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Implementation of Amendments to AIT Labour Mobility Provisions

Recently the much-anticipated text of the amendments to the labour mobility provisions enshrined in Chapter 7 of the *Agreement on Internal Trade* ("AIT") was publicly released following approval by industry ministers comprising the Committee on Internal Trade and the endorsement of Premiers and the Prime Minister. In terms of the implementation timeframe, the amendments to Chapter 7 are due to come into force on April 1st, 2009, with mutual recognition of certified workers between all provinces/territories commencing in August 2009.

Key changes achieved through the amendments may be summarized as follows:

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| <p>1-Any worker certified for an occupation in one province or territory will be certified for that occupation in any other province or territory without any requirement for additional material training, experience, examinations or assessments;</p> <p>2-Greater emphasis is placed on the recognition of certified workers across provinces and territories and on the adoption of common inter-provincial/territorial standards where possible;</p> | <p>3-Certain additional requirements may continue to be imposed by regulatory authorities; and</p> <p>4-Recognition of certified workers is required unless provinces/territories approve exceptions to labour mobility as necessary to achieve one of 7 pre-identified legitimate objectives (such as public security and safety) which will be posted on a public website and reviewed annually.</p> |
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For the construction industry, the relative impact of these amendments may well depend on factors such as: the number of tradespersons currently certified in Red Seal trades who did not obtain their Red Seal endorsement; the number of construction trades designated in at least two jurisdictions that are not currently Red Seal trades; and the degree to which the relative standards for a non Red Seal designated/certified trade vary from one jurisdiction to the next.

CCA NEEDS YOUR HELP

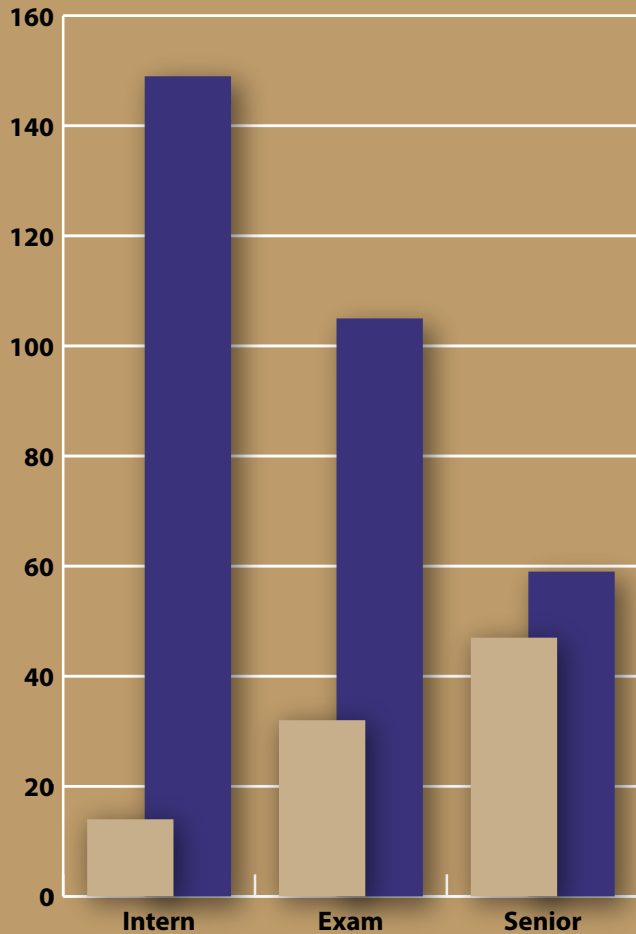
CCA is working with federal officials to make the case for the need for substantive changes to federal industrial security clearance procedures in terms of timeliness, cost and uniformity. At a recent meeting, evidence of how

current procedures are delaying the implementation of projects was suggested as an effective means to make this case given the current desire to expedite projects for economic stimulative impact.

If you know
of specific examples

where current federal industrial security clearance practices are slowing the implementation of federal construction projects, please contact CCA President Michael Atkinson via e-mail at

mikea@cca-acc.com.



Numbers Keep Growing for the Gold Seal Program



The Gold Seal Program is seeing a high number of applications due to the changes in the requirements. To date CCA has received a record number of 313 applications for certification.

The next Gold Seal exam is slated for April 24, 2009. Applications must be submitted to your the Local Construction Association no later than April 3, 2009.

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CCA TO RECOGNIZE LONG STANDING CORPORATE MEMBERS

As it has become customary during the CCA Annual Conference, CCA is set to acknowledge corporate members that have reached significant milestones. This year, CCA is proud to recognize six members who have reached the 10-year milestone as Corporate Members.

The following companies joined the Association as a Corporate Member in 1999 and will receive a 10-year recognition at a special reception scheduled to take place March 10th, in Scottsdale:

- Botting & Associates
- Clark Builders
- Encon Group
- Export Development Canada
- Guarantee Company of North America
- The State Group

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CCA would like to thank all of its Corporate Members for their continued support and wishes to see many of them at the 2009 Construction Industry Leaders' Forum. The date and location of the 2009 forum will be announced shortly.

