

From: Ontario BIA Association [<mailto:info@obiaa.com>]

Sent: February 1, 2018 10:42 AM

To: Richard AI <RAI@northhuron.ca>

Subject: Welcome to February 2018

Your Monthly E-Newsletter from the Ontario BIA Association *read on...*

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ONTARIO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA ASSOCIATION



Mid-Month OBIAA E-Newsletter - February
2018

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



More information will be available in a stand alone newsletter shortly!

**We are looking for volunteers to help judge this
year's Conference Awards Submissions!
Please let us know right away if you are
interested in participating!**

Email admin@obiaa.com!

The deadline for Judging is March 15.

Do you have pictures
of your downtown
over the years
(preferably from the
same vantage point)?
Send them our way!

Email

admin@obiaa.com!

Revitalizing Rural Main Streets, Helping Small Businesses Grow



Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Affairs and the Minister
Responsible for Small Business, made
the following announcement at the
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Conference in Toronto:

New Version of Employment Standards Poster Released

*Vibrant main streets help attract
visitors, create jobs and increase the
competitiveness of small businesses,
which are the backbone of small, rural
communities. **That's why the
province is helping municipalities***



On January 2nd, Version 7.0 of the Ministry of Labour's *Employment Standards Poster* was officially published.

The poster describes important rights and requirements under the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA) and must be posted in the workplace where it is likely that employees will see it. Employers are also required to provide employees with a copy of the poster in either print or electronic format.

This new poster, which replaces version 6.0, is available to be downloaded and/or printed off the Ministry of Labour website.

enhance and revitalize their downtown and main streets through improvements such as the installation of pedestrian crosswalks or landscaping. Municipalities can also direct funding to local businesses to improve the appearance of their storefronts by installing lighting or new signage.

Supporting small businesses and communities across the province is part of Ontario's plan to create fairness and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under 25, through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

What can you do? Communicate with your municipality some of the 'shovel-ready' projects you have in your Strategic Plan. You could encourage

[More Info & Download
Now!](#)

them to support your efforts by adding some of your BIA's budget money to increase the return on the investment.

BIA Spotlight



Welland Downtown BIA used as example for growing public-private relationships

This month's Municipal World recognized The City of Welland and Welland Downtown BIA for their success in connecting with each other and working together to improve their community. Through collaboration, they have been able to revitalize longstanding events and festivals that previously struggled to maintain

**Do you have a
donation item for the
2018 Conference Silent
Auction?**

Let us know!

Email [admin@obiaa.com!](mailto:admin@obiaa.com)

BIAs in Profile

#TOWaterfront Sign Announces an Art-filled Winter for Toronto's Urban Waterfront

attendance, and initiate new and exciting events.

Welland Downtown BIA says goodbye to their Executive Director, Stephanie Hicks, early this month, who has been instrumental in creating and maintaining these partnerships with the City.

[Read the Article](#)

[Farewell, Stephanie!](#)

Help for Small Businesses

ONTARIO
CANADA



A new Toronto sign: driftwood artists, Shore Land Arts, create an over 50-ft long #TOWaterfront sign to launch The Waterfront BIA's winter arts program.

Commisioned by The Waterfront BIA as part of their winter programming, the bright pink sculpture stands 7-ft high and stretches over 50-ft long in front of the HTO Park urban beach.



By using reclaimed wood from Toronto



Share the following links with
your members!

**[Click here for
government grants,
loans, tax credits and
support services for
Ontario businesses!](#)**

**[The Magnet Export
Business Portal helps
businesses quickly
find programs and
services for which they
are eligible.](#)**

Island parks, the artists hope to raise awareness of the natural beauty that exists along Toronto's shoreline and become a part of the artistic eco-system of the city.

The sign launched in mid-December and will stand until Spring 2018.



[More Info!](#)

**Join the Mid-Sized Cities
Learning Exchange**

Dates to Remember



Feb 12 - Best Practices Call

Feb 8 - Governance Committee Meeting

Feb 9 - Education Committee Meeting

Feb 12 - Executive Committee Meeting

Feb 13 - Communications Committee Meeting

Feb 22 - Conference Committee Meeting

Apr 15-18 - CONFERENCE!

[Request meeting minutes and call-in information](#)



Evergreen, [OCAD University](#) and the [Council for Canadian Urbanism](#) have come together to support the country's mid-sized city leaders through the Mid-Sized Cities Learning Exchange.

The Learning Exchange uses unique group-based approaches to better understand and solve complex urban problems, and offers tools and resources that will advance the capacity and skills of leaders from across Canada.

Now accepting applications!

[Mid-Sized City Program](#)

[Apply Now!](#)

Set up Governance Training

Return on Investment Report Update



Economic Development

BIAs that can attract employees to an area increase the daytime population by over 80%.

BIAs account for a significant proportion of the jobs in a community (ranging from 0.2:1 to 0.9:1).

Exclusive Certificate for Municipal Leaders



For the third time, Dalhousie University is offering an Executive Certificate in Local Government.

This online program is intended, exclusively, for those who are responsible for leading the municipal organization, including the CAO, municipal councillors, the senior management team, and department heads.

Dates: April 16 to June 29, 2018

Requirements: Some post-secondary experience or equivalent professional development or a combination of formal learning and leadership experience

Contact: Shelby Lang, Program

[Read the full report here!](#)

Manager, at Shelby.lang@dal.ca or 902-494-7459

Compliance Support for *Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017*

[More Info](#)

[Apply Now!](#)



On November 27th, the *Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017* became law, introducing a number of amendments to the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* (ESA). The amendments include changes to the Personal Emergency Leave (PEL) provisions, which came into force on January 1st.

Accessibility Corner



WEB ACCESSIBILITY TIPS

Caption your videos.

Captions provide benefits to all users.

There are many free, easy-to-use tools

As part of their ongoing commitment to provide compliance support to employers and employees, the Ministry of Labour has published a new [PEL chapter in *Your Guide to the Employment Standards Act, 2000*](#).

In addition to sharing these resources with you, the Ministry of Labour would also like to take this opportunity to invite any feedback you may have on the content:

- Do you find the information helpful?
- Are there any gaps in the content that you would like us to fill in?
- Are there any particular parts that you find difficult to understand or apply?

The Ministry intends to update their resources to provide further clarity where warranted based

available that support the process of transcribing and captioning videos.

[More Info](#)

Best Practices Calls



In January, we discussed the following:

- Tourism Events
- A January Work Schedule
- An Elections Wish List
- Membership Engagement

All meeting minutes are available upon request. See last month's minutes

on feedback received from
stakeholders.

below.

This month's call will be:

[Personal Emergency
Leave FAQ](#)

Date: Monday, February 12, 2018

Time: 10:00am - 11:30am

Teleconference Line: 1-866-500-
5845 | 3658935#

[Contact the Ministry of
Labour](#)

Potential Topics:

- Downtown Apps
- Negotiating MOUs
- The Role of a BIA - Code of Conduct
- Grants

[Minutes from the last meeting](#)



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'Strength in Numbers - Success through Knowledge'

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