



March 30, 2020

The Hon. Bill Blair  
Minister of Public Safety  
Office of the Minister  
269 Laurier Avenue W.  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0P6

Dear Minister Blair,

We write on behalf of the members of The Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating (CIPH) and The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC). Plumbing, waste water, water heating and cooling services have been deemed essential to support healthcare facilities and other essential services to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

In the weeks ahead, the federal government may have to take more assertive steps to declare some sectors and services essential. We strongly encourage you to consider supply chains that makes these services possible when making your decision. In particular, if construction activities are deemed essential, it will be vital to ensure that businesses and tradespeople have access to the right equipment and supplies to efficiently and safely complete their work.

Collectively, members of CIPH and MCAC employ more than 70,000 Canadians and are responsible for industry sales in excess of \$25 billion dollars. As every Canadian building has heating, cooling, and plumbing needs, our industry has a huge role to play in furthering the growth of the Canadian economy. This service is vital to preserve for supporting healthcare facilities and workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada and total industry sales exceed \$7 billion annually. The MCAC is Canada's largest trade contractor association. MCAC works for the betterment and advancement of the trade and mechanical contracting industry in Canada, with offices in each province and 15 regional offices in Ontario.

We appreciate your consideration and all of the hard work you and your team are putting in right now.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ralph Suppa'.

Ralph Suppa  
President and General Manager  
Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tania Johnston'.

Tania Johnston  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada



### **ABOUT CIPH**

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating (CIPH), founded in Montreal in 1933, is a not-for-profit trade association that is committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 280 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents, and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, heating, hydronic, industrial, waterworks, and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$7 billion annually and CIPH members have more than 20,000 employees from coast to coast.

### **ABOUT MCAC**

The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) is a national, non-profit federation of autonomous provincial associations working for the betterment and advancement of the trade and mechanical contracting industry in Canada. Established in 1895, MCAC is a vibrant and diverse national association serving the needs of mechanical contractors of all sizes engaged in such disciplines as plumbing, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, controls systems, medical gases, welding, and fire suppression primarily within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors.

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