



## The SCC Continues to Advocate for Resource Development Projects



The spirited public debate around energy development projects in Canada reached a crescendo pitch in the second half of 2018. The SCC, along with other business and industry associations across Canada, continue to be vocal in supporting a number of high-profile pipeline projects, notably Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Expansion Project, Enbridge's Line 3 Replacement Program, and Energy East. The common thread plaguing the approval process for all three projects is a problematic regulatory process that does not instill confidence for investors – both at home and abroad. Saskatchewan's continued prosperity hinges on our producers' ability to get their resources to market in a timely and predictable manner.

The SCC, through its Environment Committee, continued its research and advocacy efforts that began in 2017 when the federal government announced it was

conducting a panel review of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. In April 2018 the SCC provided comment to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Environment, then reviewing the draft legislation known as Bill C-69. Bill C-69 seeks to overhaul Canada's regulatory process for major development projects by replacing the existing Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency with a broader scope Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. In addition, Bill C-69 seeks to replace the lifecycle regulator National Energy Board with the newly-proposed Canadian Energy Regulator. The SCC's response letter identified major deficiencies with the Bill as it was written at the time. The SCC letter made a number of counter-recommendations to remedy the Bill's many shortcomings.

In May 2018, the SCC in partnership with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, select local chambers, steel pipe manufacturer EVRAZ North America, and others attended a *Day on the Hill* in Ottawa to bring greater awareness around the importance of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project. It was in Ottawa where members of the Chamber Network met with government officials to advocate for getting this pipeline built. The

SCC also complimented its *Day on the Hill* advocacy work by circulating a fact sheet on the Trans Mountain pipeline project to members.

Fast forward to September 2018; the SCC published *The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project* backgrounder that provided an overview of the project and an analysis of then-recent developments, including the Government of Canada's acquisition of the pipeline assets from Kinder Morgan and the Federal Court of Appeals Decision to overturn Cabinet-level approval of the project. In January 2019, the SCC provided additional comment on Bill C-69 to the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources. The recent letter acknowledged positive amendments made to the draft legislation, but made it clear the Bill in its current form is not an improvement on CEAA 2012.

Discussion with the Federal Government around Bill C-69 and other major energy development projects are still ongoing, so stay tuned!

pipelines