

COCA WCB Update #405 July 9, 2008

**Council of Construction Associations**

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Grant McMillan, President

Construction Injury Rate Hits Lowest Ever Recorded!

The latest numbers for WorkSafeBC contain excellent news for the Construction Industry – on a per capita basis, fewer workers are being injured at work; the lowest rate ever recorded – as far back as the WorkSafeBC numbers consistently trace the data.

This reduction in the rate of injury suggests that the collective efforts of all parties – the company owner, superintendents, supervisors, foremen, workers, WorkSafeBC itself and the broad-based Construction Safety Association of BC are having a positive impact on workplace health and safety.

In making the announcement, COCA President, Grant McMillan, stated that “The reduction in the injury rate is remarkable news, given the rapid growth in our industry over the past five years. Construction Employment in BC has been expanding since 2002 as our province prospers – we have gone from construction industry employment of 91,200 in 2002 to 160,200 in 2007. Congratulations to all those who have worker and who continue to work on improving workplace health & safety!”

**Injury rate data for Sector 72**

year	person years	# claims	injury rate
1997	93,400	7980	8.5
1998	89,200	6960	7.8
1999	84,800	6450	7.6
2000	90,600	6580	7.3
2001	87,900	6410	7.3
2002	91,200	6010	6.6
2003	98,600	6130	6.2
2004	114,500	7390	6.5
2005	131,200	8350	6.4
2006	145,100	9280	6.4
2007	160,200	9780	6.1

The "# claims" is the number of injuries in respect of which short term disability, long term disability, or survivor benefits were awarded in either the year of injury or the first three months of the following year. This is the same basis as the 'non health care only' count used in the warehouse.

The 2009 WorkSafeBC assessments rates will be announced by the end of July.

NOTE: To improve your safety performance and earn a 10% rebate on your WorkSafeBC assessments, contact the Construction Safety Association of BC.

Learn and earn! Contact:

**Cathy Lange BGS**  
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