



DID YOU KNOW

Mechanical Contractors Association of Toronto

The Mechanical Contractors Association of Toronto (MCAT) is the leader of the mechanical industrial, commercial and institutional sectors. The Mission of the MCAT is to promote professionalism, cost-effectiveness, safety and productivity of mechanical services through education, labour relations, public relations and government affairs.

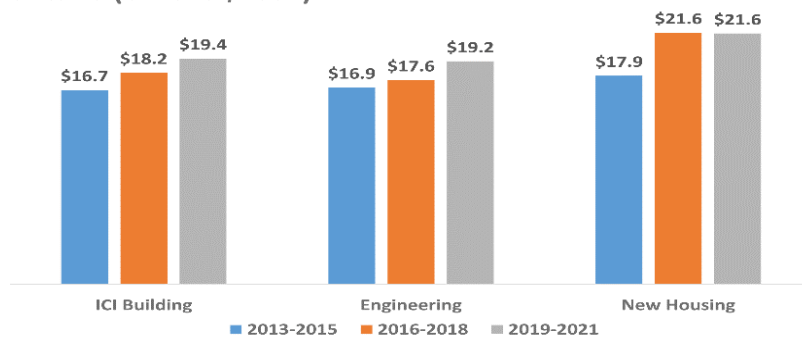
State of the Industry & Outlook:

On March 9, 2017, the Ontario Construction Secretariat hosted its 17th annual State of the Industry & Outlook Conference at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The 2017 conference focused on the theme of "Building the Infrastructure Projects that will Transform Ontario's Economy". Although it's a highly uncertain time for the global economy, Ontario's economy provides a positive outlook for 2017 and contractor optimism prevails across the province.

The slide below taken from the presentation delivered by Katherine Jacobs, Director of Research, OCS, provides a summary of the Provincial government planned investment:

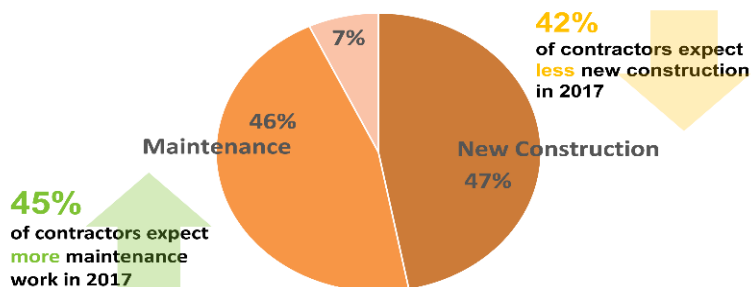


Construction Outlook Average Annual Investment Ontario (billions \$2007)



Source: Buildforce Canada, Construction Looking Forward, 2017-2026

Contractors Expect to See More Maintenance Work in 2017



Source: Ontario Construction Secretariat, 2017 Construction Confidence Survey

Above graphs provided by Katherine Jacobs, Director, of Research, OCS, from the presentation entitled: "Contractor Optimism Prevails Across the Province", that she delivered on March 9, 2017 at the OCS - State of the Industry & Outlook Conference.

WHAT'S HAPPENING 2017

Working at Heights Training

Local 46

Training available until September 30, 2017

CEC - MSCC Sales Academy (at MCAT)

April 19-20 & May 17-18

Commissioning 101: (at MCAT)

April 28

ORAC 50th Annual General Meeting

Maui, Hawaii

April 29-May 5

MCAO Annual Meeting

Edinburgh, Scotland

May 11-19

Bonding, Payment, Liens Seminar

MCAT Classroom

May 25, 2017

MCAT Young Executive Golf

DiamondBack Golf Club

May 26

OPIA 87th Annual Meeting

Kitchener, ON:

June 11-13

MCA Toronto Golf Classic

Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

June 22

ORAC Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Glen Eagle Golf Tournament

July 6

CEC Golf Tournament

Royal Ontario Golf Course, Milton, ON

July 12

MIAO 19th Annual Golf Classic

Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

August 18

MCA Toronto 54th Annual General Meeting

Blue Mountain Resort

September 29-October 1

Advanced Leadership Institute

Massachusetts, USA

Part I September 10-14, Part II November 5-10

MCA Canada 76th Annual Conference

Maui, Hawaii

November 6-9

Construct Canada Tradeshow

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Booth 641

November 29-December 1

WHMIS 2015 Training Requirements & Implementation

WHMIS first came into effect on October 31, 1988. It was created to address the rights of Canadian workers, to know about health and safety hazards associated with chemicals they use or may come into contact within the workplace.

In February 2015, Canada aligned WHMIS with the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals. GHS was developed as an international initiative to bring global standardization to chemical hazard classification and communication.

While the adoption of GHS has resulted in some changes to the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System, it offers the same, if not additional protection to workers. The main differences that you'll notice are that the symbols will look slightly different and that the 9 section Material Safety Data Sheets are being replaced with the 16 section Safety Data Sheets.

The following outlines the transition period:

Phase 1: February 2015 – May 31, 2017

Manufacturers, importers and distributors must comply with WHMIS 1988 or WHMIS 2015 (CPR or HPR). They cannot use a combination of both systems.

Phase 2: June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

Manufacturers and importers must comply with the new requirements. Distributors must comply with WHMIS 1988 or WHMIS 2015 (CPR or HPR). They cannot use a combination of both systems

Phase 3: June 1, 2018 – November 30, 2018

Manufacturers, importers and distributors must comply with the new requirements. They cannot use a combination of both systems. Employers may still see remnants of both systems in their workplaces.

Completion:

By December 21, 2018, Manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers must fully be transitioned to the new WHMIS 2015 system. No elements of the old system should be found within workplaces.



Bill 70, Schedule 17

The passing of Bill 70, Schedule 17 by the Provincial Government could have a serious impact on skilled trades. Tradespeople worry that the OLRB will give a free pass to non-certified workers who are caught doing jobs normally reserved for certified tradespeople. In accordance with Schedule 17, if work to be completed is determined to carry no "risk of harm" it will be permitted for another tradesperson or general labourer to complete the work with the only requirement being that the end-product pass final inspection. This is cause for concern because it's very likely that it is going to erode scopes of practice and allow untrained, unskilled workers to complete the work in order to cut costs. This could translate into compromised quality of work and a safety hazard since even a final inspection may not easily identify deficiencies or faults in workmanship.

Those completing an apprenticeship are equally concerned since they are investing money and years of training and Schedule 17 could render the apprenticeship programs useless since anyone will be able to complete work normally completed by a certified trade. What can you do? Call your MPP and express your concerns.

UA Local 46 Target Fund Requests

In a letter addressed to contractors on April 2, 2015 regarding the "New Target Fund Request Form & Conditional Requirements to Receive Payment of Target Funding", the UA Local 46 stated that beginning April 7, 2015, all Target Fund correspondence should be sent via email to targetfund@ualocal46.org along with typed and accurate forms.

If an invitation to bid has been supplied to the contractor, the contractor must submit the bid with the date and time of closing along with the request for funding. Request for Target Fund Forms can be also requested through UA Local 46 Toronto.

Please note that the Target Fund is proprietary to the UA Local 46 and will be allocated upon their approval and at their discretion.

Working at Heights Training

On March 29, 2017, the Ministry of Labour informed that the Working at Heights training deadline of April 1, 2017, as a requirement of O. Reg. 297/13 (OHSA), has been **extended to October 1, 2017**. However, the extension is only available for workers who completed Fall Protection training before April 1, 2015 (as a requirement of Section 26.2(1) of O. Reg 213/91), and must be enrolled in a WAH training program that will be completed before October 1, 2017. The employer must have written proof of enrolment, which must be provided to an inspector upon request.

Working at Heights training can still be arranged through **Cathy, Local 46 - Barrie office, at 705-722-3006**.

We Want to Hear from You!

Your input is greatly valued! Any questions, suggestions, compliments, concerns or updates regarding important current industry issues, events and trends can be forwarded to communications@mcats.on.ca.

Call for Committee Members

We are looking for enthusiastic members to join the Education Committee and the Young Executives Committee. If you are interested in becoming a member, please email debbie.vieira@mcats.on.ca.