



Annual Report to Western Canadian Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction
Association
Laguna Beach, California, 2011

Despite record levels of flooding this year within the province of Saskatchewan the economic forecast for the coming season remains positive. The members of the SHCA worked diligently through the 2010 to complete improvements to Saskatchewan's transportation system especially those tied to the Federal Infrastructure Stimulus program.

The Saskatchewan government has committed 22 million to help Saskatchewan municipalities prepare for the potential spring flooding. The program will provide 100 percent support for engineering to design flood protection works and cost share of a variety of flood protection actions from constructing berms to clearing channels and culverts.

After a year of record low revenue from the plunge in Potash revenues the Premier of Saskatchewan announced that municipalities will receive revenue sharing equal to one full point of the provincial sales tax for use towards funding of capital projects. The funding provided to municipalities through revenue sharing will be unconditional.

The province has also stated that they will continue to work within their 5 year rolling plan, however longer term capital funding will not be included in the upcoming provincial budget for municipal capital projects. The SHCA will continue to lobby for long-term predictable, sustainable funding for infrastructure.

The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is also moving toward the implementation of End Product Specification within the province of Saskatchewan and intends to pilot a few EPS projects in their spring tender schedule. The SHCA is currently working with the Ministry through an EPS Steering Committee to ensure the transition to EPS does not have a negative affect on the industry.

The SHCA has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Communities of Tomorrow in support of the Municipal Infrastructure Innovation Network. The network supports the the development of innovative infrastructure technologies and solutions that result in economically sustainable, longer lasting and environmentally friendly products and services. The goal is to move promising technologies and ideas to a market ready product or applied municipal solution.

At the association level we continue to improve our communication tools and services provided to the membership. We have developed and implemented a new governance model for our board strengthening our association's ability to serve and represent our members.

In an effort to build on our ability to work closer with government and better serve our members we've opened up a seat on our board of directors to the engineering sector to allow our two groups to work closer together.

The SHCA will also now have a voice on the Transportation and Logistics Sector team of Enterprise Saskatchewan. The sector teams provide a unique environment which government and private sector can work together to promote growth and sustainability through recommending policies and actions that reduce and remove disadvantages and barriers to growth.

THINK BIG Saskatchewan continues to be a success. I encourage all of you to take a look at our publication at www.thinkbigmagazine.ca . We have also revised our electronic newsletter improving both the look and the content of the information provided to the membership.

The association events continue to be a success and remain of great importance to our membership. We also continue to experience steady growth in membership.

Over the next few months we will be implementing some key initiatives relating to an overall communications strategy, continued enhancement of our stakeholder and government relations and increased access to a skilled labor force.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shantel Lipp".

Shantel Lipp
President
Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association