

Cathy Domanico

From: Wayne Peterson
Sent: December 18, 2024 11:33 AM
To: Cathy Domanico
Subject: FW: Bulletin #23-24 Open Period
Attachments: December 4 2024 - Letter to Minister Piccini.pdf

From: Wayne Peterson
Sent: December 4, 2024 6:44 PM
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Subject: Bulletin #23-24 Open Period

Bulletin #23-24

Good evening.

Yesterday the Minister brought up the “open period” in our meeting. Later I was present when the Minister had a conversation with Marc Arsenault asking him if the Building Trades supported shortening the “open period” and indicating he would like a quick turn around on a response. There was also a suggestion that it would be good to have industry support on the issue.

Attached is the letter PBCTCO sent to the Minister today.
I believe shortening the open period is in our best interests.
Are you in favour of supporting the PBCTCO’s letter.

With a short runway on this please advise by 4:00 pm tomorrow, December 5, 2024.

Thank you.

Wayne Peterson
Executive Director
Construction Employers Coordinating Council of Ontario



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December 4, 2024

To: Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
400 University Avenue, 14th Floor
Toronto, ON - M7A 1T7
minister.mltsd@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario, we salute your leadership in introducing the *Working for Workers Six Act*, 2024 which contains significant improvements for Ontario's workforce including those employed in the construction industry. We will work diligently to help secure maximum support, including cross-party consensus, to advance this progressive legislation.

As you are aware, at the present time, open periods in Ontario's construction industry (during which time Building Trades unions may raid each other's members) last for 60 days. The practice of raiding is strongly discouraged by the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario as it costs workers millions of dollars in legal and other fees during each bargaining cycle. The Council is also concerned about the significant impact raiding can have on the pension and benefit funds of our affiliates when large contractors are targeted by a raid.

In the past, our Council has urged governments of the day to exert their power to limit the duration of open periods so that this type of activity can be minimized. With the bargaining cycle in Ontario's Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector just ahead of us, we would encourage you to introduce legislative changes to shorten the open period from 60 days to 30 days (ending on April 30, 2025) as we believe that this measure will still allow workers the freedom to choose their bargaining agent as permitted under the law, but alleviate the damage done from raiding, thus enhancing jobsite productivity and overall confidence in Ontario's construction industry.

We thank you in advance for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us at info@ontariobuildingtrades.com or at (416) 679-8887 to discuss this matter in greater detail. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Marc Arsenault,
Business Manager & Secretary-Treasurer

James E. Hogarth,
President