



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

November 2018

DATES TO NOTE

- November 15 – OHBA LEEP Gas Mechanicals Forum – [Register online](#)
- November 22 – OHBA Board of Directors meeting – OHBA office, 20 Upjohn Road, Suite 101

OHBA Says Yes to Lower Apprenticeship Ratios!

The [provincial government has acted decisively](#) on modernizing the skilled trades by making historic reforms that are consistent with OHBA's advocacy for several years by introducing [Bill 47](#). [OHBA passed four resolutions](#) at our 2018 Annual Meeting of Members in Ottawa on the skilled trades: (1) lowering ratios to one-to-one; (2) eliminating OCOT enforcement; (3) eliminating fees for apprentices and lowering fees for journeypersons; and (4) a moratorium on future compulsory certification classification reviews.

OHBA is very pleased that the changes outlined in Bill 47 respond positively to **all** four resolutions. These changes include:

- Set all journeyperson to apprentice ratios at one-to-one;
- Implement a moratorium on trade classifications and reclassifications;
- Winding down the Ontario College of Trades: This will effectively eliminate OCOT enforcement along with the journeyperson and apprentice fees that fund OCOT.

OHBA was pleased to be on hand at Queen's Park for the introduction of the legislation and we look forward to working with government to develop a replacement model for the regulation of the skilled trades and apprenticeship system in Ontario by early 2019.

Thank you to all our members and local associations that have been long-standing advocates on this file!

OHBA Media Release: [Yes to New Apprenticeship Ratios!](#)

Ontario Government Backgrounder: [Modernizing Ontario's Apprenticeship System](#)



OHBA President Rick Martins, 1st VP Bob Schickedanz, local leadership Suzanne Mammel, John Meinen, Chuck McShane, and staff Joe Vaccaro, Mike Collins-Williams and Stephen Hamilton met with several Cabinet Ministers, including the Hon. Laurie Scott, Hon. Merrilee Fullerton and Hon. Jim Wilson at Queen's Park on the day of the apprenticeship modernization announcement.

OHBA Supports Reforms to Bill 148

OHBA is also pleased that the provincial government repealed components of the previous government's Bill 148, which made amendments to the *Employment Standards Act* and the *Labour Relations Act*. The previous Liberal government's changes were damaging to small business and construction sector employers and did not take into consideration the realities of construction work.

Key changes proposed by the Ford Government include repealing the following scheduling provisions that would have come into force January 1, 2019:

- Right to request changes to schedule or work location after an employee has been employed for at least three months.
- Minimum of three hours' pay for being on-call if the employee is available to work but is not called in to work, or works less than three hours.
- Right to refuse requests or demands to work or to be on-call on a day that an employee is not scheduled to work or to be on-call with less than 96 hours' notice.
- Three hours' pay in the event of cancellation of a scheduled shift or an on-call shift within 48 hours before the shift was to begin.
- The record-keeping requirements that relate to the above-noted scheduling provisions.

The legislation also repeals provisions related to Employee Lists:

- Protecting Ontarians' privacy and personal information by repealing the rules that forced an employer to hand over their employees' personal information to a union, even if only 20% of the workers showed interest in joining a union.

More information - Ontario Government Backgrounder: [Removing Burdens While Protecting Workers](#)

Busy Fall for OHBA at Queen's Park

Members of the OHBA Executive Committee and OHBA staff have been very busy this Fall working with the new government to advocate on behalf of our members to reduce red tape and streamline approvals processes so that we can deliver more housing supply and choice in communities across Ontario.

In October alone, OHBA met with nearly two dozen MPPs and several cabinet Ministers. This is a crucial time for the industry as the new government lays out its Legislative agenda and sets policy priorities.



L to R: OHBA Past President Pierre Dufresne, OHBA President Rick Martins, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Hon. Rod Phillips, OHBA 1st Vice-President Bob Schickedanz and OHBA Policy Director, Mike Collins-Williams.

New Provincial Regulation Pauses EDC Rate Increases

On October 12, the Ministry of Education filed a [regulation](#) that amends O. Reg 20/98 under the *Education Act*. The amendments as seen in the regulation, **effectively freeze education development charges at the rates that were in effect on August 31, 2018** (see the revised Section 7, Paragraph 9, clause iii).

The amendments include the following four key elements:

- Maintain EDC rates at the levels in existing by-laws as of August 31, 2018;
- Limits the ability of boards to change the areas in their by-law that are subject to EDCs;
- Restricts additional boards from becoming eligible to pass a new EDC by-law; and

- Streamlines some of the requirements to be included in the required background study.

These amendments, effective October 12, 2018, were made due to the government's intention to undertake a review of the Education Development Charge policy framework. The changes will result in a temporary cap or "pause" on EDC rate increases until their review is complete. The regulation does not include a date when this freeze may end.

This is positive news for a number of jurisdictions undergoing reviews or proposed increases for Education Development changes.

Growth Plan Implementation

The Ontario Growth Secretariat (OGS) has recognized industry and municipal concerns regarding some key implementation challenges for the 2017 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Notably, the OGS established five implementation working groups to address key areas identified as potential barriers to meeting the objectives of the Growth Plan. To date, two working group sessions have been completed, with OHBA offering several recommendations to the government. There are three more to go, as well as a broader Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe Stakeholder Forum taking place in mid-November.

The working groups address key areas, including:

1. **Employment Area Conversions:** How to address the desire for more flexibility to complete employment land conversions that support local economic development priorities;
2. **Natural Heritage System and Agricultural System Mapping:** Examine the implementation of these systems, including but not limited to, the accuracy of the mapping, timing and impact on site-specific development applications in process;
3. **Major Transit Station Areas:** Explore options for flexibility in the process of delineating and requesting alternative targets for these areas to reflect local circumstances;
4. **Settlement Boundary Expansions:** Explore options for flexibility in how and when to proceed with settlement boundary expansions across municipalities in the region, and establishing clarity regarding the work needed to justify an expansion;
5. **Density and Intensification Targets:** Examine the implementation of density and intensification targets, including assessing ways to streamline the process for requesting alternative targets.

LEEP Gas Mechanicals Technology Forum

Date: November 15, 2018 **Time:** 8:00am to 3:30pm **Location:** Toronto Marriott Markham, 170 Enterprise Boulevard

[Register online!](#)

In conjunction with Enbridge, NRCAN, Canadian Gas Association and CHBA, OHBA is co-hosting the 2018 forum to address members' needs to better deliver greater comfort in the home through all seasons using the latest mechanical solutions. There's something for everyone!

Builders and Renovators: Review your mechanical needs with your peers, building officials, and mechanical designers and contractors at the LEEP Gas Mechanicals Forum. Learn how to use a new decision guide with your designer so that you get the systems you want on your projects.

HVAC Designers and Contractors: Hear what regional builders think is most important for their mechanical systems, learn about a new tool you can use to get quickly get builder buy-in on improvements to design and installation practice, and discuss manufacturer proposed options with builders and other HVAC professionals. Approved for 6 credits with the OBOA.

Building Officials: Learn what the gas industry thinks are the most appropriate innovations to better address the needs of today's new housing. Learn about a simple new mechanicals decision guide you can provide to builders to find effective solutions for their next builds.



Full house at the LEEP Technology Forum in Nanaimo, October 19

ENERGY STAR® Multifamily High-Rise training



**ASK ABOUT
ENERGY STAR**

Energy Star, a trusted brand in helping the industry adopt energy efficiency for new homes, is now offering certification for Ontario's new mid- and high-rise residential buildings. EnerQuality, under license from Natural Resources Canada, will be working with leading builders in the new Energy Star Multifamily High-Rise (New Construction) Pilot Program. This program will not only reduce pollution and consumers' energy bills, but add construction, consulting and design jobs and deliver innovation to the fastest growing multis segment in new home construction.

Training is now available by EnerQuality – register soon to enjoy early-bird rates for OHBA members.

Builder training: November 22 from 8:30am to 12:30pm – [Register online](#)

Licensed Professional workshop: November 23 from 8:30am to 4:30pm – [Register online](#)