



Update

April 1, 2009

Joint Consultation Results in Wage Adjustments

In 2008, representatives of the Building Trades of Alberta (BTA) and of the Coordinating Committee of Registered Employers' Organizations engaged in a number of joint initiatives with a view to addressing some problems and challenges faced by our part of the industry, researching our markets and providing solid information to stakeholders, and enhancing workforce development and delivery.

In the past two months, the joint committee addressing the industry's problems and challenges focused its attention on the dramatic shifts in market demand, competitiveness, project viability, owner requirements, and future employment prospects.

Following analysis and extensive discussion, the BTA reps responded with a recommendation to their colleagues in all of the affiliated unions that the 6.5% increase scheduled for industrial work for May, 2009, be split into a 3.25% increase in May, and a 3.25% increase in November. The recommendation was accepted by the affiliates in a meeting of the BTA Executive Council last week. Documents confirming the wage schedule adjustments are being processed in the coming weeks, and are expected to be finalized by late April. We will distribute copies of the amending documents as soon as each is signed.

While continuing to jointly monitor key economic indicators and market determinants, energy and priority will now be directed towards enhancing performance by addressing attendance, management of break times, increasing tool time, and other value-adding initiatives. We will be working with all stakeholders to monitor key performance measures. We will report further on specific programs and results over the coming months.

Please contact either of our offices with any questions, suggestions and concerns.