

BUILD CANADA NOW 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION

Key Dates Ahead:

- April 17, 2025 (7:00pm EST) – English Language Debate
- April 28, 2025 – Election Day

The following provides some highlights and areas of interest for the mechanical contracting sector.* For this purpose, only the Conservative Party, Liberal Party, and New Democrat policies are included:

***Highlighted text denotes an updated announcement**

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- *The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada has recommended:*
 - o *Preference for Canadian Contractors and Suppliers.*
 - o *Collaboration with the Canadian Infrastructure Council.*
 - o *The Use of Standard Form Construction Contracts by public procurement authorities and Crown Corporations.*

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	NDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1 billion over 3 years for infrastructure development to Ontario’s Ring of Fire. - The establishment of shovel-ready zones to accelerate construction - Repeal C-69 Impact Assessment Act - Creation of a National Energy Corridor to fast-track large-scale infrastructure projects - A central office to handle regulatory approvals across all levels of government for resource 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$5 billion into a new Trade Diversification Corridor Fund - Creation of a First Mile Fund to build transportation infrastructure to natural resource extraction sites. - Establish a one-window approval process for large-scale infrastructure projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require Canadian steel to be used in all federal funded infrastructure projects. - Favouring Canadian companies in the bid selection process, as well as suppliers and contractors with a unionized workforce.

projects; one application, one environmental review

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada has recommended:
 - o Identifying and supporting individuals employed in the “growth-critical” Red Seal trades that work in the mechanical contracting sector.
 - o Introducing a tax credit to help offset the higher cost of women-specific personal protective equipment (PPE).

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	NDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tax reform for travelling tradespeople: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Corporations only able to write off the equivalent of a commercial flight (charter flights to remote jobs not impacted) o Travelling tradespeople will be able to write off the full cost of food, transportation and accommodation - Reinstate apprenticeship grants of up to \$4,000 - Fund training halls that will train up to 350,000 workers over 5 years through UTIP - Create a rapid EI payout for skilled tradespeople - Work with provinces to harmonize OH&S regulations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase access to union-led training initiatives by doubling the UTIP from \$25 million to \$50 million annually; - Invest \$20 million for colleges to support new training spaces for apprenticeships; - Reinstate the Apprenticeship Service program to support employers in hiring new apprentices in Red Seal trades, with up to \$10,000 for eligible employers for each new apprentice hired. - Provide an Apprenticeship Grant of up to \$8,000 for registered apprentices - Provide up to \$15,000 for workers in priority sectors, including manufacturing, health care, construction, A.I. and technology to deal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promises to train 100,000 more skilled tradespeople

with economic uncertainty.

- In partnership with labour, employers and industry, ensure that Canadian workers impacted by tariffs have the necessary tools to advance their careers in priority sectors.+

+not yet elaborated on

IMMIGRATION REFORM

- The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada has recommended:
 - o Ensuring federal immigration programs target the economic needs of the Canadian economy, and specifically the “growth-critical” trades employed by mechanical contractors.

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	NDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tie immigration and population growth to a level below the number of new homes built. - Take steps to cut down on fraud related to international students and TFWs. - Cap the number of asylum seekers Canada receives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain caps on immigration until the country builds the capacity to bring in more newcomers. - Announced \$52 million in funding for 16 projects across Canada through the Foreign Credential Recognition Program, which would allow internationally trained professionals to get jobs in the health-care network and construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No target set; immigration levels should match the country’s needs and resources. - End closed work permits and provide temporary workers with open work permits.

TARIFF RELIEF

- The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada has recommended:

- A reprieve from Canadian countermeasures on construction-related materials and goods
- Support for businesses impacted by construction activity slowdowns as a result of tariffs and Canadian countermeasures

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	NDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicate almost all collected tariffs to a relief fund for workers hardest hit. - Removal of GST on all Canadian-made cars as long as tariffs are in place. - The creation of a "Keep Canadians Working Fund," to provide up to \$3 billion in short-term credit lines and low-interest loans for affected businesses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temporary removal of one-week EI waiting period. - Implement a \$2 billion strategic response fund to protect the auto industry and develop worker expertise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicate every dollar collected in tariffs to support impacted workers. - Introduce 5 and 10-year victory bonds to strengthen the economy. - Ban all U.S. companies from federal procurement projects and contracts.

HOUSING

CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL	NDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elimination of the federal GST on new homes up to \$1.3 million - Tie federal funding directly to housing starts, offering bonuses to municipalities exceeding a 15 per cent increase on the number of homes built - Implore municipalities to cut development charges by matching dollar for dollar (up to \$25,000 per home) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promise to build nearly 500,000 homes per year and create a new agency to oversee affordable housing - Elimination of the GST for first-time homebuyers for homes under \$1 million - Creation of a federal entity to oversee prefabricated housing construction; supply \$25 billion in debt financing and \$1 billion in equity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invest \$1 billion to build rent-controlled homes on public land. - Retrofit 3.3 million homes; provide 2.3 million low income homes with energy-saving retrofits. - Offer \$300 million per year to expand the Canada Green Homes Initiative

- The implementation of fines for NIMBY-ism (not in my backyard) for municipalities blocking construction due to resident opposition.

financing for “innovative prefab homebuilders”