



**For immediate release**

## **Trade Contractors Continue Push for Prompt Payment**

OTTAWA, May 18, 2010 – The National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC) continues to push for Prompt Payment changes on both a Provincial/ Territorial and Federal level.

On April 26, 2010 representatives of the NTCCC returned to Queen’s Park for the second time in six months in support of local industry wide initiatives suggesting progressive changes to lein legislation which, if accepted, will make it easier for trade contractors to get paid for the work they perform. The NTCCC started in the Province of Ontario largely because local industry had recently proposed changes to the Ontario Lein Legislation. These proposed changes in Ontario can be used as a template in other provincial/territorial jurisdictions. As a direct result of these meetings, the NTCCC will be preparing draft Prompt Payment Legislation for the governments’ review, which is now in development.

The NTCCC joined forces with the Building and Construction Trades Department to meet with dozens of interested Members of Parliament (MP) and Cabinet Ministers on Parliament Hill, May 11, 2010. This return trip to the “Hill” focused on regulatory changes to the Federal Government Contract Form to include provisions for trade contractor payments. Currently, the payment clause deals only with the relationship between the Federal Government (Crown) and the General Contractor, which seems to be unique to Canada. Suggested wording has been provided to government officials and politicians for review and consideration.

Prompt Payment is one of the most significant issues facing trade contractors today and it is important to understand that this is principally an issue in cases where both parties are satisfied with services, not necessarily in situations of disputes. During the normal course of business, a trade contractor carries substantial “upfront” costs and these costs have an obvious impact on all areas of their business when payment is not forthcoming within a reasonable timeframe. The payment status quo is clearly not working and, in the absence of a current and clear legal framework, the NTCCC is seeking changes that will ensure fair pay for fair work...something everyone understands.

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The National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada (NTCCC) was established in 2004 to provide an organized forum for Canada’s national trade organizations to share information, resources, and to collaborate on issues that are of common interest to all. Its membership is comprised of national trade organizations including:

- Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada
- Canadian Electrical Contractors Association
- Canadian Masonry Contractors Association
- Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association
- Canadian Roofing Contractors Association
- Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors of Canada
- Ontario Sheet Metal Contractors Association
- Thermal Insulation Association of Canada
- Interior Systems Contractors Association

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