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NEW BOARD APPOINTED

The new Board was recently appointed for a term concluding on 30 June 2012.

The Board consists of seven members appointed to represent the interests of workers and employers in the construction industry.



Photo L-R: Rick Cairney, Colin Fenney, Margaret Sexton, Ben Carslake, Bob Geraghty, Steven Hall, Steven Minuzzo

The members are:

Presiding Officer
Margaret Sexton

Employer Representatives
Jim Whiting
Steven Hall
Rick Cairney

Worker Representatives
Colin Fenney
Bob Geraghty
Ben Carslake

Deputy Members
Steven Minuzzo
Kevin Kelly
John Camillo
Doug Buchanan
Martin O'Malley

Board 30th Celebrations

On Tuesday 2nd October representatives from the construction industry, former Board members and representatives of the Government and Opposition, attended the Board's "30 Years On" celebratory dinner. The function was an outstanding success showcasing the achievements of the various Boards since the scheme's inception in 1977 when it was widely regarded as a pilot for the building and other industries.

The Board's Presiding Officer Margaret Sexton welcomed guests from the South Australian industry and interstate schemes. Ms Sexton informed guests the South Australian scheme continued to operate with one of the lowest costs per client across the nation. This had contributed in part to the Construction Industry Fund's reserve of \$9.53 million at 30th June 2007.

The Minister for Industrial Relations was represented by the Hon. Bernard Finnigan. Mr Finnigan praised the Board in meeting the demands of providing portable long service leave for construction industry workers within South Australia and across state and territory borders through the National Reciprocal Agreement. Mr Finnigan also commended the Board for its competence and professionalism in being selected by the Northern Territory Government to provide consultancy and administrative services in setting up a similar scheme in the Northern Territory.

The night reinforced the importance of all stakeholders working together to ensure the ongoing success of the construction industry in this State.

The occasion was perhaps best summed up by the Chief Executive Officer Mr Ian Hopkins. "Clearly what we do we do well and we are here to stay."



Register Apprentices for FREE!!



Apprentices accrue service days towards long service leave in the same way as other workers in the scheme.

The major difference is that employers of apprentices **do not have to pay a levy** for the service they report to CBS, until the apprentice becomes a tradesperson.

Employers are still required to provide information to CBS on their Employer Return Form of the days worked by the apprentice during the return period, but they show "0" in the remuneration field, meaning there is no cost to register your apprentice with CBS.

If you **only** employ apprentices, you can also apply to CBS to lodge one return form per financial year.

Declare ACTUAL rate of pay

It is important the correct amount of "Remuneration" is declared on your Employer Return Form, as this affects both the levy payable and the weekly rate your workers will receive when taking long service leave.



The amount you declare is the actual remuneration paid to your workers irrespective of whether they are paid at or over award or under an enterprise agreement.

You must include payments relating to annual leave (but not leave loading), sick leave, public holidays, rostered days off, industry allowance, tool allowance, compensation by way of income maintenance paid in respect of a compensable disability under the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 (but not if the period, or the aggregate of separate periods, for which the compensation has already been paid exceeds 2 years)

You must NOT include payments relating to annual leave loading, overtime, bonuses, site allowance, retirement, retrenchment, or redundancy, other than for back-pay, fares or travelling allowance, special rates paid to workers on an irregular basis to compensate for occasional disabilities under which work is performed, other than where the rate is paid during a period of leave with pay.

Industry Liaison Officers will conduct random audits to ensure employers are declaring remuneration in accordance with the above criteria.

Increased on-site presence

The Board has an obligation to ensure workers are provided with up to date information about the scheme. To this end, Industry Liaison Officers will be increasing their presence on building sites.

Visits will occur during work breaks and may necessitate the use of the lunch shed. The purpose of the visit is to enable workers to access their long service leave records, request a statement of service, update their address details and ask questions they may have in relation to the scheme.

Where possible, Industry Liaison Officers will liaise directly with Site Supervisors/Safety Officers prior to the visit to establish a suitable date and time for the visit to occur. This may also allow prior notice of the visit to be provided to workers.

Information may also be requested in relation to employers on the site to ensure they are meeting their obligations under the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act, 1987. (The Act empowers Industry Liaison Officers to enter any premises and obtain details relating to workers on the site.)

It would be appreciated if Site Supervisors/Managers within your Company were made aware of our intended site visits.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact either Terry Redman or Michael Shanahan on 8271 2711.

Highlights of 06/07

The 2006/07 Annual Report of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board was recently tabled in Parliament.

The Report detailed the following for 2006/07:

- 1140 claims processed at a cost to the Fund of \$5.4 million.
- Levy income of \$9.7 million.
- \$7.23 million investment earnings.
- Operating surplus of \$5.4 million in 2006/07.
- Construction Industry Fund \$9.53 million net equity at 30th June 2007.
- Investment return of 12.8%. Value of funds under management increased by 23% to \$59.9 million.
- Scheme unit cost \$38.46.
- 207 new employers and 4867 new workers were registered during the year.
- Average ordinary weekly pay increased by 6.7% to \$870.

The Annual Report can be downloaded from the "Publications" link of our website.

Christmas Office Hours

Construction Benefit Services will close for the Christmas/New Year period at 5pm on Friday 21st December 2007 and re-open on Wednesday 2nd January 2008 at 9am.

We wish all our clients in the construction industry a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

