

Article rank | 13 Aug 2010 | Edmonton Journal

Kudos to minister for making workplace safety a priority

Re: "Labour boss slams safety postings; Online project touted to make employers more compliant with orders," The Journal, July 31.

On July 30, Thomas Lukaszuk, Minister of Employment and Immigration, announced his plans to make the Alberta workplace safer with the unveiling of a 10-point plan to clean up the province's Occupational Health and Safety program.

The Building Trades of Alberta's over 60,000 trade professionals are proud of their safe work culture and the records they establish by collaborating with industry partners — workplace safety is the No. 1 priority.

Lukaszuk's recent announcement will raise the bar for safety in the workplace in Alberta, and we applaud him for having the courage to make this commitment.

We have been encouraging the Alberta government to move forward on initiatives addressing "Safety in the Workplace" for some time, and we have served on committees, such as the Work Safe Alberta Ministers Advisory Committee.

We see this announcement as a starting point, and while it does not address all of our concerns fully, it's very encouraging and we support Lukaszuk's obvious determination to reduce injuries and deaths in the workplace. Ron Harry, executive director,

Building Trades of Alberta

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