

2008-07

July 31, 2008

By E-mail: 2 pages plus attachment

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WorkSafeBC 2009 Assessment Rates

WorkSafeBC will be releasing the 2009 assessment rates in early August.

A meeting to discuss the new rates will be held at 1:00 pm on Thursday August 21 at WorkSafeBC's offices in Richmond. Representatives from BCPSEA and a number of school districts will be in attendance. If you wish to attend the meeting in person, please RSVP to me so that sufficient personalized materials can be prepared by WorkSafeBC.

The WorkSafeBC 2009 assessment rate materials presented at the meeting will be distributed to all school districts after August 21. BCPSEA will hold a conference call on Thursday, August 28 at 9:00 am to discuss the contents of the materials and answer any questions. Call-in details will be distributed in late August.

Update — Mandatory Retirement for Bus Drivers

Recognizing its significance, we have devoted considerable time, attention and resources to this issue. We have consulted with legal counsel, and have further meetings scheduled, to determine the best strategic approach for the sector. As you are aware, there are a number of existing practices and policies in place that must be given consideration in light of the current state of the law. We will keep you apprised of developments.

Reminder — Notification of Decisions

WorkSafeBC released a discussion paper titled "Notification of Decisions."

The paper proposes to gather feedback from stakeholders on the development of policy on notification of decisions, specifically with respect to the development of policy that will guide how and when decisions are communicated to workers and employers, along with whether reasons for the decision will be provided. A copy of the discussion paper is attached.

Submissions in response to the discussion paper can be directed to Mark Grabas (604.730.4509 or markg@bcpsea.bc.ca.) at BCPSEA or alternatively, you may address any comments or concerns you have with respect to the discussion paper directly to WorkSafeBC by email at policy@worksafebc.com.

The deadline for submissions to WorkSafeBC is **August 29, 2008**.

2008
SYMPOSIUM
INSIGHT AND OPPORTUNITIES
Human Resources in Education

Symposium 2008 is scheduled for November 6-7, 2008 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver.

Of particular interest to health and safety practitioners is the Friday breakout session on Violence in the Workplace — Children with Special Needs.

Further details on the conference can be found on the BCPSEA website at <http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/access/events/labourrelations.html>

If you haven't already registered, you can also register online using the link above. An early bird registration fee of \$295 is available until August 29, 2008. The regular registration fee of \$325 will apply from August 30 to October 20. Spaces are limited, so please register early to avoid disappointment.

If you have any questions regarding conference logistics, please contact Dora Eng at 604.730.4512 or dorae@bcpsea.bc.ca.

Questions

If you:

- wish to suggest any topics you would like discussed in an *OH&S Issues* bulletin, or
- have any questions on the information provided in this bulletin or on any other occupational health, safety and wellness issue

please contact Mark Grabas at 604.730.4509 or markg@bcpsea.bc.ca.

Attachment