



OHBA Health and Safety Bulletin

September 2007

Keeping Members Informed

ONTARIO FATALITIES AND CRITICAL INJURIES

	2007 (January 1 st to August 31st)	2006 (same time period last year)
Fatalities	10	23
Critical Injuries	112	150

MINISTRY OF LABOUR -- BLITZ --- LOW RISE RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ---

Low Rise residential construction sector will be targeted by the Ministry of Labour during the fall season. Ministry inspectors will be checking for ladder and scaffold safety along with fall protection.

WSIB – 2008 WSIB APPROVED RATES FOR JANUARY 1, 2008

Rate Group	Description	2008 Preliminary Premium Rate (\$)	2007 Premium Rate (\$)	Percent Change
704	Electrical and incidental construction services	3.29	3.25	1.2%
707	Mechanical and sheet metal work	4.02	4.02	0.0%
711	Roadbuilding and excavating	4.55	4.55	0.0%
719	Inside finishing	6.75	6.75	0.0%
723	Industrial, commercial & institutional construction	4.35	4.58	-5.0%
728	Roofing	12.98	12.98	0.0%
732	Heavy civil construction	6.34	6.26	1.3%
737	Millwrighting and welding	6.32	6.32	0.0%
741	Masonry	11.15	11.15	0.0%
748	Form work and demolition	16.02	16.02	0.0%
751	Siding and outside finishing	8.90	8.90	0.0%
764	Homebuilding	8.80	9.22	-4.6%

MINISTRY OF LABOUR – EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS– POSTERS

Under the Employment Standards Act, employers are required to display the most recent poster prepared and published by the Minister of Labour in at least one conspicuous location in the workplace. The poster “What You Should Know About: The Ontario Employment Standards

Act” is available free at www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/es/pdf/poster.pdf . A simple print-out on legal-size paper will suffice for compliance.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR – OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY – POST COPY

Employers are required to post a copy of the Occupational Health and Safety Act in their workplaces. Ministry of Labour has revised and released a new issue of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Construction Projects, October 2006. Available from CSAO (\$16.00 plus GST).

Contact the CSAO at 1(800) 781-CSAO (2726) or www.csa.org .

MINISTRY OF TRAINING, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES – COMPULSORY CERTIFICATION REVIEW

Mr. Tim Armstrong has been appointed Special Advisor to the Minister to conduct a review of the current compulsory certification in skilled trades and determine if expanding the current list of compulsory certified trades would benefit apprenticeship completion, health and safety, consumer protection along with the potential economic impact

Compulsory certification means that only certified skilled workers or registered apprentices can work in that trade - as opposed to voluntary certification, where it is left up to individual employers, workers and consumers to determine the level of training required to do the work. Currently, 21 of the more than 140 skilled trades in Ontario that involve apprenticeship require compulsory certification. Specific to residential construction the following 6 trades require compulsory certification:

- Electrician
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic
- Plumber
- Steamfitter
- Hoisting Engineer (crane operator)

OHBA will be actively consulting with our 31 local associations through the Training and Education Committee, however, with Health and Safety as an area of review, members interested in discussing the merits of compulsory certification as it relates to the safety of projects are asked to contact Joe Vaccaro, OHBA Director - Public Affairs.

THE BULLETIN - KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED

The Bulletin is not a comprehensive document, but the Committee believes you will find value in receiving regular updates to health and safety related issues that will affect the residential construction industry and your business.

E-SCRIPTION LIST

The Bulletin is automatically distributed to all 30 local associations. Individual Members can be added to the e-scription list by request through email to healthandsafety@ohba.ca .