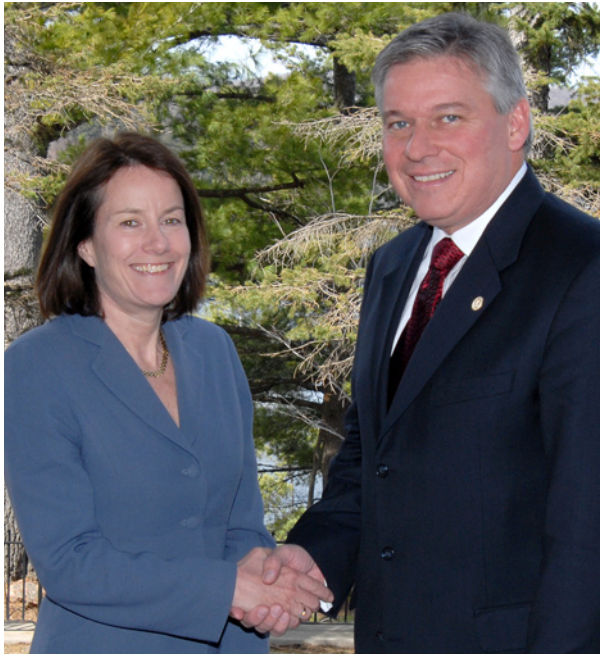




FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES COMMITMENTS TO CCA ON KEY FILES



Daphne Meredith, Associate Deputy Minister of PWGSC, and Brad Greene, CCA Chair of the Board of Directors

The 43rd Annual Joint CCA-Government of Canada Meeting at historic Meech Lake was recently held on April 20, 2009. As always, this prestigious event allowed CCA elected officers the exclusive opportunity to engage in direct dialogue with senior bureaucrats from major federal departments and central agencies to discuss areas of interest to the non-residential construction industry in Canada with respect to federal bidding and contracting practices.

Federal entities represented at the meeting included: Public Works and Government Services Canada, Treasury Board, the Department of National Defence, Infrastructure Canada, Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Indian and Northern Affairs, Fisheries and Oceans, RCMP, the Natural Research Council of Canada, and Defence Construction Canada.

Against the backdrop of the current global economic crisis the vital role of the construction industry in facilitating national recovery policies such as infrastructure development was duly appreciated. CCA was pleased with the discussions that unfolded on topics including the federal government's Economic Action Plan, federal procurement policies and practices, bid depository, risk management, SNC Lavalin Profac, industrial security clearances, cost predictability, public-private partnerships, environmental topics, and federal bid and contract security.

Most significantly, CCA secured commitments from federal officials on the fundamental issues of risk management and communications. In terms of risk management, PWGSC announced that on or before May 31st, 2009 it will submit a proposal to Treasury Board calling for a limitation of liability for contractors and that the Government Contract could be amended within one year thereafter. CCA is pleased with the prospect of this initiative which will restore equity in the Government Contract.

CCA was equally pleased with the commitment made by PWGSC to invite greater communication on issues ranging from the implementation of infrastructure programs pursuant to the Economic Action Plan announced in Budget 2009, timely payment under AFD contracts, federal bid depository use, and development of the *Starting Building Projects* document. In terms of the roll-out of infrastructure programs, PWGSC offered to engage CCA in this process through monthly updates.

CCA looks forward to working with the federal government in achieving mutually beneficial results through the realization of these commitments.

DCC Agrees to Continue to Use Bid Depository in BC

Further to the ongoing support of CCA for greater dialogue between the federal government and provincial bid depositories under the new federal policy, CCA was pleased to learn that the BC Bid Depository recently concluded successful negotiations for a new protocol with Defence Construction Canada (DCC). Significantly, the decision by the BC Construction Association (BCCA) to remove the Exclusion of Liability clause in the Rules proved instrumental in leading to the fruition of this new protocol. The waiver of liability will now be duly reflected in the Bid Depository instructions for the project in the Pre-Bid Interpretation No. 1 posted on the BCCA website.

Pursuant to the new Protocol, the first DCC Bid Depository is already underway. Details regarding project information have been available on MERX since Monday, April 27, 2009; the tender closing date is June

23, 2009, while the bid depository closes on June 18, 2009. Briefly, the project is advertised as being in the \$70M range and the DCC Bid Form requires General Contractors to list their selected Bid Depository bidders. Due to the on-site security clearance requirements that must be met by named bidders at the time of closing only structural steel, mechanical, and electrical trades have been named. BCCA and DCC have agreed that capacity for more trades to close through the bid depository will increase commensurately with the number of trades that can meet the on-site security clearance.

▷For further information regarding the federal government's policy on the use of bid depository kindly contact the CCA office.

▷For further information regarding the BC Bid Depository kindly contact Warren Perks, Vice President/Director of Industry Practices at BCCA: perks@bccasn.com

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

THE FUTURE STARTS NOW! 09

JUNE 24-27 2009
LAC-LEAMY GATINEAU, QUÉBEC

IBEE AND CCA COO
ANNUAL CONVENTION

This year, the International Builders Exchange Executives (IBEE) will be joining the CCA Member Associations' Chief Operating Officers for a joint conference at the beautiful Hilton Lac Leamy in Gatineau, QC. This conference takes place June 24-27, 2009 and offers a broad range of topics including BIM, LEED, Membership and Marketing, Architecture 2030, Human Resource issues and more.

Member Association COOs can register at no cost on-line at www.cca-acc.com/ei/getdemo.ei?id=24&s=3EO0P4PVW.

Register before May 22, 2009 and be entered in a draw for an IPOD Shuffle.

For more information, contact Robin Borne at robin@cca-acc.com. **We hope to see you in June!**

