

February 20, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

RE: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing this letter today to request clarity on the statements recently made by the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault regarding the future of road building in Canada.

On Monday, February 12, 2024, Minister Guilbeault stated that the Government of Canada would no longer fund new infrastructure projects related to road building but rather only put funding towards maintenance of the existing network of roads in the country. The Minister had later indicated that he was only referring to large infrastructure projects.

As you are aware, the Canadian economy is reliant on having a strong and vibrant road system. All provinces, especially Saskatchewan depend on our road system to get our products and our resources to market. In 2022 Saskatchewan reached \$52.6 billion in exports which was the highest figure recorded in the province's history. Without the ability to upgrade and improve our network of roads in the province our economy would falter leading to a decline in jobs.

All industries and sectors in Saskatchewan depend on our road system.

Our industry alone employs close to 30,000 workers, making the industry one of the largest employers in the province. When combined, all sectors outside of public services employs over 400,000 Saskatchewan workers. Those workers jobs and livelihoods depend on our road system. It is how workers get to their job, drop their children off at school and drive to a hospital for healthcare assistance.

We live in a vast country of regions that require different needs to make our economy work.

A resident of La Ronge Saskatchewan does not have the luxury of hopping on public transportation to attend a medical appointment in Saskatoon. Nor does a resident of Willowbunch have the luxury of using "active transportation" to attend a class in Regina in January.

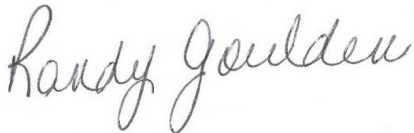
We need the federal government to partner with industry and work with municipal and provincial governments to build a strong foundation for a stronger Canada.

We look for clarity on this issue and further rational discussion on the future funding of road construction in Canada.

Sincerely,



Shantel Lipp, President  
Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association



Randy Goulden, President  
Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association



Brianna Solberg, Director of Legislative Affairs Prairies & Northern Canada  
Canadian Federation of Independent Business



Mark Cooper, Executive Director  
Association of Consulting Engineer Companies of Saskatchewan



Susan Ewart, President  
Saskatchewan Trucking Association



Keith Moen, Executive Director  
North Saskatchewan Business Association



Jason Aebig, Chief Executive Officer  
Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce



Tony Playter, Chief Executive Officer  
Regina and District Chamber of Commerce



Larry Heggs, Executive Director  
Saskatchewan Auto Dealers Association



Shannon Friesen  
Co-Chief Executive Officer  
Construction Associations of Saskatchewan  
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