

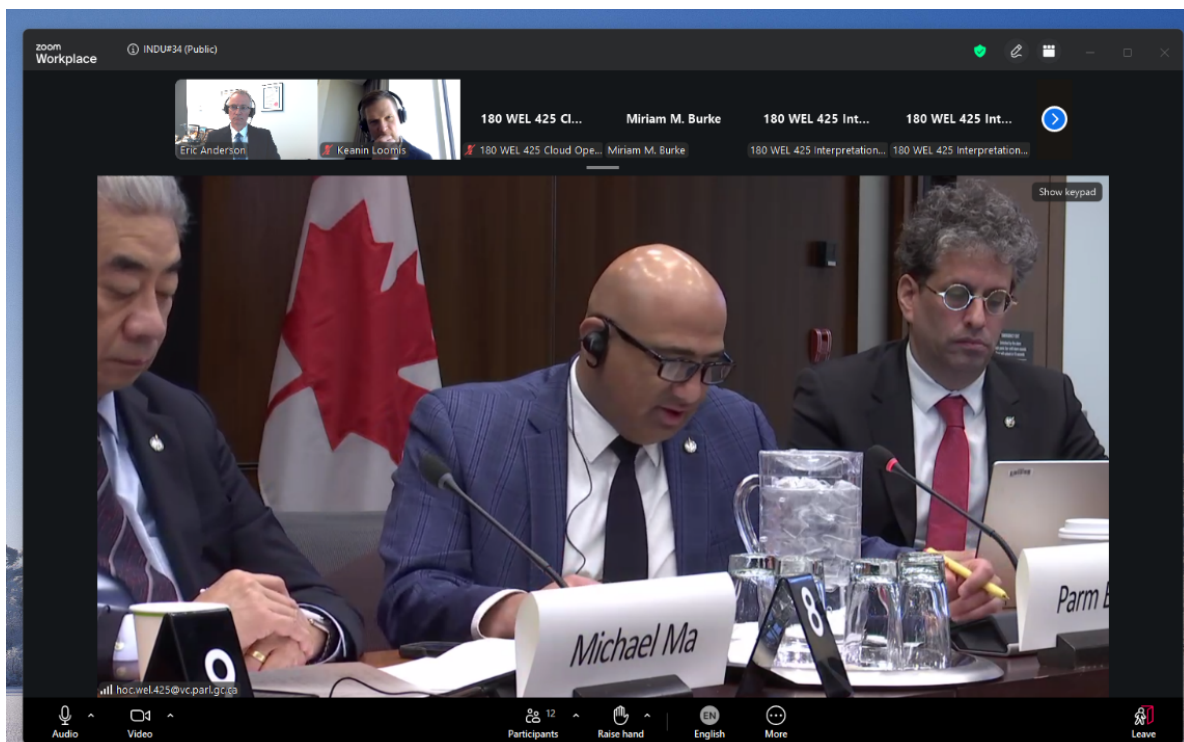
May 1, 2026

Executive Director's Message

SIMSA's voice is established in Ottawa – in fact, it's now a requested voice.

First of all, when I opened my email on the morning of Wednesday April 22nd (the day after the Food, Fuel, and Fertiliser event in Regina and the week after the Mining Forum), there was an email from Canadian House of Commons' Standing Committee on Industry and Technology, inviting me to appear before the committee in the context of its study of Impacts of U.S. Tariffs on Canada's Metallurgical and Advanced Manufacturing Sectors. I was to appear Thursday at 9:00 am (the next day). They also asked for my speaking notes that same day - and the event is televised.

So, I appeared virtually before them given the short notice. A link to the opening of the broadcast - my statement - is [HERE](#). The full transcript of my opening statement is in the "Advocacy" section of this newsletter.



How it looked from my end

During the question portion, I was asked about SIMSA's nuclear work and Federal funding. So, I thanked the Government of Canada for their great work which has largely insulated SIMSA members from the

current tariff issues, stated we build big things and supply chains – such as BHP’s \$18-billion Jansen project – asked for a Major Projects and Defence office be established in Saskatchewan (as we have done several times), and then moved on to what we do in nuclear.

Additionally, SIMSA has been communicating with several Federal Government persons over the past year or so. At the beginning of February, we had 22 meetings with over 40 persons in Ottawa, including numerous MPs, Deputy Ministers, etc. Several of these persons asked us to describe how best to do major project procurement – from the suppliers’ perspective – on a high level. This would include not only work in the resource sector, but also nuclear power and defence. This ask, stemmed from our work with companies such as BHP.

We submitted a major project procurement whitepaper, which can be seen [HERE](#).

The document begins with “Our members build big, and we build big supply chains.” We stated that as Canada strives to obtain sovereignty in and expand its defence and critical minerals supply chains, as well as embark on a significant nuclear power and major projects build, the question of “How do we do all of this?” comes to the forefront. We have the capabilities and capacity to build these items, what we need is the process to orchestrate the players. SIMSA is a model on how this can be done.

We then used the example of how we assisted the world’s largest mining company – BHP – create a supply chain for and then build the largest project they have ever built – the \$18B Jansen Potash Mine.

We stated that we have proven that to successfully utilise local supply chains, major project procurement must engage - face-to-face - with local suppliers at the project conceptualisation stage. In that manner, local suppliers can be designed into the project, and not be designed out of it via early design choices that limit supplier options. Then, as the project is developed, local suppliers must have frequent access to design, management, and procurement persons. This two-step process, allows local suppliers the choice of participating or not, based upon current and accurate information, and to participate. Finally, the thorough debriefing of unsuccessful bidders is a critical step, as it is a critical educational tool.

Finally, we noted that local purchasing in the resource sector, is the same as “sovereignty” on national items. Further, local can be in reference to within a province or a country.

So, SIMSA’s previous meetings with and visits to Ottawa, have resulted in SIMSA being a requested voice to establish policy Federal policies.

The 2026 Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum (MSCF) saw a record 3,065 registrants (up 18% from last year’s record), including and a record 836 people from Saskatchewan mining companies (up 15%); plus a 380-booth tradeshow that sold-out in less than 2-weeks; plus a sponsorship program that was awarded by lottery. See more [HERE](#).

This year’s MSCF also featured a keynote address by Premier Scott Moe.



Premier Scott Moe

The week after the Forum, during day 1 alone of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce’s “Food, Fuel, and Fertiliser” event, SIMSA was named several times from the stage for doing good work. The persons giving the shout-outs included: Premier Scott Moe, Tim Gitzel CEO of Cameco, Bruce Bodine CEO of Mosaic, and Evan Bray.

SIMSA’s Director election process had 20 applications resulting in 17 nominees competing for 5 positions! We are very grateful for the interest and support our members show in the Association. Voting is well underway.

The May 13 AGM will feature several announcements of interest to our members – some by us, some by others.

The topics include:

- the release of "The Impact of Extended Payment Terms" study that SIMSA had BDO generate
- an exciting evolution to the annual Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum
- a new financial benefit for our members' businesses
- a powerful addition to our member database
- revisions to our member fee categories
- a brief look at our lobbying results

Member's News

[WeldCor Is Evolving: Strengthening Our Structure and Indigenous Partnerships](#)

[Beyond the Microscope: High-Throughput Automated Indicator Mineral Analysis at SRC](#)

Advocacy

SIMSA will be submitting a “Prebudget Submission” to the Federal Government in the near future, outlining several items (more soon on that).

SIMSA participated in a great announcement and press conference, on how Prairies Economic Development Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan partnered to help Saskatchewan-based companies (SIMSA) prepare for nuclear supply chain needs. We are very grateful for their vision and support. You can read about the details [HERE](#).

Also, it was an honor to have the Honourable Buckley Belanger, Secretary of State for Rural Development participate, as well as Hon. Travis Keisig (MLA), Gordon More (SE Tech Hub) and Ivette Vera-Perez (OCNI).

And thank you for [Brian Zinchuk](#) for the photos!





Here are my opening remarks to the Canadian House of Commons' Standing Committee on Industry and Technology, when I appeared before the committee in the context of its study of Impacts of U.S. Tariffs on Canada's Metallurgical and Advanced Manufacturing Sectors.

It is important to note the broad audience and the potential use of statements made in public record. As an example, persons from the United States' governments watch and note these items, as well as persons from the Liberal, Conservative and Bloc parties participate on the Committee.

Mr. Chair and members of the committee, thank you for the invitation to appear today, to discuss the impacts of U.S. tariffs on Canada's metallurgical and advanced manufacturing sectors.

My name is Eric Anderson, and I am the Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Industrial and Mining Suppliers Association, or SIMSA.

We represent more than 380 Saskatchewan companies, that support the mining, energy, and industrial sectors. Together, our members generate over \$18 billion in annual sales, and employ more than 36,000 people.

Our message is straightforward: Saskatchewan has what the world wants, especially when it comes to minerals and metals, and advanced manufacturing. Canada is fortunate to have abundant uranium, potash, rare earth minerals, and other critical resources, and Saskatchewan is home to many of them.

Saskatchewan's advanced manufacturing and industrial companies are also hard at work, innovating and building in the nuclear and defence sectors, and many more.

The supply chain companies I represent, are essential partners in developing these resources. We work with the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, Indigenous partners, and the private sector to help unlock that economic potential.

We know first-hand how important the mining and critical minerals, and advanced manufacturing sectors are to our economy. We are working to ensure our members, and the people they employ, can fully participate in and benefit from, that growth. We want to do even more to help build a strong Canadian economy, a thriving mining sector, and a more economically resilient country.

When it comes to CUSMA, we are aware of the ongoing discussions and the broader trade environment. Many of our member companies, are closely engaged in their own sectors, and are best placed to speak to the specific pressures they face.

At a broad level, our members support stability, and predictability, in any future agreement.

We are optimistic that an agreement will be reached, but we are concerned. The companies with whom SIMSA's members work - the mining and oil companies - could be affected, if there are impacts to exports to the United States and Mexico. If SIMSA's customers, face higher costs or new barriers, it could trickle down through the supply chain, and the impact could be significant for our members.

However, we are concerned about the impact of higher tariffs on our members and on the supply chain. For example, several SIMSA members manufacture heavy mining equipment in Saskatchewan, using local innovation and technology.

If steel tariffs rise, that could increase their costs, and make it much harder to sell that equipment into the United States. In some cases, those added costs could make contracts uneconomical.

We are also watching the risk of new tariffs. At present, CUSMA-compliant critical minerals are generally exempt from new U.S. tariffs. If that were to change, there could be impacts across the supply chain. Those impacts are difficult to predict, but higher tariffs generally mean higher costs, and greater uncertainty.

There are challenges we face, but our members want to be part of the solution.

SIMSA's perspective can make our position stronger, and our voice matters.

We urge the government to work with SIMSA and our members, to ensure that supply chain issues and opportunities, are included by groups like the Major Projects Office, who are working hard now to make the Canadian economy stronger and more resilient.

I am looking forward to sharing our perspectives with you today.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear. I look forward to your questions.

Nuclear

NRCAN SMR Supply Chain Readiness – Phase 1 Validation Workshop.

March Consulting, in collaboration with SIMSA, is hosting an in-person Phase 1 Validation Workshop as part of the NRCAN-funded SMR Supply Chain Readiness Study. This session will bring together industry participants to review and validate key findings from Phase 1, including stakeholder engagement insights, analysis, and draft recommendations. The workshop will also include an interactive session to identify and refine case studies that will support Phase 2 of the study.

- Date: May 26, 2026
- Location: March Consulting LP, Saskatoon (446 2nd Ave N)
- Time: 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

This is a working session designed for active participation, with a focus on ensuring the study reflects industry perspectives and priorities.

In-person attendance is strongly encouraged to support engagement and discussion.

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SIMSA also participated at the CNA 2026 Conference in Ottawa at the end of April, including two panel sessions. SIMSA's nuclear specialist, Grant Cherkas, participated in a panel discussion on UK-Saskatchewan collaboration hosted at the UK Embassy where we highlighted our members' capabilities to the UK supply chain and invited UK suppliers to collaborate with SIMSA members to support the construction of UK nuclear projects. At the CNA conference we participated in a panel discussing our NRCAN-funded SMR Supply Chain Readiness project and the capabilities SIMSA members can offer to Ontario companies as Ontario progresses with the construction of multiple new nuclear power plants. The message we delivered on both panels was SIMSA members are capable and ready to work with Ontario and UK companies to support the development of nuclear generation and that now is the time to start the discussion on how we can help.

At the CNA conference we had an opportunity to discuss the effects nuclear projects have on host communities from an infrastructure and services perspective. Our members providing consulting services, infrastructure and materials should be aware of the substantial infrastructure development required to support the construction and operation of a nuclear generation facility. This represents

nearer term business opportunities. A source of information on host community needs can be found in the following two resources:

- 1) Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities: <https://canhc.info/#>
- 2) EPRI's guide to transitioning from Coal to Nuclear:
https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://restservice.epri.com/publicdownload/000000003002026517/0/Product&ved=2ahUKEwio98rA_peUAxXKOjQIHZIIcpgQFnoECCEQAQ&usg=AOvVaw2irh6iGnZqajE9UL0QI8o1



New Members

New members to SIMSA from the month of April were:

- [Adam Brad Welding LTD](#)
- [CIBC](#)
- [Siemens Canada Limited](#)
- [ELRUS Aggregate Systems Ltd.](#)
- [Western Fiberglass Inc.](#)
- [Driven Industries Ltd.](#)

Upcoming Events

Register for Upcoming Events [HERE](#)

- **Lunch & Learn: Honey Cut Studios - The RFP Edge Most Companies Are Missing – May 7, 2026**
At this virtual event, join Tara Mewis and Dana Olafson from Honey Cut Studios and discover how video will make RFP evaluators stop, pay attention, and remember your bid.
- **SIMSA AGM – May 13, 2026**
Our 2026 AGM will be on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon. We will have several items to present - each would typically be an individual special announcement. However, we are compiling them into one.
- **Lunch & Learn: Hughes Recruitment & Strategy Collective - Your People Problems Are Costing You More Than You Think – May 22, 2026**
At this virtual event, join Hughes Recruitment & Strategy Collective for a session on hiring, leadership, and retention in industrial and mining businesses.
- **Saskatchewan Mining Week Lunch – June 4, 2025**

Save the Date! As part of Saskatchewan Mining Week, SIMSA is pleased to be hosting a lunch at Prairieland Park. Speaker to be announced soon.

- **Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum (SSEF) – September 29, 2026**
Save the Date! The 12th Annual Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum (SSEF) will be on Tuesday, September 29, 2026 at Delta Hotel in downtown Regina, SK. This event is co-hosted by SIMSA and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade & Export Development.
- **Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum (MSCF) – April 14 & 15, 2027**
Save the Date! Co-hosted by SIMSA, the Saskatchewan Mining Association and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade & Export Development, the 19th Annual Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum will take place on April 14 and 15, 2027 at Prairieland Park in Saskatoon.

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