

Building and Construction Trades Department , Canadian Office, AFL-CIO (613) 236-0653  
Government and Regulatory Affairs

Send us your feedback  
[csmillie@buildingtrades.ca](mailto:csmillie@buildingtrades.ca)

## In this issue

Hope it is not April fools.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
<http://www.actionplan.gc.ca/eng/index.asp>

[www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov)

Coming Soon - Visit:

[www.stimuluswatch.ca](http://www.stimuluswatch.ca)

## Upcoming Articles

What an Obama government realistically means to Canada and our business

**Check Out this report put out by the Construction Sector Council**



Impact of Fiscal Stimulus.pdf

(double click on file)



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



## April fools or.... the real thing?

April 1, 2009 is the date Canada's stimulus money can legally start flowing from the government to our economy. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has recently released a long list of “shovel ready” projects across Canada for federal funding consideration. Most of these projects will require two or three signatures – one from each funding partners. There is legitimate concern “out there” that this announced money will never flow due to decreased confidence and revenue shortfalls from provincial and municipal partners. The Federal government has been clear that they will not go it alone on these projects – we run the risk of getting no stimulus at all while everyone argues about who is paying for what. It remains to be seen what kind of accountability measures to which the Liberals will hold the government. The first report

to Parliament on budget 2009 was tabled this week and it was short on substance. Technically, when the report had been tabled, the Budget Implementation Act (C-10) had still not been passed.

So, how will we know when stimulus money starts flowing? How will we know who is getting it and how it is benefitting Canada? If actually spent, this package of projects will be the largest endeavour of spending undertaken by a Canadian government.

Everyday Canadians need to be engaged to ensure the promise of intervention turns into government's obligation to act. There are a number of websites in the United States that are proposing projects / spending requirements for infrastructure and community investment. These kinds of websites have the right idea – even the Whitehouse has [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov) where it

is strikingly effective in communicating what is being done and where.

Canada needs something that keeps our government thinking about the longer term impact of the money being spent – Canadians deserve a non-partisan, non “pork barreling” approach to our stimulus budget.

Over the next number of months keep an eye on your community and keep track of the man hours your local is supplying. Keep an eye on the apprentices you are responsible for and ensure they are staying employed, or be in contact with them if they are out of work. Keep track of your training numbers (inflow and outflow) and let us know. The Canadian Office is interested in hearing about your level of employment generally and specifically over the next year or so.

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](http://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 April 15 2009.



**The BCTD, Canadian Office 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 and which contractor is doing it

Stay tuned for a more formalized information template!

