



NEWSLETTER

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MAY 2009

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Atkins Underground L P
Direct Connect Electric Inc
Ryan Rui Raul Construction
Preferred Drywall Contractors
Valley Concrete (2002)
Winkler Concrete Ltd
Airdronics Inc

REGULATORY CHANGES

Minimum Wage Changes: Minimum wage increased in Manitoba as of May 1, 2009 from \$8.50 to \$8.75. The wages are scheduled to change again October 1, 2009, and will increase from \$8.75 to \$9.00.

MERITPERKS.CA

Sign up to savings! It's free!

The list of savings for Merit members is growing. Check out meritperks.ca to view coupons available for savings to such places as Mark's Work Warehouse, SoftMoc Footwear, FTD Florists, Sleep Country Canada and The Brick.

GETTING MARRIED? DIVORCED? HAVING A BABY?

Don't forget to update your Merit benefit information. A new enrollment card must be completed for all additions and deletions. Keep your information current.

MERIT BENEFIT PLAN ADMINISTRATORS SEMINAR

We are holding an administrators seminar, led by a representative from Mercon Benefit Services. This seminar has proven to be very useful to companies who have recently joined the benefit plan, as well as to companies who want a refresher on the administration of the plan. The information provided will be useful to those who manage the payroll and administer the benefit plan.

There are two sessions to choose from, either Tuesday June 9th, from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm or Wednesday June 10th, from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Please call 888-6202 to register for this *free* seminar.

TUITION BURSARY REFUND PROGRAM

As of January 1, 2009 we have implemented a tuition bursary refund program. Merit employees who engage in apprenticeship technical training are eligible for a \$200 bursary towards tuition for each level of training. Visit our website to print off an application form or for further information call our office at 888-6202.

BOARDROOM RENTAL

Our boardroom is available for rent to our members, during regular business hours, at a rate of \$75.00 ½ day and \$125.00 full day.

CAREER EXPO 2009

On Tuesday May 12, 2009 Merit Contractors Association in partnership with Bockstael Construction Ltd, E.F. Moon Construction Ltd, FWS Group of Companies and M.D. Steele Construction Ltd took part in the 1st annual Career Expo at the Red River Exhibition Park. Approximately 850 students from Winnipeg and surrounding areas took part in hands-on construction related activities such as installing drywall, electrical wiring, welding, soldering, and woodworking.

Merit and the partnering companies set up an interactive display at which the students were able to participate in the construction of a garden shed. Bravo to the students and the carpenters on hand in constructing the shed to three quarters completion. We look forward to next years event which we anticipate will be even larger.



ACCESS YOUR PERSONAL BENEFIT PLAN INFORMATION ONLINE

Hourbank employees have the ability to access their personal benefit information, as well as the booklet outlining the benefits they are entitled to, online. As soon as the employee becomes in benefit they receive an eligibility letter from Mercon which provides them with an access code in order to do this. If you have forgotten your access information contact Mercon at 1-877-263-7266.

UPCOMING COURSES

We have a tentative schedule for Gold Seal courses beginning in the fall. Watch the website for confirmed dates.

Contract Law October, 2009

Estimating November, 2009

Supervisor Training Program
November, 2009

Project Planning & Cost Control
January, 2010

Supervisor Training Program
February, 2010

Communication Skills March, 2010

Estimating - Specialized Electrical
March, 2010

Principles of Management April, 2010

GOT JOBS, POST THEM

To post your jobs on Merit's own recruitment website go to www.mb.constructionjobstores.com

It's FREE

If you have not used this website before:

- Log on to the website. Type in your Association Code: (call Merit office for code)
- Click on the new user button, and set your Log in ID and Password.
- Post your jobs

PLEASE BE SURE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS CORRECT ON YOUR JOB POSTING, SO THAT JOB SEEKERS CAN APPLY DIRECTLY TO YOU FOR YOUR ADVERTISED POSITIONS.