




Federal Hours of Service Exemption Report Finalized

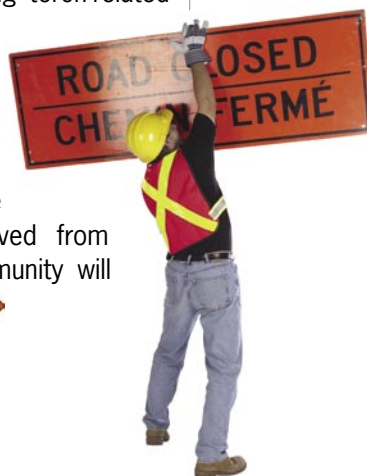
With the input of the CCA Roadbuilders Council and provincial roadbuilder associations, CCA has submitted a report to Transport Canada asking for relaxed rules for the roadbuilding and heavy construction sector from the federal Hours of Service regulations. This report outlines why such a request will protect public safety, and why it is in the public interest. The report recommends three changes: one, an exemption for winter maintenance; two, an increase in the gross vehicle weight subject to Hours of Service regulations to 11,500 kgs; and three, a blanket exemption for short-haul drivers driving a radius of 160 km or less. In return, the report states that roadbuilders would be prepared to implement Fatigue Management Programs within their companies to reduce any risk (however small) of fatigue-related incidents. CCA will keep members apprised on the outcome of this report.

VANOC Needs Roadbuilders for Olympic Torch Relay Task Forces!

Over the summer, the Vancouver Olympic Committee (VANOC) will be informing municipalities across Canada that their community will be on the route of the Olympic Torch Relay, which is scheduled to commence in November 2009. Once a municipality has been informed, they will be asked to establish a Task Force which will be responsible for planning out the activities surrounding the torch once it arrives in that particular community. VANOC will be recommending to each municipality that it include a roadbuilder representative on each Task Force, since VANOC recognizes that roadbuilders are keenly aware of road safety issues - a key perspective when planning torch-related activities, particularly in winter. Any roadbuilder interested in sitting on a Task Force is advised to speak to your local mayor and/or councillor once confirmation is received from VANOC that a community will be on the route. 

\$1.25 Billion PPP Fund Soon to be Established

CCA recently met with the federal Deputy Minister of Finance to learn more about the \$1.25 billion Public-Private Partnership Fund for infrastructure first announced in Budget 2007. This new fund will be administered by a new PPP Crown Corporation that is currently being established by the Department of Finance. Through this fund, the federal government will provide up to 25% of the costs of an innovative PPP infrastructure project anywhere in Canada. Unlike other infrastructure funds, this fund will be allocated on a competitive basis, not per capita. Provinces considering the pursuit of infrastructure projects under the PPP model will have the opportunity to apply for funding under this new fund.



Farewell

— from Jeff Morrison

For the past five years, I have had the pleasure of working with the CCA Roadbuilders Council and as Executive Director of TRIP Canada. Recently, I announced that I had accepted the position of President and Chief Operating Officer with the Association of Canadian Engineering Companies (ACEC), effective July 14. It has been my pleasure to work with such a dedicated and professional group of individuals and firms. I hope to have the privilege of continuing to work with all of you in my new capacity at ACEC.