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Send us your feedback
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High Noon for stimuli and EI

Stimulus Watch.ca

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/090526/dq090526a-eng.htm>

www.stimuluswatch.ca

http://www.ottawasun.com/comment/columnists/monte_solberg/2009/05/28/9594391-sun.html

Upcoming Articles

Environnement and Canada

Canada Labour Code consultations

Wages and the Temporary

Foreign Worker program



Government Compass-“your guide to where Canada is headed”



High Noon is approaching for EI and stimuli

The economy is facing serious challenges and the employment numbers released this morning stunned many economists and industry watchers. In Canada, 681,400 people were receiving regular EI benefits up by 65,300 or 10.6% from the previous month. Not surprisingly with changes in the oil patch Alberta was hardest hit with increases over the national average. Calgary and Edmonton were the hardest hit where beneficiaries increased **187%** and **186%** respectively. In fact, all urban centres had an exponential increase in unemployment - it is likely to remain this way until the

economy changes. Currently, people living in areas with lower unemployment (cities) will be less likely to receive benefits when they need it. The Conservative Government does not seem to be willing to temporarily adjust requirements to assist Canadians hardest hit. There is currently a Liberal amendment in the House of Commons (which the Building Trades lobbied on) that reduces qualification requirements and assists the unemployed by increasing access. It may not be exactly the right formula but the Government and the Opposition need to come to some sort of agreement on this issue. This issue has the “legs” to fully beat the election

drum – a temporary change to EI qualification hours and regional inequality issues need to be addressed. As the workforce impacted by the rules and impacted by the economic downturn you need to talk to your Member of Parliament and let them know what is happening on the ground. This is a good opportunity for the Government to show they are serious about Canada and Canadians – this is something that affects each and every working family in Canada. We need a solution that is “timely, targeted and temporary” –much like the mission statement of Budget 2009 produced in January 2009.

Stay tuned to this channel for more information we all are interested in – your members and our industry has too much at stake not to pay attention. We have been asked to participate in information sharing on www.stimuluswatch.ca wherein we will be submitting information at a grassroots level – this information will provide real time and community based information on how the government's spending is helping your family.

Watch for it coming June 15, 2009.



Stimuluswatch.ca wants to know about:

- Employment Levels in your local and in the industry in your community
- Out of work lists
- Number of Apprentices in your local
- New large construction projects in your hometown
- Where the work is
- We need to know if "stimulus dollars" are flowing to your community and if your members are benefiting

Visit www.stimuluswatch.ca and share your story on infrastructure spending on the blog.

