



ELECTRICAL
CONTRACTORS
ASSOCIATION OF
ONTARIO

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The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

April 9, 2020

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

RE: Leadership when most required.

I write to you in my capacity as the Executive Director of the Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario (ECAO), on behalf of our 550+ members who serve the electrical needs of Ontarians, and on my own behalf to thank you for your outstanding leadership during this pandemic.

From the outset of the COVID 19 situation you have demonstrated tremendous resilience, transparency, and candour. The manner in which you have addressed our wonderful Country with speed and decisiveness has served as a template for how we should all act in our communities. We want to applaud you and your government in its quick response in addressing the critical impact of this situation on the Canadian construction industry. We believe that your recent announcements on business wage subsidies and emergency loans will provide a good level of support to help those businesses weather this storm.

We cannot begin to imagine the myriad of interests, concerns, and outcomes that you, your office, and your ministers have had to balance in coming to each of the critical decisions made to assist us in coming out of this situation. ECAO members face difficult judgments during these times involving cash flow, employee health, safety, and security, contractual obligations, supply chain difficulties, and many others. For these reasons, and in light of the past emergency measures you have announced for the construction industry, we would urge your government to consider the Canadian Construction Association's recent recommendation to establish an Emergency COVID-19 Construction Reimbursement Program to help alleviate the financial burden faced by the construction industry.

Most importantly, we are extremely comforted by your sole focus of getting Canada out of the pandemic positioned to be even stronger and more united than when we entered into these tumultuous times. It is not the time for partisanship, and you have led by example. This is a time to band together our communities, whether by industry or geography, and act as one. Again, you have provided a clear road to follow in this regard.



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ECAO thanks and continues to provide our support to you and your team! We are confident that Canada will emerge from this pandemic as a more dynamic, unified, and powerful society!

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R.G. Aitken' followed by a period.

Graeme Aitken,
Executive Director
Electrical Contractors Association of Ontario