

A newsletter of the Employers' Advisers Office, Compensation Advisory Services, Ministry of Labour & Citizens' Services, Government of British Columbia.  
The Employers' Advisers Office provides advice, assistance, representation and training on all aspects of Workers' Compensation.

EAO Website: [www.labour.gov.bc.ca/eao](http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca/eao) Related Websites: [www.labour.gov.bc.ca](http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca) and [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com)

For further information on the Employers' Advisers Office or to subscribe/unsubscribe to this newsletter, call 1-888-608-8882

## Advising and assisting employers of BC with workers' compensation matters since 1974

### CSA Standards Now Online

WorkSafeBC and its partners in the regulation of workplace health and safety across Canada have

teamed up with the Canadian Standards Association to fund a two year pilot project to provide online access to CSA standards referenced in the OH&S legislation.

Most standards can be viewed online at <http://ohs.csa.ca/>. Questions regarding CSA standards can be answered by a CSA representative; call toll-free at 1-800-463-6727.



### Real Estate Licensees Who Form Corporations are Required to Register With WorkSafeBC

Amendments to the Real Estate Services Regulation which will allow individual real estate licensees to form personal real estate corporations as of January 1, 2009 mean some licensees will be required to register with WorkSafeBC. Under the Workers' Compensation Act, incorporated companies are required to register with WorkSafeBC to cover workers and any principal active in the company's operations. For real estate agencies, the base rate for 2009 is \$0.19 per \$100 of assessable payroll; one of the lowest rates of any industry.



If you have questions about registration with [WorkSafeBC](http://www.worksafebc.com), call the nearest Employers' Advisers office. If you are ready to register, you can do so online at [worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com) by selecting the Register for Coverage under the Insurance tab.

### FREE ACCESS TO STATUTES AND REGULATIONS STARTS JANUARY 1, 2009

Current legislation can be located on the Queen's Printer website at [www.BCLaws.ca](http://www.BCLaws.ca) starting Jan. 1, 2009.

### Return to work (RTW) Programs Start One Now!

Gone are the days where workers return to work only after they have recovered 100%. Early and safe return to work has shown positive benefits for both workers and employers. Studies have shown that workers recover faster while engaged in an effective and flexible RTW program. Relationships are maintained and both parties know what to expect in the event of a workplace injury. If you haven't got a RTW plan in place yet, here are five points:

- 1) Develop a corporate policy that reflects your firm's commitment to a RTW program.
- 2) Appoint a person or committee to coordinate and develop a suitable RTW program.
- 3) Identify modified or transitional work opportunities that are meaningful and productive.
- 4) Make the RTW program flexible so it can accommodate a variety of situations.
- 5) Inform and educate employees and supervisors about the RTW program, what is involved and what to expect.

The key is to communicate and be flexible!

If you would like to see some sample forms, visit the link to our Employers' Advisers website:

<http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca/eao/cmdm/C&DM%20Sample%20Forms.doc>.



### Coverage for Apprentices Changes

Effective October 1, 2008, individuals registered as apprentices with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) attending ITA approved apprenticeship technical training at ITA designated private training institutions have coverage as workers of the Province under Section 3(6) of the Workers' Compensation Act.