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## RCCAO Offers Three Priorities to Build a Better Canada

**Vaughan, Ont.** – The Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO) is calling on the Federal Government to welcome more construction workers to Canada through immigration reforms, fill municipal funding gaps caused by the pandemic, and streamline regulatory processes to shorten the development approvals process while lowering compliance costs.

These three priorities were detailed in RCCAO’s Federal Budget 2023 pre-budget consultation submitted to the House of Common’s Standing Committee on Finance. Enacted together, these three items will boost the labour pool available to build up our communities, ensure stable funding to complete capital projects and repairs, and reduce costly delays that hold up projects.

“These three priorities are crucial to addressing long-term critical infrastructure needs that will serve Canadians and the economy well into the future,” said Nadia Todorova, Executive Director of RCCAO. “They will enhance the ability of industry to build critical infrastructure projects on-time and on-budget, while ensuring the needed infrastructure is in place to serve Canadians for years to come.”

Infrastructure lays the foundation for nation building and provides significant opportunities for economic growth, competitiveness, and improved quality of life. As we consider the population projections for Canada and Ontario – 57 million by 2068 and 21 million by 2043, respectively – and the current infrastructure deficit that exists, estimated to be as high as \$270 billion, it is imperative that investment decisions today carefully consider where we may be tomorrow.

“The ongoing collaboration of all three levels of government is needed to ensure critical infrastructure keeps up with the long-term demands of our growing country,” said Todorova. “Even with economic headwinds creating challenges, renewing and expanding critical infrastructure is a great investment in the long-term prosperity of all Canadians.”

RCCAO’s formal submission can be read on the organization’s website:

[https://rccao.com/government/files/RCCAO\\_2023\\_Pre-budget-submission.pdf](https://rccao.com/government/files/RCCAO_2023_Pre-budget-submission.pdf)

***RCCAO Executive Director Nadia Todorova is available for interviews.***

***Background on RCCAO:*** The Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO) is a labour-management construction alliance. Since its formation in 2005, RCCAO has been a leading industry advocate for infrastructure investment. It has commissioned 60 independent, solutions-based research reports to help inform decision makers. [www.rccao.com](http://www.rccao.com)

**Media Contact:**  
[media@conaptus.com](mailto:media@conaptus.com)

# 2023 FEDERAL BUDGET

RCCAO'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

 **270**  
BILLION

It is estimated that Canada's infrastructure deficit ranges from \$110 billion to \$270 billion

## Population Projections

Ontario in 2043: 21 million  
Canada in 2068: 57 million



RESIDENTIAL AND  
CIVIL  
CONSTRUCTION  
ALLIANCE OF  
ONTARIO

**RCCAO** Constructing Ontario's Future

## Municipal Funding

The Government of Canada, in partnership with the Government of Ontario, should continue to be ready to provide municipalities with financial assistance as cities recover from the pandemic.



## Immigration Reform

To address Ontario's acute labour shortage, the Government of Canada should reform aspects of the immigration system.



## Streamlining Projects

The Government of Canada should collaborate with provincial governments on innovative methods to facilitate and streamline infrastructure and other projects, such as advancing electronic permitting and approvals.



*The expected population growth in Ontario and Canada more broadly will increase demand for infrastructure in a significant and transformational way on everything from transit systems, highways, roads, and bridges, to water, wastewater and housing.*

— Nadia Todorova, Executive Director, RCCAO

## THE BOTTOM LINE

RCCAO is calling for a comprehensive plan in Budget 2023 that considers several elements such as infrastructure investments, a long-term pipeline of skilled trade workers, and innovative ways to streamline the regulatory approvals process. Taken together, these are what is needed to ensure that Canadians prosper.



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