



Community Services,  
Seniors and Labour  
Office of the Employer Advisor  
[www.gov.pe.ca/go/oea](http://www.gov.pe.ca/go/oea)

# The Employer Advisor

March 2011  
Vol. 7 Issue 3

40 B Burns Avenue, PO Box 2000, Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8 Tel: 902-368-6132 Fax: 902-368-4382 Email: [phmcp@mail@gov.pe.ca](mailto:phmcp@mail@gov.pe.ca)  
An electronic newsletter for Island employers on Workers Compensation and Occupational Health and Safety Matters

## PEI SAFETY CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

The Prince Edward Island Chapter of the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering (CSSE) is seeking nominations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Prince Edward Island Safety Champion of the Year Award. This award was established for presentation to a safety champion during the observance of North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH) on PEI. As in past years, the award features a carved white safety helmet on an imported wood background and was artfully handcrafted by Blair MacDonald of Cornwall. Last year's recipient was Tom Mugford, Superintendent of Health, Safety and Environment with Maritime Electric. He was presented with the award by Alan McCormick, PEI CSSE Chapter Chair and Keith Mullins, Employer Advisor.

To nominate a safety professional for this award, the following criteria must be addressed in detail:

- ◆ Quality of instruction
- ◆ Improvement of training materials
- ◆ Innovation
- ◆ Promotion of teamwork
- ◆ Hazard identification and reduction
- ◆ Creating public safety

The nominations must include a summary of the accomplishments of the nominee in relation to the above criteria and at least one letter of endorsement from either peers, supervisors, clients, partners and/or supervised staff describing the nominee's accomplishments to support the nomination. The deadline for the receipt of nominations is 5:00 pm on Friday, April 29, 2011 and the award will be presented during the NAOSH Week Activity. More information on the nomination process is available from Liz Murray, Program Assistant with the Office of the Employer Advisor, at 902-620-3519 or by e-mail at [eimurray@gov.pe.ca](mailto:eimurray@gov.pe.ca).

## 2011 NAOSH WEEK

NAOSH Week is scheduled for May 1-7, 2011. The Prince Edward Island Chapter of the CSSE is working on local events for this year's NAOSH week. The theme for this year is: **"Safety & Health: A Commitment for Life! What's Your Plan?"**.

The goal of NAOSH Week is to focus the attention of employers, employees, the general public and all partners in occupational safety and health on the importance of preventing injury and illness in the workplace, at home and in the community. Information on local events for NAOSH Week will be available in upcoming newsletters and more information is available at [www.naosh.ca](http://www.naosh.ca).

## MAXIMUM ANNUAL EARNINGS FOR 2011

The 2011 maximum annual earnings level for workers compensation benefits has been set at \$47,800 effective January 1, 2011 which is an increase from the 2010 level of \$47,500. This level has been established in accordance with Section 47.(2) of the *Workers Compensation Act*, which indicates that the maximum annual earnings shall be adjusted on January 1 of each year by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Charlottetown and Summerside for all items for the 12-month period ending on June 30 previous. This is determined by the Workers Compensation Board of PEI in August of each year on the basis of monthly reports published in that respect by Statistics Canada for that period.

## POLICY CHANGES AT WCB OF PEI

The Workers Compensation Board has made changes to the following policies:

- ◆ POL-82, Support For Independent Living (formerly Home Care)
- ◆ POL-73, Vehicle Modifications
- ◆ POL-89, Impairment
- ◆ POL-120, Medications
- ◆ POL-131, Home Modifications And Special Equipment

To see what Policies are currently under review, or to sign up for the WCB *Policy Updates Subscription Service*, visit the Policy Consultation section of the WCB website at:

[www.wcb.pe.ca/wcb/Information/PolicyConsultation](http://www.wcb.pe.ca/wcb/Information/PolicyConsultation)