packages are available here: <https://tourismregina.com/seeyqr/feskival>
 - Members have free access to the music portion of the event, contact us for the link at sca@scaonline.ca.
- **Changes to Workplace Safety – OH&S Webinar | June 16, 2021 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM**
 - New rules require onsite personnel with paramedic training on a jobsite of 50+ people, no matter the location.
 - Additional changes include:
 - Adoption a CSA standard for first aid kits.
 - Harmonized personal protective equipment standards.
 - Consolidation of three regulations.
 - Removal of seismic blasting exemption.
 - Renumbering of regulations.
 - Housekeeping amendments.
 - Special vaccination leave.
 - Register here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0dG5fvuIQ9GRSIZJZc_e_w
- **SaskEnergy Procurement Session | June 23, 2021 | 9:00 – 11:00 AM**
 - Presented by Quorex Construction Services Ltd., SKCA is pleased to announce this FREE virtual session to members:
 - Upcoming construction activity from SaskEnergy.
 - SaskEnergy's procurement processes in 2021, including vendor performance metrics and debriefs.
 - How to conduct business with SaskEnergy.

- More Information here: <https://www.scaonline.ca/events.html?id=133>
- **SKCA's Q2 Economic Update – Investment Attraction | June 30, 2021 | 9:00 – 11:00 AM**
 - SKCA presents the second quarterly economic session with industry experts and key guest speakers on what is happening in the Saskatchewan economy. Our theme for this session is Investment Attraction in Saskatchewan, and our panelist and presenters include:
 - Paul Martin - Chair, Martin Charlton Communications
 - Bryan Dilling - Director, Investment Attraction, ThinkSask
 - Joanne Baczuk - Director, Bsuiness Development, SREDA
 - John Lee - President & CEO, EDR
 - Valerie Sluth - Praxis Consulting & Trendline Saskatchewan
 - Shelley Thiel - CEO, CPASK
 - Mark Cooper - President & CEO, SKCA
 - More information here: <https://www.scaonline.ca/events.html?id=134>

Recent Advocacy Initiatives

- **SupplierLink Saskatchewan**

In May, the SKCA officially launched Saskatchewan's first ever construction-focused vendor management system.

It is a web-based platform that enables the buyers of construction services, wherever they are in the construction supply chain, to connect with the suppliers of those services. It was created to change the game for trade contractors, enabling them to showcase their services to any general contractor and/or owner, and only need to maintain one profile for one low price per year.

The system is also built to make the lives of buyers (general contractors and owners) easier too. The system will let them find new suppliers that they have never connected with before, to manage their existing list of suppliers, and to better organize and understand the data and information about each of their suppliers.

The system includes an ever-expanding list of externally validated data points, such as WCB clearance and COR certification. The system keeps these data points updated for suppliers, and buyers can rest assured that this information is accurate thanks to automated external verification.

Learn more here: <https://supplierlinksk.ca/>

- **Supply Chain Issues in Saskatchewan's Construction Industry**

We have been hearing from many members that ongoing supply chain disruptions are wreaking havoc on the industry. Whether it is lumber, steel, plastic, or other components, everything

seems to be difficult to order and get delivered. As a result, we are seeing major concerns about the timeline for contract awards, price inflation, and schedule delays.

We held an emergency meeting in mid May to identify opportunities to support companies and the industry as we all deal with this global issue. Members, designers, and owners alike can expect to see some communications from us shortly on what the issues are, why this is happening, and advice on how to best mitigate your risk.

- **Prompt Payment**

While we hoped that Prompt Payment legislation would come in to force on April 1 of this year, we are still waiting for final confirmation from the provincial Ministry of Justice on when we can expect the law coming into effect. There was a multi-month delay because the Government of Saskatchewan was not willing to provide financial support for the Adjudication Authority that must be set up to enable the conduct of adjudications.

Fortunately, working with our local association partners the SKCA has submitted a proposal to support the creation of the Authority that does not require any financial contributions from the government. We are hoping that we will receive confirmation of the approval of this proposal within the next month or so, with the idea that the legislation could then come into force by September 1st of this year.

- **Combatting Onerous Contract Conditions**

SKCA is working with a group of industry leaders on developing a series of one-page briefing documents that outline specific issues and propose remedies for addressing onerous contract conditions. Issues being addressed include excessive indemnity clauses, unknown (pandemic) conditions, soil and site conditions, non-legislated holdback, and contract award delays.

Once the working group has finalized the list of contract issues and developed these one-page briefings, they will begin working on a series of information sessions to educate various parties to the construction supply chain about these issues.

If you have examples of onerous contract clauses that you've seen, please send them to us at sca@scaonline.ca so that we can add them to the list of clauses we're tackling this year.

- **Public Procurement Improvements**

SKCA is developing a procurement guide for municipalities that will match the strength of best value procurement with the benefits of better local engagement early in the procurement process and with the practicalities of running a small municipal government.

- **Investment Attraction**

SKCA and the Industry Advisory Council created a working group to improve Saskatchewan's performance when it comes to this attraction of investment. In 2021, the working group is focused on building a strong coalition of other business association partners who wish to work on this issue. We are also developing a list of Saskatchewan's assets and strengths, and our liabilities and weaknesses, when it comes to investment attraction, all with a goal of positioning Saskatchewan to successfully compete for and win more investment opportunities.

Shockingly, Saskatchewan does not have enough certifiable and ready-to-use industrial land. These are solvable problems. The SKCA intends to be part of the group to propose and implement solutions, and to support the driving of more investment into our province. This investment will spur more construction activity, which will be good for our industry, and our members.

- **Strengthening Relationships with Owners and Design Consultants**

This year, in partnership with KPMG, SKCA launched the Infrastructure Owner Forum (IOF), bringing together public and private sector asset owners to provide them with a forum for dialogue and discussion about common issues, challenges, and owner best practices.

On the design consultant side, the SKCA is working with Saskatchewan-based architects to help them create an advocacy committee that can work to lobby on behalf of local Architects.

Stay Connected

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- Follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/3882157/admin/>
- Contact us to get added to our monthly newsletter mailing list: sca@scaonline.ca.