



March 27, 2020

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier,

CPCI and our Ontario members want to applaud you and your government for demonstrating solid leadership during this unprecedented health and economic crisis. The precast concrete industry is committed to assisting the government in any way possible to ensure that our province's workers and residents are safe, our businesses return to profitability, and Ontario's economy recovers quickly.

We want to thank the government for recognizing construction as an essential service earlier this week. A large part of our economic recovery from this crisis will be focused on the construction sector as an important driver of the overall economy. In addition to the 20 CPCQA certified precast concrete manufacturing facilities in Ontario, our industry is also allied with 5 cement manufacturing facilities and over 300 ready mix concrete facilities across the province, many of which are small to medium sized businesses. As an industry we feel it is critical to stay the course with existing infrastructure investments and to work with the province and municipalities to advance projects that can begin construction as soon as the health crisis subsides. With the retraction of consumer confidence and spending, the economy will have to rely more on public construction (shovels in the ground projects) to pull us out of this recession.

However, today we want to reassure you that the **health and safety of our employees and Ontarians they encounter during the COVID-19 crisis is top of mind**. We know that there have been recent media reports about conditions on select construction sites and we don't want these isolated incidents to paint the entire construction sector with the same brush. **CPCI members operate plant-based controlled manufacturing facilities, and we can't over-emphasize our commitment to ensuring that all of our employees are safe at work and return home safely at night to their families.**

We want to take the opportunity to highlight initiatives that we are taking immediately. While we have always made the health and safety of our employees a priority, **we are enhancing those measures so that they align with the most up to date COVID-19 related best practices as recommended by public health.** To this end, we are



participating with our cement and concrete allies on a cement/concrete industry health and safety working group industry across Canada to align our health and safety procedures.

The allied industry is in the process of **finalizing a comprehensive publication that will be distributed across our companies and provide detailed guidance for the operators of trucks, vehicles, heavy and mobile equipment, and cement and concrete producers/manufacturing facilities.** We will be disseminating this information widely across Ontario to labour and trade groups, as well as to the construction industry we serve. We will be working closely with our union representatives to ensure we are all collaborating in the interest of the health and safety of their members, our valued employees and their families.

Again, thank you for your leadership during this extremely difficult time in Ontario and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have about how we are working during the COVID-19 crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Burak".

Robert Burak, P.Eng.
CPCI President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J Hall".

Brian J Hall, B. B. A., MBA
CPCI Managing Director

Cc: Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure