



Results of OCC Member Survey

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) has released the survey results from its latest member survey on health care at Queen's Park. The key findings indicate that OCC members believe that the current healthcare system is not working and they reject the status quo, calling for greater private sector financing and delivery of health services. The OCC will continue to encourage debate on this important issue, in conjunction with local members, healthcare organizations, political and opinion leaders. Complete survey results are available at www.occ.on.ca.

OCC Opposes WSIB Premium Rate Hike

The OCC believes that the recent premium rate hike announced by the WSIB on July 21st will limit job creation and deter investment in Ontario. The WSIB set the 2006 preliminary average premium rate at \$2.26 for every \$100 of insurable earnings, an increase of 3% from the 2005 premium of \$2.19. The WSIB declared that the increase is necessary because of a lack of resources to fund compensation claims as over the last several years premiums have not kept up with rising costs. It was the OCC's original understanding, however, that the rate increase was being blamed on rising health care costs, in particular, to address prevention and occupational diseases. Yet not only is the WSIB in a secure financial position, industrial accident rates have also

dropped by over 60% since the late 1980s and are projected to continue to decline. According to the WSIB's own Chief Actuary, "the system is not in crisis – it is very manageable," as stated in the WSIB Funding Session, March 2005. As well, the Ministry of Labour continues to be committed to improving workplace safety in Ontario and plans to further reduce injuries by 20% by 2008.

Canada Labour Code Survey

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is undertaking a questionnaire of our members in order to gather feedback on specific items pertaining to Part III of the *Canada Labour Code*. Your participation is critical in assisting the Canadian Chamber to develop a position with regard to the appropriate amendments to be made. Labour organizations are currently developing recommendations that may be detrimental to achieving greater labour force flexibility. Even if your organization is not directly influenced by the review your input is still crucial as provincial labour legislation often models federal standards. Any changes made to the federal labour code may, therefore, have the potential to be adopted through provincial labour legislation. The *Canadian Chamber of Commerce Member Questionnaire on Federal Labour Standards Review* is available at:

www.chamber.ca/main.asp?id=3765. **The response date for this survey is August 5th.**

2005-2006

Executive Officers

Chairman of the Board

Jay A. Meiliunas
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.

Past Chair

Garth Bell
Dynamic Building Operators

Secretary

Michele Bell
Cole Engineering

Treasurer

Michael Deegan
Stouffville Denture Clinic

Directors

Nitin Badhwar
Welcomehome Relocations Inc.

Sean Steenson
Novopharm Ltd.

Lynda Sargeant
Lindy's Floral Boutique

Office Administration

President & CEO
Helene Johnson

Summer Staff

Tesha Olsen
Melissa Risebrough

W/S Chamber of Commerce
6176 Main Street, PO Box 1500
Stouffville, ON L4A 8A4
Tel: 905-642-4227
Fax: 905-642-8966
chamber@whitchurchstouffville.ca
www.whitchurchstouffville.ca

Go Sales and Tourist Information

Mon-Fri 7:30-5:00
Sat 7:30-4:00
Sun & Holidays 10:00-4:00

Welcome New Members

Betz Pools Ltd.

Frank Blanchet
5688 Main St.
PO Box 760
Stouffville, ON L4A 7Z9
Tel: 905-640-1424
Fax: 905-640-7681
Swimming Pool Contractors

Modern Home Furniture

R.V. Sangar
5402 Main St., Unit 6
Stouffville, ON L4A 1H3
Tel: 905-642-0024
Fax: 905-642-0023
Furniture

Stouffville Car Clinic Ltd.

Rob Lowe
5998 Main St.
Stouffville, ON L4A 3A1
Tel: 905-640-2462
Fax: 905-640-4671
Automotive Repair &
Service

TD Waterhouse - Private Investment Advice

Rob Hinzl
79 Wellington St. West,
11th Floor
Toronto, ON M5K 1A1
Tel: 416-308-4600
Fax: 416-308-6958
Financial Planning
Consultants

Wild Wing Stouffville

Mark Falzon
5946 Main St., Unit 4
Stouffville, ON L4A 2Z9
Tel: 905-642-1777
Restaurants

Thank-you for your input July 14th, re: The Downtown Revitalization and East/West Entrances. If you were not able to attend and have ideas, please fax or mail them to us. We thank-you for your participation.

COMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**August 25th. 7:30 am Networking Breakfast
Modern Home Furniture**

5402 Main St., Unit 6

Cost - Members \$10
Non-members \$15

Please call the office to advise us if you would like to attend any of these meetings. In doing so, we may inform the respective caterers of our numbers.