

To MCA Canada Board Members and MCA Managers,

As information, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance has released their prebudget recommendations for Budget 2020. The full report and recommendations are available online -

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/43-1/FINA/report-1/page-24>

Last year, MCAC and the Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating submitted a joint prebudget submission/brief entitled “*Addressing Climate Change with Skilled Trades and New Technologies*,” and recommended, among other recommendations, that the federal government increase the budget for programs promoting careers in the skilled trades with an emphasis on trades that will play an important role in addressing the climate emergency.

Based on our prebudget submission, there are some items of interest in the report, including recommendations 18 and 55, which recommend that Budget 2020:

- Invest in a national campaign to promote skilled trades as first-choice careers and provide funding for data collection of local and regional labour market information, so that all levels of government, employers, and other relevant organizations are able to better match Canadians with available job and career opportunities. This will also allow governments to manage future labour skills requirements.
- Create a green renovation program with a commercial building component providing fiscal support that would cover both energy efficiency renovations and heating system electrification.

Also of interest are:

- Recommendation 32 - Provide incentives for hiring, retaining, and training Indigenous workers.
- Recommendation 56 - Allow hospitals to be eligible for green retrofitting funding through various existing and new funding streams, including disaster mitigation funding.

While these are just recommendations for Budget 2020, it is positive to see there is momentum as it relates to the recommendations made by MCAC in its prebudget submission last year. To see the full list of prebudget recommendations, simply visit the link above for more details.

As of right now, nothing has been announced in terms of when the Budget will be released, but it is likely Budget 2020 will be announced prior to our meetings at the end of the month. As we know more, including any additional details about the Day on the Hill event, we will be sharing that information. As always, if there are any questions on this, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Best,

**KEN LANCASTLE**

Chief Operating Officer



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