

April 7, 2019

## **Responses to the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association Survey**

### **Delays in Environmental Application processing at the provincial level is having an impact on aggregate supply. What do you propose to alleviate these delays?**

A United Conservative government is committed to ensuring that red tape does not delay economic activity in this province. We recognize that this is a costly and growing burden on Alberta businesses, and kills jobs.

Through our Red Tape Reduction Action Plan, a United Conservative government will cut red tape by one third to reduce costs and speed up approvals, freeing job creators to get more Albertans back to work. A few of the initiatives included in this plan are:

- Pass a *Red Tape Reduction Act* to measure, report, and reduce the province's regulatory decisions to be made;
- Appoint a Minister for Red Tape Reduction to lead the Action Plan and meet the one-third reduction target;
- Form industry panels to help the Minister identify unnecessary red tape in every sector of Alberta's economy;
- Implement a "One-In / One-Out" rule requiring ministries to identify at least one offsetting regulation for every new regulation created;
- Create a Red Tape Challenge Website at [StopRedTape.ca](http://StopRedTape.ca) to replicate the United Kingdom's successful Red Tape Challenge by crowdsourcing input from businesses, organisations, and the public on which regulations should be improved, kept, or scrapped;
- Cut red tape within government to allow the public sector to focus on serving Albertans;
- Move from a process to outcome-based regulatory approach; and
- Fight for an end to interprovincial barriers to free trade.

**The current Community Aggregate Payment Levy (CAPL) policy will be expiring at the end of 2022. What are your plans to further expand transparency and accountability for how those funds are spent?**

We note that ASGA has advocated for increased transparency of the CAPL, and seeks to ensure that municipalities do not roll these funds into general revenue, rather earmark those funds for community projects where ASGA's contributions may be more easily recognized.

A United Conservative government would seek to improve local government financial reporting by preparing an annual Alberta Municipalities Measurement Index so Albertans can evaluate the performance of their local government in comparison with others on such key fiscal indicators as the property tax burden, revenues, spending, and debt

**Aggregate pits operate very differently from mines. However, current occupational health and safety regulations treat aggregate pits as mines. Will you commit to working with industry to edit regulation to recognize the difference between the two?**

Yes. A United Conservative government is committed to reducing red tape and regulatory burden on businesses and will work with industry on how to address these costly, and often redundant, burdens so that businesses can spend more time and money contributing to our economy.

**Governments can be challenged by the competing demands of residents and the demand for locally sourced aggregated. How would your party resolve these competing interests?**

A United Conservative government is committed to community consultations and engaging all stakeholders to balance demands of residents and businesses. A United Conservative government would welcome ASGA as an industry partner to improve process and to provide policy recommendations.