

Acoustical Association Ontario

Volume 11 Issue 8 August 2016

Provincial in scope

Provincial in outlook

Executive Director's Report

PROMPT PAYMENT AND TONY DEAN UPDATE

The delay continues in the release of the Reynolds Report.

We were informed after the report was submitted to the government on May 2nd that there would be a delay due to the report having to be translated into French before it could be made public. Then on June 13th there was the cabinet shuffle that resulted in two new cabinet ministers responsible for the report and further delay. But that was a month and a half ago. One would think that the new ministers and staff have had sufficient time to review the files.

The new Attorney General Yasir Naqvi, however, is familiar with the file and in fact has spoken out earlier in favour of prompt payment legislation. His new chief of staff, David Phillips, is now on the job and has become familiar with the Reynolds Report. The Senior Policy Advisor of the Attorney General who was responsible for the Reynolds Report, Delia Greco, remains in place.

On July 25th a group from PPO met with David Phillips and Delia Greco at the offices of the Ministry of the Attorney General. This was PPO's second meeting with representatives of the Attorney General's Office since they received the report from Bruce Reynolds and Sharon Vogel, on May 2nd. PPO went to this meeting in good faith, believing that Attorney General's Office might shed some light on the release of the Construction Lien Act (CLA) Review Report. PPO has written a number of letters to Ministers Meilleur, Naqvi and Chiarelli over the last few weeks with no response.

The message they received from David Phillips was that the CLA Review Report was important to Minister Naqvi, but there are a number of legislative issues that are of a greater priority. To confirm, the Ministry had no release date to announce. PPO made it clear in the meeting that there is a high level of dissatisfaction and strong sense of be-trayal in the industry by the Ministry's clear lack of transparency and reneging of the promise for a "prompt" release. PPO is calling a meeting of all members on Thursday September 29, 2016. The meeting will be to discuss PPO's strategy for moving its agenda forward.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR (MOL) UPDATE

Ladder Use

A change to the requirements regarding the use of a ladder under section 80 should be noted as follows:

80. (1) A portable ladder at a project shall be manufactured and shall meet the design, performance, test and marking requirements of a Grade 1, Grade 1A or Grade 1AA ladder in the CSA Standard Z11-12, Portable Ladders. O. Reg. 345/15, s. 13.

Hot Weather Continues

To date, we continue to have an extremely warm summer. For this summer, remember WRS.



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Executive Director's Report (continued) UPCOMING AUGUST 2016 EVENTS IHSA Open Forum on MOL Proposed Construction Health and Safety Training (CHST) for all Construction Workers August 3, 2016 (Paul Gunning attending) MOL Prevention Office - Task Group for Workplace Participation and Supervisors August 11, 2016 (Paul Gunning attending) **UPCOMING Mathews Dinsdale Seminars/Webinars** Copy the following URL to your browser to register for new sessions or review archived session videos: http://www.mathewsdinsdale.com (see right side) OHSA Bill 132 - OHS and Human Resources Implications Tue September 13, 2016 Due Diligence for Managers and Supervisors Wed September 28, 2016 Medical Terminology & Disability Management for Non-Medical Professionals Thu November 17, 2016 WSIB Rate Framework Claims Management I & II Tue October 25, 2016 Thur November 3, 2016 Remember to mark this date!

AAO's AGM and Conference September 20 to September 22, 2016 **Caesars Windsor**

If you have any questions, please call me at 519-671-5930.

Paul Gunning

The Mathews Dinsdale Minute

This month we are going to ask how many of you have turned your mind to the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act? If you haven't, don't feel bad. This piece of Ontario Legislation became effective May 1, 2016, and requires the provincial government and the "broader public sector" (municipalities, hospitals, school boards, etc.) to commit to long term planning on infrastructure investment, construction and maintenance. This all sounds good right.

However, some later portions of the legislation create requirements with respect to procurement for construction and maintenance.

Specifically, the Act requires any bidder, at the time of submitting a bid on an infrastructure construction or maintenance contract, to provide a "commitment respecting the intended use of apprentices" in the work if successful in the bidding. The legislation goes on to require the successful bidder to submit a plan that includes the following information:

- the number of apprentices the bidder intends to employ in each trade; and a.
- b. the methods the bidder intends to use to support the apprentices completing their apprenticeships; and
- the methods by which the bidder intends to create employment opportunities from the infrastructure or maintenance work for C. apprentices who are women, aboriginal persons, newcomers to Ontario, at-risk youth, veterans and residents of the community where the infrastructure asset is located.

The most obvious question that arises is this: if you are obliged to the hiring hall, how can you control whether apprenticeship opportunities meet the criteria in category (c) above? Is it enough for the Local Union to have a plan in place for encouraging apprenticeships for these groups? While public money is certainly fueling large amounts of work being done in

Ontario, these restrictions are obviously going to complicate things for the actual employers doing the work. Are you prepared for the next bid you have where these requirements arise?



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