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WSIB PUBLICATION OF 2023 RATE INFORMATION DELAYED

In a news release on October 20th the WSIB announced information about 2023 employer premium rates. The same information was posted on the WSIB's website on the same day.

<https://www.wsib.ca/en/2023premiumrates#:~:text=2023%20premium%20rates%20%7C%20WSIB%202023%20premium%20rates,help%20Ontario%20businesses%20recover%20from%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.>

Here's what you need to know:

- The average premium rate for 2023 is \$1.30 per \$100 of payroll, the same average premium rate as in 2022
- In recent years, premium rates for the next year were announced at the WSIB's Annual General Meeting about a month earlier, in mid September.
- Now that the UFL has been eliminated and the UFL charge is no longer necessary, WSIB premiums are made up of only two components, the cost of new injuries (which is based on actuarial calculations) and the WSIB's administrative costs (including its legislative obligations). It's believed that the cost of new injuries for 2023 inched up slightly and will be offset by administrative savings
- The calculation of the Maximum Insurable Earnings Ceiling is prescribed in the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act and is based upon the Average Industrial Wage as determined by Statistics Canada in June of each year. It was held artificially low by a special amendment in 2021 and 2022. For 2023 the MIE ceiling will increase from \$100,422 in 2022 to \$110,000, an increase of 9.5%. This could mean higher total premiums payable for employers who employ high wage-earning workers such as workers in construction, even if employers' premium rates remain the same or are even lower than in the previous year

Construction class rates for 2023 are down from 2022. Here are the published class rates for the six construction classes:

- G1 Residential Building Construction in 2023 will be \$2.47
- G 2 Infrastructure Construction in 2023 will be \$1.81
- G3 Foundation, Structure and Building Exterior Construction in 2023 will be \$3.60
- G4 Building Equipment Construction in 2023 will be \$1.50
- G 5 Specialty Trades Construction in 2023 will be \$2.16
- G 6 Non-Residential Building Construction in 2023 will be \$1.55

- One of the features of the Rate Framework features is centric rates which are based largely on an individual employer's risk profile and experience. The distribution of all the employers in a class around the class average rates, i.e. how many employers are above the class average and how many are below, is not known. It's also not known how many employers in each class will experience rate increases and decreases
- The WSIB is transitioning to the Rate Framework, the new rate setting model developed after years of stakeholder consultation and initiated in 2020 but interrupted by the pandemic. Employers whose premiums are projected to increase because of their own individual risk and experience and/or that of their class, could see a rate increase of up to 10% for 2023. Employers whose premiums are projected to decrease will have that decrease applied to their rate.
- On or after November 1, 2022, employers can learn their own 2023 premium rates by logging on to their own WSIB account online

STATS CANADA'S ANALYSIS OF LABOUR SHORTAGE RESEARCH – CHALLENGES AHEAD FOR CONSTRUCTION

Here are the headlines from Statistics Canada's June 2022 Brief on the challenges in the country's labour market:

- Shortage of labour remains the leading obstacle expected by businesses across Canada
- Businesses with more employees are more likely to expect a shortage of labour to be an obstacle over the next three months
- Recruiting and retaining skilled labour expected to continue to be challenges
- Majority of businesses expecting labour challenges also find recruiting and retaining staff more challenging than 12 months ago
- Management and existing staff anticipated to work more hours by businesses with expected labour challenges
- Many businesses expect inflation to be a bigger issue when discussing wage increases

For the full story, click on the following link: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-621-m/11-621-m2022011-eng.htm>



COCA's Construction Day at Queens Park

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

MINISTER ANNOUNCES DIGITAL LOG BOOKS, CAREER FAIRS & NEW STO LOGO



At an event at Oriole Landscaping in East York on the morning of October 18th, Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Monte McNaughton, announced a series of multi-day job fairs for students in grades 7 through 12. The job fairs under the name "Level Up!" are designed to put a spotlight on the province's 144 apprenticeable trades and to drum up interest in them among students. The first job fair will be held in Mississauga October 25 to 27. Others are scheduled for London, Sudbury, Ottawa and Thunder Bay.

At the same event Minister McNaughton announced the introduction of digital log books that will allow apprentices to track their progress electronically rather than on a paper record.

Also on display at Oriole Landscaping was Skilled Trades Ontario's attractive new logo, the product of months of work by the province's new agency for apprenticeship.

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES BILL TO INCREASE HOUSING SUPPLY

On October 26 the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark, introduced Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act 2022 to support the goal of building 1.5 million new homes in the province in the next 10 years. The Bill amends ten statutes to remove or reduce barriers to new home construction and streamline approval processes to reduce delays.

The Bill amends the following statutes:

- City of Toronto Act, 2006
- Conservation Authorities Act
- Development Charges Act, 1997
- Municipal Act, 2001
- New Home Construction Licensing Act 2017
- Ontario Heritage Act
- Ontario Land Tribunal Act, 2021
- Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012
- Planning Act
- Supporting Growth and Housing in York and Durham Regions Act, 2022

About 30 consultations are planned around the implementations of these proposals.

The Bill and an explanation of the various amendments is available by clicking on the following link: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-43/session-1/bill-23>

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR – NEAR TERM

MPPs reconvened in the Legislative Chamber at Queen’s Park on Tuesday, October 25th. They will sit (Mondays to Thursdays) until Thursday, November 3rd when they will break for a constituency week. (Constituency weeks are the perfect time for construction associations to schedule meetings with their local MPPs to discuss issues under the prevue of the Province.) They will reconvene again on Monday, November 14th and sit until Thursday, December 8th when they will adjourn for their winter break. The 2023 spring session is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, February 21.

October/octobre							November/novembre							December/décembre						
Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam	Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam	Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

Dates on which the House may meet pursuant to the Standing Orders / Dates à prévoir pour l'Assemblée conformément au Règlement

NDP NOMINATES CANDIDATE FOR HAMILTON CENTRE BY-ELECTION

Sara Jama will be acclaimed as the NDP’s candidate in the yet-to-be-scheduled by election in the provincial electoral district of Hamilton Centre. The by election was caused by the resignation of Andrea Horwath who served as the riding’s MPP since 2004, was re-elected in the June 2, 2022 general election, led the NDP since 2009 and through four general elections achieving official opposition status in 2018 and 2022.

- Here's what has been reported about Jama:
- She is a 28 year old, Black, disabled caregiver and renter in downtown Hamilton
- She grew up using the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- She is a firebrand disability activist
- Among her many activist demonstrations, she stayed in an encampment in front of Hamilton City Hall, placed a coffin in front of the mayor’s home and painted “Defund the Police” on Main Street