

CLR INFO

Support & Funding

Workplace Innovation Fund Has Opened Its First Intake

This fund supports solutions for labour force challenges in the construction industry. Applications are currently being accepted, and the intake cut-off is 4:00 pm PST on November 10, 2023.

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Industry News

BC Premier Announces Mandatory Flush Toilets on Construction Sites



Premier David Eby, along with the BC NDP government, has unveiled plans to establish a legal mandate for flush toilets on construction sites employing 25 workers or more. At CLR, we support improvements to worksite facilities, and we support the BCBT advocacy efforts in this regard. Our position comes with some caveats.

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Premier Eby's Announcement on PPE Fitting Regulations

While the exact form of the regulation remains uncertain, our collective agreements include language emphasizing proper-fitting safety equipment and clothing for all body types and genders. This places responsibility on contractors to provide gender-specific PPE.

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Provincial News

British Columbians Increasingly Worried About Environmental Issues and Carbon Tax Impact

A recent survey in British Columbia reveals growing concerns among residents about environmental issues, particularly climate change and pollution of water sources. These concerns have led to a heightened awareness of the province's carbon tax.

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Labour & Economy

Streamlined Entry for Internationally Trained Workers

The BC government introduced legislation aimed at reducing barriers for internationally trained workers in over two dozen professions, allowing skilled workers to enter the labour force more quickly and address ongoing labour shortages in the province. The new law is set to take effect next summer.

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Looming Labour Shortage Despite Efforts to Attract Diverse Workforce

The industry is targeting young people, immigrants, and groups that haven't traditionally considered construction as a career but warns that even with these efforts, there could still be a shortage of around 6,000 workers in the province in a decade.

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Labour Minister Seamus O'Regan Takes Action to Address Port Disputes

The federal government's latest efforts to prevent disruptions in the province's ports promise real change, with experts appointed to lead a review and tackle long-standing issues.

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Health & Safety



Changes in Asbestos Work Regulations Starting 2024

Registry for licensed asbestos abatement contractors [now available](#). Starting January 1, companies and individuals will require WorkSafeBC licensing and certification.

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Infrastructure & Transportation

BC Transit's View Royal HandyDART Facility Receives \$51 Million for Electrification

The funding expansion allows handyDART services to expand in Greater Victoria, offering accessible transit services for commuters with disabilities and contributing to a low-carbon battery electric bus fleet.

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Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) Conference: Supply Chain Post-Pandemic Challenges

Delegates at the MCAC conference discussed the evolving state of supply chains in the construction sector. While supply chains improved since the pandemic, concerns about general economic uncertainty and workforce stability persist.

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Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Transforming Futures: \$5.5 Million Donation Fuels High School Trades Program in BCIT

Thanks to the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, in partnership with Seaspan and Southern Railway of British Columbia, BCIT is set to launch the Trades Foundation for Youth Program, empowering young talents with essential trade skills.

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Best Regards and Stay Safe,

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