

The RSIC Presents ...

THE WIRE

From The President

Happy New Year to All! It was a very busy autumn within the RSIC. Lots of different projects being worked on. We are in final stages of having the new revised MOSP translated into French, will be for sale and distributed on our website as well as the IAAQ website via a link.

In Western Canada the Alberta members came together for a dinner meeting in Calgary late November. A great roundtable discussion was had; the topics included ranged from value for membership, safety, and working with local Colleges and Universities through their technical programs, seeing our members advising and mentoring on careers, detailing and technical items. We also had a great meeting with SAIT discussing many mutual concerning topics, especially keeping them up to date on our current requirements. Keeping up our strong trade show presence, the RSIC was well represented at "The Building Show" In Toronto this December; as well as exhibiting at Buildex Vancouver, Feb. 12 & 13 and the Canadian Concrete Expo (Toronto) Jan. 22 & 23. At the Expo, alongside our usual booth we will be running a seminar on GFRP, taught by David Wolf, Nick Crofts, and Gene Latour. There is always a good reception of members and attendees at both of these great shows.

I would like to welcome a new member, Jablonsky AST Partners, Consulting Engineers. We look forward to having them getting involved in the Institute. As mentioned in past newsletters, we continue to move forward with working with CSA on updating and changes with G30.18 moving towards 2024.

I would also like to reach out to you, our members for input on topics you feel we need to deal with, have guest speakers talk to us about or items our many working committees could be working on. Let us know please via email - rsic@rebar.org. The RSIC is also newly on LinkedIn as well, please feel free to follow us at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/reinforcing-steel-institute-of-canada-rsic> for regular updates and information of what's going on. That's all for the end of 2019, we at the RSIC hope you all have a great 2020!

-Roger Hubbard
President



From the Technical Committee

The technical committee has been nothing short of active and busy in the last little while. After the release of the first new Manual of Standard Practice in over a decade, they have not slowed down. They are not hesitant to have meetings, give presentations to academic/professional groups, and review all issues/specs in detail. Here are the highlights from the last 2 meetings.

On Nov 7, 2019

- Reviewed the comments about the latest issue of standard practice manual and agreed for some corrections. The corrections are only editorial and does not require re circulation of the manual. The changes will be applied on the on-line version.
- Discussed about recent concerns for the quality of hot dip galvanizing and reported a variety of reasons that could contribute to reported quality issues.

On Jan 8, 2020

- Welcomed new member Dan Bourdon from Gerdau. Welcome Dan!
- As requested by MTO the committee reviewed OPSS 1442 (Material specification for epoxy coated reinforcing steel bars for concrete) and identified some necessary updates and corrections to report back to MTO.
- Reviewed OCCDC Reinforced concrete reference guide and listed necessary updates for next publication.

For anyone looking for more information on how to join the committee; or for more details / updates, please feel free to contact Rick Dozzi.



THE WIRE [...Continued]

Article Spotlight: 2010-2019 Trends in Canadian Building Product Material Costs

The construction market is something that can definitely be described as constantly in flux. Prices on elements such as materials a labor are constantly changing, due to an infinite variety of reasons. To help us wrap up the decade; the following article shows the trends of pricing for various materials such as flat glass, timber, and of course concrete and fabricated steel products including rebar – over the course of the past 10 years. Only the concrete and rebar portions are highlighted below. Please find the entire article over on the Daily Commercial News.

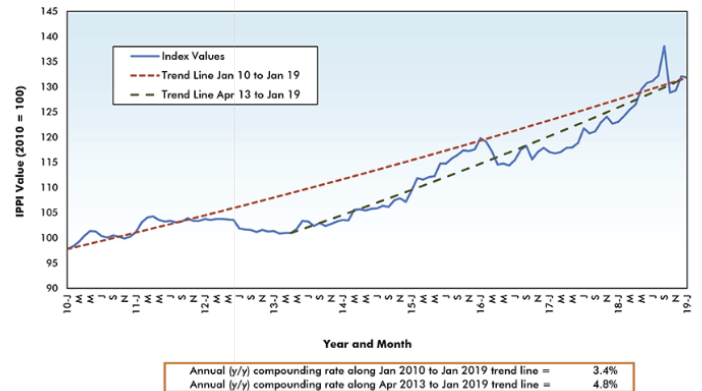
Carrick, Alex. "2010-2019 Trends in Canadian Building Product Material Costs." Daily Commercial News. March 25, 2019. Accessed Dec. 28, 2019. [https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/economic/2019/03/2010-2019-trends-canadian-building-product-material-costs?utm_source=Morning+Blueprint++Main+list&utm_campaign=d0756c79db-DCN_2020_01_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_64d312ddb0-d0756c79db-76880533&ct=t\(DCN_2020_01_01\)&mc_cid=d0756c79db&mc_eid=12850a9ab7](https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/economic/2019/03/2010-2019-trends-canadian-building-product-material-costs?utm_source=Morning+Blueprint++Main+list&utm_campaign=d0756c79db-DCN_2020_01_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_64d312ddb0-d0756c79db-76880533&ct=t(DCN_2020_01_01)&mc_cid=d0756c79db&mc_eid=12850a9ab7)

Fabricated Steel Plate, Rebar and Joists:

The nine-year trend line, from January 2010 to January 2019, for the Canadian fabricated steel plate, rebar and joists IPPI has been ascending at a +3.4% annualized rate. There is approximate correspondence with the closely-related U.S. steel bars, plates and structural shapes PPI, which moved forward at +4.3% y/y for the same period.

From April 2013 to the present, Canada's steel IPPI has picked up a little steam, +4.8% annualized. With the advent of U.S. tariffs on steel imports from Canada, and retaliatory measures adopted by Ottawa, the Canadian steel IPPI shot up in mid-2018, but it has since settled back down.

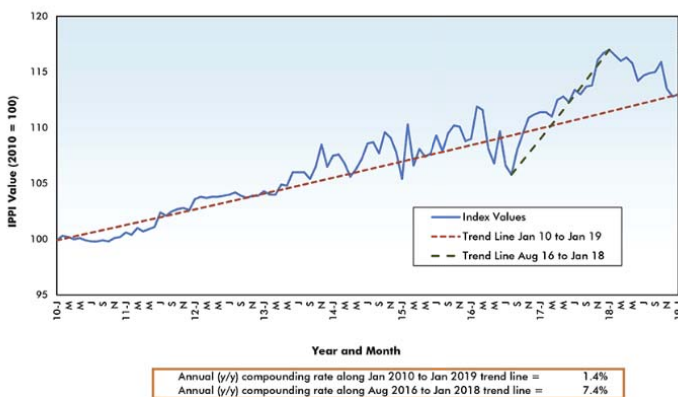
Graph 3: Fabricated Steel Plate, Rebar and Joists – Canada



The last data point is January 2019.

Data sources: Statistics Canada (Industrial Product Price Index and Raw Materials Price Index series – IPPI & RMPPI). Chart: ConstructConnect.

Graph 4: Ready-mix Concrete Price Index – Canada



The last data point is January 2019.

Data sources: Statistics Canada (Industrial Product Price Index and Raw Materials Price Index series – IPPI & RMPPI). Chart: ConstructConnect.

Ready-Mix Concrete:

Between January 2010 and January of this year, the annualized rate of increase of ready-mix concrete prices in Canada has been only +1.4%. (The comparable number for the U.S. has been +3.4%). While Canada's rate of advance has been modest, there was a period from mid-2016 to early 2018 when the slope of the curve was much steeper, representing an annualized rate of increase of +7.4%. But as happened for several other major construction materials, ready-mix concrete's IPPI mainly retreated throughout 2018.

A crucial component of ready-mix concrete is cement and Canada has been fortunate in realizing miniscule annual advances in cement prices over the past nine years. From January 2010 to January 2019, the annualized increase in cement prices in Canada has been just +0.8%. Furthermore, according to Statistics Canada, there have been no increases – and, indeed, some easing – since January 2017.