

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: May 6, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update: May 6

Importance: High

CLR Members,

As this is ***Mental Health Week***, I would like to remind you of the services offered by the Construction Industry Rehabilitation Plan (CIRP) which offers services to employers and workers in the unionized sector of the construction industry in BC. The following is a message from CIRP and you are encouraged to circulate the message to your employees and workers.

Many people are reporting high levels of anxiety during this COVID-19 Pandemic. CIRP is here to offer support for you and your team. The impact of COVID on mental health has been widely acknowledged and much publicized during this pandemic so this is a reminder that CIRP is now running weekly webinars.

Having launched just 3 weeks ago, the webinars have clearly met a need with almost 100 people having signed up to watch and participate. The platform that CIRP is using allows us to gage the 'temperature' of those who sign up, with 100% of respondents stating "we need to do more to tackle mental health in the industry" and 100% voting positively on content. The types of feedback we have received so far has been impressive,

"Thank you for the great session!" GH

"Really helpful advice." DG

"Looking forward to the next session!" – EY

"Honestly I think this is a wonderful idea and very much in need at a time like this!" – DH

The structure for the sessions include a presentation and conversation between the presenters, and a Q&A session in which the audience members can seek answers to their questions, and receive support. Every week that we have run these webinars, we have received more and more positive feedback and each week the number of people registering has increased. Because of this, we see a real need and value in these webinars and have decided to extend them past the original 3 trial sessions!

Join us next week on Thursday at 10:00am to discuss bullying in the workplace! Register at CIRP Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/653663505201198/>) or call CIRP on 1-888-521-8611 or 1-604-521-8611. We'll see you there!

The CIRP has also posted videos on their website intended to assist our members and their workers who are facing mental health issues. I encourage you to share this website link to the CIRP YouTube videos. More will follow as CIRP continues to offer resources to help us through these challenging times.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRpfXJSBwE2stIJ4NmdF2ww/>

Provincial Updates

The Premier is expected to make some announcements today dealing with the gradual reopening of the BC economy. I will provide a summary of the announcements when they are available today after his 3:00 PM address.

WSBC is posting Covid-19 stats by industry sector on its website at this link:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/claims/covid-19-claims-by-industry-sector>

There have been 265 claims made to date with the majority of those understandably being in the health care sector. Construction factors are very low when compared to other sectors and there is yet to be an accepted claim (5 cases still pending).

Federal Updates

There was no daily address from the Prime Minister (PM) today as he attended a service (Repatriation Ceremony) in Trenton Ontario to honour the military personnel killed in the recent helicopter crash off the coast of Greece.

Federal Ministers did face the media today and focused on the following:

- COVID-19 cases update in Canada:
 - 62,468 confirmed cases
 - 4,111 deaths
 - 27,000 (43%) have recovered
 - More than 970,000 tests have been conducted (6% tested positive)
- This is mental health week
 - people are encouraged to express their feelings and to seek help if they need it.
 - This year, there is additional importance placed on mental health given the current pandemic.
 - People are encouraged to connect with friends and loved ones virtually
- Canadian federal support programs update as of May 5:
 - Canada Emergency Business Account - 545,000 people have received an emergency loan up to \$40,000
 - Canada Emergency Response Benefit – 7.5 million have received at least one payment; total 10.9 million applications have been received (10.7 million of them have been processed already)
 - Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy – 110,000 businesses have submitted a request through CRA for reimbursement of employee wages. The majority of applications received have been processed and reimbursement for those should be made by tomorrow.

Stay safe and well and *I will communicate again after the Premier's address this afternoon.*

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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