



SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

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Bill 80 Disrupting Construction Negotiations

Bill 80 is already disrupting the construction industry. Last week industry-wide collective bargaining between the Saskatchewan Building Trades and the Construction Labour Relations Association of Saskatchewan broke down.

“The contractors are using the prospect of Bill 80 becoming law to put downward pressure on pay and benefits and to break with the very successful practice of industry-wide bargaining across all trades,” said Terry Parker, Business Manager for the Building Trades. “This is confirmation that Bill 80 will have a direct and negative effect on the pay and benefits of the men and women in the Saskatchewan building trades.”

Bill 80 amends the Construction Industry Labour Relations Act. The government of Saskatchewan introduced Bill 80 in March, 2009 without consulting with any Saskatchewan workers, unions or businesses. The government admits to consulting with Alberta-based construction companies and the Christian Labour Association of Canada. Government politicians have indicated it is their intention to pass Bill 80 in the current session.

The Saskatchewan construction industry believes that Bill 80 will lead to destabilization, take money from Saskatchewan workers and contractors, and send it out-of-province.

“We told the government that Bill 80 was bad for workers and employers in Saskatchewan,” said Parker. “Bill 80 puts Saskatchewan contractors at a disadvantage compared to their out-of-province rivals because it creates two unequal regulatory structures – one for Saskatchewan workers and contractors, one for out-of-province workers and contractors. Now we are seeing Saskatchewan companies trying to lower wages and benefits to compensate.”

“For some reason, government politicians are more interested in what is good for out-of-province construction companies than for the Saskatchewan workers and companies,” said Parker. “The Minister of Labour likes to brag about increased Saskatchewan earnings at the same time as he is trying to force wages down through Bill 80.”

Say Yes to Saskatchewan, Say No To Bill 80.

For more information, go to SayNoToBill80.ca

- 30 -

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