



Acoustical Association Ontario

Provincial in scope ...

Provincial in outlook

Volume 12 Issue 10, October, 2017

Executive Director's Report

UPDATE

BILL 142 CONSTRUCTION LIEN AMENDMENT ACT 2017 (Prompt Payment)



COCA and AAO remain committed to getting Bill 142 through the legislature and the bill remains a high priority with the Attorney General. Since our last newsletter, there have been several developments Bill 142 had second reading September 12th and was debated at Queen's Park September 13, 14, 27 and 28th.

COCA held another successful "Construction Lobby Day" at the legislature on September 25, 2017. Forty people from 19 COCA member associations, including AAO, were assembled into teams of four. Each team had four meetings throughout the day with cabinet ministers and various MPP's from all parties, stressing the importance of Bill 142 and to push for the speedy passage of Bill 142 before the end of the fall session, now in the second reading debate stage of the legislative process.

We left Queen's Park still optimistic the bill will progress, evidenced by continuing debate, totaling the 6 ½ hour second reading debate threshold on September 28th and the government allowing further debate of the bill. MPP France Gélinas contacted COCA on September 29th about the bill's upcoming debates. According to the schedule, the Bill will be debated again in the house October 3rd. Debate will continue October 4th at 9am. It is anticipated to close debate on Bill 142 and send it to committee that morning. If it goes to the committee on Justice Policy, it will be the only government bill on their docket (as the cannabis legislation hasn't been introduced yet), so it could move fairly swiftly from there.

Upcoming, Prompt Payment Ontario, will be hosting their third annual Queen's Park advisory Day on October 24, 2017, meeting with MPP's that day. It is hoped it will be a day of celebration of the passing of Bill 142 rather than a day for continued meetings with MPP's in order to get the legislation to the finish line. Our fingers are crossed!



UPDATE

ANNUAL MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1



Ontario is increasing the general minimum wage to \$11.60 on October 1 for the fourth consecutive year. This latest rate is the result of changes to legislation that were passed in 2014 to tie annual minimum wage increases to the province's Consumer Price Index. Ontario recently introduced legislation, Bill 148 Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, that if passed, will raise the general minimum wage to \$14 per hour on January 1, 2018, and then to \$15 an hour on January 1, 2019. Annual adjustments to the minimum wage based on the rate of inflation would resume in October 2019.

WORKING AT HEIGHTS



October 1st Deadline

You may recall the deadline for the new Working at Heights training was extended to October 1, 2017. ALL workers who work at heights must have completed an approved WAH training program delivered by an approved trainer after September 30th.

The MOL has a falls inspection blitz starting October 1st.



EVENTS

October 2017



IHSA PROVINCIAL/CHAIR & CO-CHAIR LMHSC MEETING

October 4, 2017

(Paul Gunning attending)

COCA WSIB-OH&S COMMITTEE MEETING October 5, 2017

(Paul Gunning attending)

PROMPT PAYMENT ONTARIO QUEEN'S PARK ADVOCACY DAY

October 24, 2017

(Paul Gunning attending)



UPCOMING - Mathews Dinsdale Seminars/Webinars

Copy the following URL to your browser to register for new sessions or to review archived session:

<http://www.mathewsdinsdale.com> (see right side)

WEBINAR - Wrongful Dismissal Update

October 17, 2017 from 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

WEBINAR - OHS in Canada: The Year in Review 2017

November 16, 2017 FROM 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm

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

Paul Gunning
Executive Director