

## About the Consulting Engineers of Alberta



Since 1978, the Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA) has been the advocacy voice of consulting engineers across the province. We represent nearly 10,000 staff employed by approximately 75 engineering companies.

CEA provides valuable business and industry insights to the Government of Alberta, municipal government associations including Rural Municipalities of Alberta and Alberta Municipalities.

We work closely with the Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association, Alberta Construction Association and other allied industry partners.

Our input focuses on collaboration, safety, procurement, asset management, and sustainable and predictable funding for the engineered environment.

Our expertise guides public policy to ensure Alberta's engineering sector supports ongoing education and training, labour attraction and retention, and economic development.

## Our #1 Policy Priority

### Sustainable and Predictable Funding and Procurement

Sustainable and predictable public funding attracts investment, drives competition, and provides long-term benefits for both urban and rural Albertans.

Growing cities have complex infrastructure priorities, including schools, universities, hospitals, utilities, mass transit, and recreation centres. These projects attract investment and labour supply and make Alberta competitive globally. Predictable, consistent and transparent funding and procurement make city-building better, faster and more affordable.

Rural municipalities are highly sensitive to disruptions in public infrastructure funding and more susceptible to long-term impacts from emergency events. Dependable and sustained commitments to public investment in rural Alberta support regional development initiatives and connect communities.

### For Alberta's Future

Consulting engineers are dedicated to planning and building Alberta's future. Through communication and collaboration with owners, consulting engineers can effectively develop long-term strategies for infrastructure operations, maintenance and development.

Ensuring the best outcomes requires a multi-year approach in planning and budgeting which is rooted in a commitment to predictable and sustainable funding for infrastructure investments.

### Economic and Community Development

Public leaders in all levels of government work hard to support our communities and improve people's quality of life. Over the next several years, these pursuits will be challenged by a growing population, increasing costs of living, unstable supply chains, declining housing affordability, increased labour competition, and shifting environmental regulation and investment trends.

Adequate investment in pre-project planning and design through consulting engineers aids public leaders in making informed decisions on high-dividend investments in essential assets, such as schools, hospitals, transit, roads and utilities.

These investments create jobs, improve quality of life, and increase Alberta's attractiveness to potential workers and spur further economic development.

## Prioritizing Public Infrastructure

- Consulting engineers are a significant stakeholder in the public infrastructure discussion; being at that decision-making table is critical for Alberta's continued economic development.
- We support alternative procurement and project delivery models to provide cost effective solutions to budgetary and scheduling challenges.
- We are aligned with other professional and construction industry associations to support greater transparency in the planning and procurement of public infrastructure.
- Prudent investment in critical infrastructure includes asset management.
- Consulting engineers can help government prioritize the needs and value of infrastructure investments to achieve the greatest return for our economy, jobs, and economic competitiveness.



## Value of Consulting Engineers

Significant concerns in public infrastructure often involve how to best achieve reduction in schedule delays and cost escalation on projects. Achieving successful outcomes in project delivery provides value to owners, designers, builders and the public. The root cause of these delays and cost overruns are most often the result of limited pre-planning investment, and underdeveloped design investment. Engaging consulting engineers early in the planning and budgeting process assists owners in defining the most reasonable scope, budgets and timing for their projects and programs.

Consulting engineers are experts who provide professional services to all levels of government in the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of critical public infrastructure. We understand how public sector budgets work, how to prioritize projects and how to work with all affected stakeholders.

We share government's commitment to cost-effective capital planning, smart asset and risk management, environmental stewardship, and transparent investment and procurement.

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# Planning and Building Alberta's Future



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