

Council of Construction Associations

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Grant McMillan, President

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Construction Rates Mostly Hold Steady in Difficult Times

After three years of decreases, the WorkSafeBC assessment rates for BC Construction Industry employers are experiencing a mix of decreases and increases.

WorkSafeBC, like all investors, has suffered a drop in the value of their portfolio, and this has a negative impact on assessment rates. (Our WorkSafeBC is still among the most sound financially of any Board in Canada and our low rates reflect their careful financial management.)

Some construction rate groups have also seen the cost of their claims rise in recent years.

The preliminary assessment rates for 2010 have been announced by WorkSafeBC. (The rates are described as preliminary because they have not yet been approved by the WorkSafeBC Board of Directors. This approval is expected by October.)

The rates have been challenged by very difficult economic times. But the Construction Industry has invested in safety and partnered with WorkSafeBC to create the Construction Safety Association of BC (CSABC) with its safety training and Certificate of Recognition (COR) program. The CSABC was started by COCA in 2003.

WorkSafeBC has also taken a responsible financial approach to rates. It has introduced an economic downturn adjustment that limits the 2010 base rate increases to 8% over the 2009 base rate.

All rates shown below are \$ per \$100 payroll.

Examples of preliminary rates decreases are:

The Industrial Commercial and Institutional CU rate will drop from \$3.67 to \$3.64. The reduction is excellent news during a time of a global economic upheaval.

Masonry drops from \$4.38 to \$3.50, a remarkable 20% decrease!

Painting or Wallpapering decreases from \$3.82 to \$3.36.

Plumbing, Heating, Residential Air Conditioning decreases from \$2.02 to \$1.90.

Power Pole, Powerline, or Transmission Line Installation, Service and Repair decreases from \$3.85 to \$3.42.

Concrete Placing decreases from \$4.84 to \$3.87.

Examples of preliminary rates increases are:

Home Building increases– from \$4.03 to \$4.35

Low Slope Roofing increases from \$5.73 to \$6.18.

Steep Slope Roofing increases from \$11.56 to \$12.10

Highway Maintenance increases from \$3.15 to \$3.23

Electrical Work increases from \$1.31 to \$1.41

Structural Moving increases from \$3.76 to \$4.06.

The complete list of WorkSafeBC preliminary rates for 2010 can be viewed online at:

http://www.worksafebc.com/insurance/premiums/2010_prelim_rates/classification/browse_sectors_and_subsectors/default.asp

To help keep your rates under control, contact the CSABC and start to earn your own company COR and your rebate of 15% of the base rate on WorkSafeBC assessments.

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