



Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating
L'Institut canadien de plomberie et de chauffage

A National Voice with Regional Roots | Une histoire régionale, une voix

April 21, 2020

Organized Feb 8, 1933

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The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

**SUBJECT: Stimulating the economy and promoting innovation through
construction equipment regulation**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed Canada forever. I have had the opportunity to connect with our industry members and public servants about how plumbing and heating manufacturers, distributors and wholesalers can continue to support health and safety. Our members have offered their support to provincial governments on providing supplies and building or upgrading facilities for treatment and triage in response to high case loads. I am happy to see Canadians coming together and am proud of how our sector has exemplified that strength.

In my conversations with business owners, workers and even members of your caucus, a theme has emerged—we need to come out of this challenge stronger.

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating (CIPH) represents manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, heating, hydronic, industrial PVF, waterworks and other mechanical products. Total industry sales exceed \$7 billion annually and these businesses employ over 25,000 people across Canada.

For our sector, coming back stronger will encompass a range of new changes. Most importantly, we need to ensure health and safety on construction sites where new products are being installed in new building stock or retrofitted in existing buildings. In either case, new technologies and systems could be introduced to limit human contact, whether through physical distance or efficiency of installation.

Our organization and others in the construction sector have worked closely with the National Research Council, the Regulatory Cooperation Council (Canada/U.S.), Natural Resources Canada, and the Regulatory Cooperation Table to expedite the approval of products and tradesperson qualifications that ensure innovations are quickly commercialized.

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The COVID-19 pandemic has revitalized interjurisdictional collaboration, whether it is between Canada and the international community, or between the federal and provincial governments. Over the coming months, Canada's economy will need a boost. It is critical that businesses who will be part of the recovery are engaged directly to offer guidance and advice to get people back to work and help increase investment. Further, our member companies can offer invaluable insights on how to keep workers safe and healthy in the full range of environments in which they operate.

I urge you and your cabinet colleagues to establish a framework for business and government working groups to ensure market barriers can be overcome. This will help businesses and workers get back on their feet, while bringing new and more efficient products and services into the Canadian marketplace.

We look forward to assisting your cabinet colleagues and civil servants in charting a path back to prosperity. I appreciate your consideration of this request in advance.

Sincerely,
Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating

Ralph Suppa, CAE
President and General Manager

c.c. Board of Directors
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Region Coordinators
Canadian Water Quality Association (CWQA)
Electro Federation Canada (EFC)
Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute (HRAI)
Industrial, Pipe, Valves & Fittings Council (IPVF)
Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC)
Natural Resources Canada (NRC)
National Research Council (NRC)
Plumbing & Mechanical Advisory Council (PMAC)
Provincial/Territorial Policy Advisory Committee on Codes (PTPACC)
Provincial-Territorial Advisory Committee (PTAC)