

What's Inside

A Good Friend Moves On

Employers Advised to Review their Incident Reporting Policies

Cabinet Shuffle

Maru Poll Ranks Premiers' Approvals – Premier Ford 8th

Maru Poll Reflects Ontarians' Views on Changes to Campaign Financing and Use of Notwithstanding Clause

David Lindsay Appointed Infrastructure Ontario Chair

June 2021

A GOOD FRIEND MOVES ON



Our friend and colleague, Adam Pinder, recently announced his resignation from the position of Executive Director of the Sault Ste Marie Construction Association. Adam has accepted the role of Executive Director of the Sault Community Career Centre, a not-for-profit employment agency funded by the Government of Ontario and with about 35 staff members that provides free assistance to job seekers, employers and newcomers to achieve their professional goals.

Trained as a teacher but with more than 10 years of experience in the construction industry, Adam was able to hit the ground running under the sage mentorship of his predecessor, Rick Thomas, when he was hired by the SSMCA almost seven years ago. It has been pleasing to watch Adam grow professionally as a construction association executive and as a person in that

time and his contributions to our industry and the broader community will be felt for a long time to come.

While we are disappointed to see Adam join the COCA family alumni, we only wish him and his family the very best. Congratulations Adam and many thanks for everything.

THE COCA ANTI-RACISM TOOLKIT



- 1 Why We Need to Take Action Against Racism
- 2 Your Legal Rights and Responsibilities
- 3 Writing an Anti-Racism Statement
- 4 Sample Policies and Practices
- 5 Recommended Reading and Viewing

LET'S CONFRONT THIS TOGETHER

#COCASstandingTogether

EMPLOYERS ADVISED TO REVIEW THEIR INCIDENT REPORTING POLICIES

Ontario employers are advised to review their incident reporting policies and procedures regarding workplace critical injuries and fatalities to ensure compliance with regulatory changes that come into effect on July 1, 2021.

Here are the highlights of the changes:

- The regulation (O. Reg. 420/21) applies to all workplaces that are covered by OHSA, with the exception of incidents where a worker is killed, critically injured, disabled from performing their usual work or requires medical attention as a result of collisions on highways as defined under the Highway Traffic Act or Highway 407 Act.
- It revises the definition of “critically injured” to an injury of a serious nature, that a) places life in jeopardy; b) produces unconsciousness; c) results in a substantial loss of blood; d) involves the fracture of a leg or arm but not a finger or toe; e) involves the amputation of a leg, arm, hand or foot but not a finger or toe; f) consists of burns to a major portion of the body; or g) causes the loss of sight in an eye.
- It requires the employer or constructor to retain a copy of a written notice or report required under sections 51 to 53.1 of OHSA for at least three years after the date the notice or report is made and notices may be sent electronically.
- It requires an employer to provide a written report or written notice of a workplace accident under sections 51 to 53 of OHSA. There are also additional notice requirements for mines and construction sites.
- Employers are required to inform the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development if a workplace hazard caused anybody to be killed or critically injured at the workplace.
- Employers are advised to review the requirements under O. Reg. 420/21 to determine what information must be included when reporting an injury or death at the workplace to the Ministry.

O. Reg. 420/21 can be found at the following link <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r21420>

CABINET SHUFFLE

Here's the lowdown on Premier Ford's recent cabinet shuffle:

The following Ministers were jettisoned from Cabinet:

- former natural resources minister John Yakabuski
- former environment minister Jeff Yurek
- former infrastructure minister Laurie Scott
- former associate energy minister Bill Walker
- former agriculture minister Ernie Hardeman

Ministers remaining in place:

- Premier Doug Ford
- Attorney General Doug Downey
- Economic Development Job Creation and Trade Minister Vic Fideli
- Education Minister Stephen Lecce
- Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy (but lost Treasury Board to Prabmeet Sarkaria – see below)
- Government House Leader Paul Calandra
- Health Minister Christine Elliott
- Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Minister Lisa McLeod
- Mental Health and Addictions Associate Minister Michael Tibolo
- Labour Minister Monte McNaughton.
- Municipal Affairs Minister Steve Clark
- Seniors and Accessibility Minister Raymond Cho
- Solicitor General Sylvia Jones
- Transportation Minister Caroline Mulroney

Ministers moved to new portfolios:

- Lisa Thompson from government and consumer services to agriculture
- Ross Romano from colleges and universities to consumer and government services
- Merrilee Fullerton from long term care to community and social services

- Todd Smith from community and social services to energy
- Greg Rickford from energy to a merged northern development, mining, and natural resources and forestry but he retains indigenous affairs
- Jill Dunlop from associate minister of children and women's issues to post-secondary education
- Kinga Surma from associate minister of transportation to minister of infrastructure
- Prabmeet Sarkaria from associate minister of small business and red tape reduction to president of the treasury board.

Returning to Cabinet:

- ex-finance minister Rod Phillips, who was banished from cabinet because of his ill-advised Christmas season vacation to St Barts, returns to cabinet as minister of long term care

Promoted into Cabinet:

- Parm Gill becomes minister of citizenship and multiculturalism
- Dave Piccini becomes environment minister
- Stan Cho becomes associate minister of transportation
- Nina Tangri becomes associate minister of small business and red tape
- Kaleed Rasheed becomes associate minister of digital government
- Jane McKenna becomes associate minister of children and women's issues

Observations:

The new cabinet is comprised of 19 men and 10 women including Premier Ford, with six BIPOC members

All jettisoned members are from rural ridings. In Ontario politics, the province can be carved into four

geographic sections:

1. urban ridings which are normally split between the NDP and Liberals;
2. suburban ridings, most significantly the 905 ridings surrounding Toronto which is the toss-up battle ground between the Tories and the Grits;
3. rural ridings which are strongly PC; and
4. northern Ontario, usually an NDP stronghold with a smattering of Libs, but currently has two PC cabinet members, Romanow in the Soo and Fidelli in North Bay. Policies with narratives are developed for each section of voters.

The new members of the cabinet are mostly from the GTA. The new cabinet is heavily weighted with members from the GTA and central Ontario and lacks significant rural representation that is more typical of a PC cabinet

Once again, the June 2022 will very likely to be won or lost in the riding-rich suburbs around Toronto

MARU POLL RANKS PREMIERS' APPROVALS – PREMIER FORD 8TH

Maru Public Opinion polled 5,277 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Maru/Blue online panellists between May 26 to June 8, 2021 about their approvals or disapprovals of their respective premiers. Here are some of the Ontario highlights and Maru analysis:

- Ontario Premier Doug Ford's approval has dropped another eight per cent since the March Maru poll
- Ford's rating hit a high of 62 per cent in June 2020 after the first wave but has dropped down to 40 per cent which was his approval rating when the Progressive Conservatives won a majority government in June of 2018.
- Ford sits in eighth spot out of the 10 Canadian premiers. Alberta Premier Jason Kenney and Manitoba's Brian Pallister both sit at 33 per cent. New Brunswick Premier Blain Higgs is in seventh spot with an approval rating of 56 per cent.
- Maru attributes the Premier's drop in approval to a combination of slow acting on the spread of the virus along with flip-flops and backtracking, delays in increased vaccines for hotspot zones, and apparent decisions contrary to its own medical advisory panel
- He publicly apologized for having moved 'too fast' in announcing measures to curb the escalating third wave and then self-quarantined as the province witnessed its highest levels of hospitalization and daily case counts ever.
- In response, a complete overhaul of government communications led to more disciplined messaging, extra vaccination doses were sent to hotspot postal codes, and a clear three-point re-opening plan tied to a combination of decreased hospitalizations and increased vaccination rates was introduced.

Out of quarantine, the Premier was kept out of sight

For details, click on <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a17333eb0786935ac112523/t/60d316934ad1c62da416f8f3/1624446614075/Premiers+Approvals+Release+Q2+June+2021+F.pdf>

MARU POLL REFLECTS ONTARIANS' VIEWS ON CHANGES TO CAMPAIGN FINANCING AND USE OF NOTWITHSTANDING CLAUSE

Maru Public Opinion polled 1,087 randomly-selected Ontario voters between June 21 and June 22 about the changes to the campaign financing rules and the use of the notwithstanding clause in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms that was used to enact the changes affecting third party advertising

- 66% found the \$600,000 limit in the six months prior to an election day to be acceptable.
- 67% said that the extension of that six-month period prior to an election to 12 months was reasonable. 33% said it was a violation of the Charter.
- When told it was the current PC government led by Premier Doug Ford that made the changes, then only 53% found it to be acceptable
- 52% found the use of the notwithstanding clause to be unacceptable.

For the details, click on <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a17333eb0786935ac112523/t/60da14f0b7637b1b8ff0770e/1624904946641/Ontario+Ad+Limits+June+29+2021+F.pdf>

DAVID LINDSAY APPOINTED INFRASTRUCTURE ONTARIO CHAIR

On June 18, 2021, Minister of Infrastructure, Laurie Scott, announced the appointment of David Lindsay as Chair of the Board Infrastructure Ontario. Here are the highlights of Lindsay's impressive background:

- Principal Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Premier of Ontario from 1995 to 1997
- President and CEO of the Ontario Jobs and Investment Board from 1997 to 1999.
- President of the Ontario SuperBuild Corporation (the predecessor of Infrastructure Ontario) from 1999 to 2003
- President of Colleges Ontario from 2004 to 2006
- Senior executive roles in the Ontario Public Service including Deputy Minister in Energy and Infrastructure, Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, Natural Resources, and Tourism and Culture, from 2006 to 2012
- President and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada from 2012 to 2015
- President and CEO of the Council of Ontario Universities from 2016 to 2020
- He has also been a Director of the Ireland Park Foundation, the World Wildlife Fund, the Canadian Tourism Commission, the Public Policy Forum, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the Empire Club and is a Distinguished Fellow of the Queen's University School of Policy Studies.

David Lindsay is extremely smart, highly competent and a fair-minded and balanced thinker who has led a life of service that stands as a model to others. In an email exchange, David told me his first few weeks on the job have been like drinking from a fire hose but I cannot think of anyone better suited for this position.