



# OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

## DATES TO NOTE

**July 15:** OHBA Awards of Distinction Judging Day  
**August 8:** OHBA Awards of Distinction Finalists Announced  
**August 12-25:** OHBA People's Choice Award Opens  
**September 21-23:** OHBA [Annual Conference](#) - Ottawa

## JULY 2014

## HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

Starting July 1st the requirements for [Mandatory health and safety awareness training for all workers](#) (not just construction) comes into effect. This training focuses on safety rights and responsibilities and serves as a general introduction to workplace health and safety. The training is [available online](#) through the Ministry of Labour at no cost. Consider asking for a letter confirming the completion of this training from all of your sub-contractors. This may inspire them to get it done. It also may serve in a small way to due diligence.

Mandatory Supervisor Health and Safety Awareness training also takes effect on July 1st. This training introduces supervisors to the Occupational Health and Safety Act. The Program can be completed by using the workbook or the Ministry of Labour's e-Learning module. The online module takes 45-60 minutes to complete. You must save or print the certificate as the ministry will not maintain records. This mandatory training requirement is also available through the Ministry of Labour at no cost.

## NOT ACTIVE- MANDATORY FALL PROTECTION TRAINING FOR WORKERS

The Ministry of Labour has created a new training standard for Working at Heights. The standard is currently voluntary and there has not been a regulation in place to validate the new requirements. The Working At Heights Training Program Standard would include two modules, both theory and practical, with a duration of both modules lasting 3 and 3.5 hours each. The Ministry had completed a consultation on the proposed new mandatory requirements. OHBA Health and Safety Chair, Bruce Bolduc, OHBA members and OHBA staff participated in the consultations and requested grandfathering and transition provisions for workers that had already completed similar training as well as a reasonable transition timetable for workers who were not trained prior to the regulation. Only Ministry approved trainers will be able to train workers. The Ministry has not announced the process of how to apply to become a licensed trainer or the curriculum the standard must comply with. OHBA will provide additional details when they become available.

## NOT ACTIVE- MANDATORY ENTRY LEVEL TRAINING FOR CONSTRUCTION

One of the recommendations from the Tony Dean Report was for the Ministry to develop mandatory entry-level training for construction workers. The Ministry has yet to publicly consult on this proposal on what the requirements, length, and type of training this would encompass.

## OCOT BOARD PASSES 2-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SPRINKLER AND FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLER TRADE

The Ontario College of Trades' (OCOT) Board of Governors has approved the development of a regulation that, if passed, would allow for a two-year implementation plan for the reclassification of the Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer trade from voluntary to compulsory membership in OCOT. On April 23, 2014, OCOT received the [independent Review Panel's decision](#) split decision in favor of moving this to a compulsory trade. OHBA participated in this consultation advocating for the trade to remain voluntary due to the potential challenges in labour supply for this trade as well as logistical consideration as there is only one training delivery agent in the entire province.

The OCOT Board of Governors has approved a 'grandparenting' provision — an exemption from the Certificate of Qualification (C of Q) exam for the trade will be available to qualified candidates during the first year of the two-year implementation period. The exam exemption would apply to individuals who are engaging in the work of the Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer trade who do not have a C of Q in the trade, but who have a Certificate of Apprenticeship (C of A) in the trade or who have qualifications and experience that are equivalent to a C of A in the trade. In the second year, the exam exemption would no longer be available, though individuals could continue to work legally while they challenge the C of Q exam. At the end of the two-year implementation period, the trade will be compulsory — meaning that everyone working in the trade in Ontario must be certified in the trade and a member in good standing with OCOT.

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities is still ultimately responsible for developing the regulation to make this trade compulsory. The Sprinkler and Fire Protection decision came just prior to the Ontario Liberal Platform announcement for a pause in compulsory certification applications and planned review of the compulsory certification process. This is the only trade that has gone through the OCOT compulsory certification review and OHBA had concerns with both the process and the majority decision. We welcome the Liberal Government's Platform commitment as it recognizes the deep concerns OHBA had with that process.

OHBA will be seeking clarity from Minister Reza Moridi as we continue to have concerns in how the certification process will be implemented for this trade.

## ONTARIO ELECTION

Today Premier Kathleen Wynne, along with the rest of the MPPs, will return to Queen's Park to re-open the legislature and to elect a new speaker. Tomorrow the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario will deliver the Throne Speech which will map out the government's priorities moving forward. You can watch the live feed of the Throne Speech by [following this link](#). The Provincial Budget has been scheduled to be re-introduced on July 14th.

Premier Wynne and the Ontario Liberal Party were elected into a majority government on June 12th winning 58 seats. The PC Party took 28 seats and MPP Tim Hudak resigned his position as Leader. Earlier today the PC Caucus chose MPP Jim Wilson (Simcoe-Grey) as their interim Leader. The NDP were elected in 21 ridings. OHBA issued a [media release](#) congratulating Premier Wynne and the Liberals on their Liberal majority.

Last week Premier Wynne announced the new members of cabinet. OHBA congratulates the Honourable Ted McMeekin on his new position as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steven Del Duca on becoming Minister of Transportation and the Honourable Reza Moridi on his new role as Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities. [OHBA looks forward to working with all ministers](#) on files of importance to the industry and the association.

## THE 2014 OHBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - OTTAWA

OHBA's Annual Conference and Awards are around the corner and this is one event you don't want to miss out on! Located in our Nation's capital, the conference is your premier opportunity for members from across the province to come together and celebrate successes, share ideas and stories, learn about new programs and products, and network among their industry colleagues. Hurry—you don't want to miss out on this exciting event!

OHBA is working hard to bring you insightful, interesting and engaging business sessions. With the goal of being inclusive, OHBA conference sessions touch on several different aspects of our industry from sales and marketing to best building practices. Sessions are constantly evolving so visit the website to see what's new and exciting. Some highlights include: An interactive builder panel, a CMHC and RBC housing and economic update, Smart Home Technology, Best Practices for Customer Service Excellence with bv02's Andrew Milne and keynote speaker Dave Hemstad from CBC's The Debaters.



**Canada Day in the Capital!** GOHBA has planned an exciting opening reception where we will get to celebrate Canada Day all over again! Show your Canadian pride – come in your favourite Canadian jersey, red and white or the infamous Canadian tuxedo.

**Awards of Distinction 2014:** The much anticipated Awards of Distinction will be held on Monday, September 22nd. This year, OHBA has introduced several new categories, including Renovator of the Year and the People's Choice Award. Make sure to vote for your favourite development (voting starts August 12th, visit: [www.ohbaod.ca](http://www.ohbaod.ca)) and cheer on the winners during the celebratory dinner!

**President's Gala:** The conference will conclude with the inaugural President's Gala where OHBA will formally welcome our new president.

**Additional Activities:** OHBA has organized several additional activities for Monday, September 22nd to help make your stay in Ottawa all the more enjoyable! There are four options available for conference delegates, including: OHBA's Annual Golf Tournament at Stonebridge Golf Club, Ottawa Housing Tour featuring the Canadian Centre for Housing Technology Facilities, The Holtz Spa or a leisurely lunch at a choice of locations with an OHBA voucher.

Register today, visit [www.ohbaconference.ca](http://www.ohbaconference.ca)

## OHBA AWARDS OF DISTINCTION - 2014

Thank you to everyone who submitted this year to the OHBA Awards of Distinction. This year we had a record number of entries from across the Province! Judging will take place on July 15th and the finalists will be announced on **Friday, August 8, 2014**.

Voting for OHBA's NEW People's Choice Award will open on Tuesday, August 12th and run until Monday, August 25th. To vote visit the OHBA Awards of Distinction website - [www.ohbaod.ca](http://www.ohbaod.ca).



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