

[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

## **Manitoba Prompt Payment Coalition Applauds the Introduction of Prompt Payment Legislation**

**Winnipeg, MB (April 11, 2018)** – Today, Manitoba Prompt Payment (MBPP), a coalition of 29 Construction Unions and Associations throughout the province, welcomes the introduction of a Provincial Bill introducing Prompt Payment legislation. Reg Helwer, MLA from Brandon West, introduced Bill 218, The Prompt Payments in the Construction Industry Act, and the coalition expects this legislation to find strong support across party lines.

“We have seen prompt payment legislation come to fruition in Ontario, with the passing of Bill 142, which is Canada’s first piece of prompt payment legislation,” said Brad Mason, Spokesperson for MBPP. “Now is the time for Manitoba to act and ensure fairness in our construction industry. Delinquent payments hurt the entire province’s economy while jeopardizing employment and financial security for thousands of workers in our industry.”

Trade contractors perform more than 80% of all construction work in Canada. There is currently no system in place in Manitoba that enforces payment procedures, and as a result, they routinely receive late payments. The adoption of prompt payment legislation will ensure that contractors and subcontractors are paid within reasonable timeframes, removing the uncertainty that can slow projects and reduce productivity. The federal government is also in the process of establishing prompt payment framework for federal construction contracts, and other provinces in Canada are looking to follow Ontario.

“We look forward to seeing the added economic stability and growth this province can achieve with proper payment legislation supporting workers, businesses, and families,” continued Mason. “We expect all-party support on this critical issue, and we hope to see it move through the legislature promptly, to join our neighbors in Ontario in leading the charge towards prompt payment across the country.”

MBPP would like to thank Reg Helwer for being a dedicated supporter of this issue for some time and engaging their grassroots organization. The coalition has been advocating for prompt payment legislation for the construction industry in Manitoba for over six and a half years, and are eager to see these efforts come to fruition.

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*Manitoba Prompt Payment (MBPP) is a sole-purpose alliance or coalition of contractor associations, unions, suppliers, general contractors, pension trust funds, who have an interest in seeing prompt payment legislation enacted in the province of Manitoba. Its purpose and goal are just that, to persuade the Manitoba government that delinquent payment is a growing problem in the construction industry and that legislation is needed to ensure that money flows as it is intended down through the contractor supply chain.*

### **For further comment, please contact:**

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