

Local Area Politicians Tour M CON Pipe and Products Plant



*Marwan Tabbara, Raj Saini, Sue Foxtan
Kathryn McGarry, and Doug Galloway, President,
M CON Pipe and Products*

The Canadian Concrete Pipe and Precast Association (CCPPA) hosted an information session and plant tour for local area politicians at the M CON Pipe and Products plant in Ayr, Ontario in April 2018. Politicians from all three levels of government were in attendance, including:

- Marwan Tabbara, Member of Parliament for Kitchener South-Hespeler
- Raj Saini, Member of Parliament for Kitchener Centre
- Sue Foxtan, Mayor of the Township of North Dumfries
- Kathryn McGarry, Member of Provincial Parliament for Cambridge and North Dumfries – Minister of Transportation, Ontario

This was the first time that the CCPPA had representatives from the federal and provincial

governments together with a local mayor for a tour of a concrete pipe and precast manufacturing facility. It presented an excellent opportunity for all parties to engage and explore common aspirations and challenges, including the importance of infrastructure investments and the risks associated with poorly designed or poorly constructed buried infrastructure.

M CON Pipe and Products, Forterra Pipe and Precast and Con Cast Pipe are three concrete pipe companies located in the Cambridge and Guelph areas of Ontario. Collectively, they hire hundreds of people directly and stimulate employment in other local industries such as sand and gravel quarries. Workers are well compensated and these companies make a significant contribution in local taxes to their respective municipalities and to the provincial and federal governments.

CCPPA recognizes that all governments have limited resources and recognize an obligation to taxpayers to maximize value when it invests in infrastructure.

$$\text{Value} = \frac{\text{Performance}}{\text{Cost}}$$

The CCPPA asserts that the performance of all pipes used in drainage and sewer are NOT equal. Too often all the emphasis is on initial costs, while maintenance and replacement costs are not adequately or realistically accounted for.

The CCPPA sincerely thanks these local politicians for taking the time in their busy schedules to meet with our industry.