



## *Executive Director's Report*

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

With the holidays upon us and 2016 drawing to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their efforts resulting in a successful bargaining year. The work put in to be well prepared allowed us to be leaders at the table and gained us a reasonable settlement. I look forward to a rewarding 2 years working with you and serving as your president. I wish you the joy of family, the gift of friends and a healthy, happy and prosperous 2017.

*Bob Grassing*

AAO President



#### **UPDATE**

#### **NEW REGULATIONS FOR SUSPENDED ACCESS EQUIPMENT JANUARY 1, 2017**

Although not everyone uses suspended access equipment, there have been some AAO members that have and others that may in the future. Ontario is making some significant changes starting in 2017 and has made amendments to strengthen and clarify existing requirements relating to the use of suspended access equipment. The amendments were made to the Construction Projects Regulation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Key amendments include:

- introducing new definitions to ensure consistent interpretation
- introducing a requirement for notifying the Ministry of Labour using an approved MOL form before putting suspended access equipment into service for the first time at a project
- introducing documented requirements for roof plans and site-specific work plans
- introducing training requirements for workers who may use or inspect suspended access equipment and refresher training every 3 years
- enhancing existing design, operational, technical and engineering requirements
- strengthening and enhancing existing inspection, testing and maintenance requirements
- miscellaneous amendments to clarify certain requirements



The amendments come into force on January 1, 2017. For more information on the amendments, please see [Ontario Regulation 213/91](#).

If you require assistance, please contact Paul Gunning.

## *Executive Director's Report (continued)*



### **UPDATE: NEW EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS JANUARY 1, 2017**

Many of you may still have questions about employers' requirements and obligations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

The Ontario Government has created an accessibility tool box to help employers meet their compliance obligations with the ODA. For example, the compliance tool for small employers explains the law, the compliance obligations and further tools to help meet the requirements. The tool box can be obtained by visiting:

<http://us3.campaign-archive2.com/?u=c0c14c37aeafba38714735e2a&id=b26e421247>

The new accessibility requirements come into effect on January 1, 2017. Here's what you need to do:

#### **1 – 49 Employees**

Make your HR practices accessible

Make your public information accessible when asked

#### **50+ Employees**

Make new or redeveloped public spaces accessible

You will have to submit your accessibility compliance report in 2017. The report will include questions related to compliance with all accessibility requirements currently in effect. Detailed information about all of your requirements can be found at [www.ontario.ca/accessibility](http://www.ontario.ca/accessibility). You can also sign up for free, interactive webinars to learn more about accessibility and your requirements.

### **UPCOMING DECEMBER 2016 EVENTS**

**IHSA Drywall Labour-Management Committee Meeting** — December 1, 2016 (Paul Gunning attending)

**COCA Board Meeting** — December 5, 2016 (Paul Gunning attending)

**IHSA Construction Legislative Review Committee Meeting** — December 7, 2016 (Paul Gunning attending)

### **UPCOMING Mathews Dinsdale Seminars/Webinars**

Copy the following URL to your browser to register for new sessions or review archived session videos:

<http://www.mathewsdinsdale.com> (see right side)

If you have any questions, please call me at 519-671-5930.

Paul Gunning  
Executive Director