

New Chief Prevention Officer To Oversee Workplace Safety

McGuinty Government Welcomes Recommendations From Tony Dean's Expert Panel

NEWS

December 16, 2010

Ontario is taking action to address the recommendations from an expert panel report that will help improve workplace health and safety.

A new Chief Prevention Officer will ensure effective health and safety services and enforcement at workplaces throughout Ontario. The position is one of several recommendations included in the final report, released today, from the expert panel appointed to review Ontario's workplace health and safety system.

The Chief Prevention Officer will ensure Ontario's injury prevention priorities and programs are coordinated and integrated with the province's enforcement system. The officer will also oversee Ontario's Health and Safety Associations and report annually to the Minister.

Going forward, the province will determine how best to implement the panel's remaining recommendations.

The recommendations of the 10-member panel, led by Tony Dean, professor in the School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto, are the result of broad-based consultations with labour, business, and workplace health and safety organizations.

QUOTES

"I wholeheartedly embrace these recommendations that will help ensure that Ontario workers return home safely at the end of each day. The appointment of a Chief Prevention Officer and the consensus support we've received from labour and business signal a new era of cooperation as we continue to build a world-class system of health and safety protection for workers."

- Peter Fonseca, Minister of Labour

"I am honoured to have had the privilege of leading this group of workplace safety experts. Our goal is to recommend improvements that will effectively strengthen protections for every worker in Ontario."

- Tony Dean, Chair, Expert Advisory Panel

QUICK FACTS

- The expert panel received more than 400 responses (including presentations, written and electronic submissions), conducted 50 meetings with stakeholders, and held regional meetings in London, Windsor, Ottawa, Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Toronto.
- The Ministry of Labour has more than 400 highly trained inspectors on the ground inspecting jobs sites every day.
- Ontario has a new number for workplace health and safety incidents, unsafe practices and general inquiries: 1-877-202-0008.

LEARN MORE

Read the full [Report and Recommendations](#) of the Expert Advisory Panel on Occupational Health and Safety.

Greg Dennis, Minister's Office, 416-326-7710
Matt Blajer, Communications Branch, 416-326-7405

ontario.ca/labour-news
Disponible en français