

**Ministry of Labour,
Training and Skills
Development**

Prevention Council

400 University Avenue
14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1T7

Tel.: 416 212-3960
Fax: 416-326-0704

**Ministère du Travail,
de la Formation et
du Développement
des compétences**

Conseil De La Prévention

400, avenue University
14^e étage
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1T7

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Télééc.: 416 326-0704



Prevention Council Statement on Ontario's Occupational Health & Safety Strategy & CPO Retirement

July 2021

Ontario's Prevention Council Chair released the statement below today:

The month of July marks a couple of milestones that the Prevention Council would like to recognize.

1. Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Strategy, Prevention Works

[Prevention Works, Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Strategy](#), was published last week and we would like to congratulate our Chief Prevention Officer, Ron Kelusky on this accomplishment. Prevention Works demonstrates an overarching commitment to preventing injuries, illnesses and fatalities in workplaces across the province while building a system that is agile and collaborative. Aside from the many occupational health and safety (OHS) challenges we have all faced over the past sixteen months, it is important to also recognize the continuous improvements and innovation we have seen in response to these extraordinary circumstances.

Prevention Works has a strong focus on data and evidence. This will help the system understand how we can better focus our future efforts on protecting workers and cultivating a culture of health and safety in workplaces across the province of Ontario.

The Prevention Council fully endorses this strategy and its objectives and is committed to supporting its implementation over the next five years.

2. Chief Prevention Officer, Ron Kelusky's Retirement

Ron Kelusky, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development's Chief Prevention Officer, will be retiring at the end of July. The release of this 5-year Prevention Strategy, Prevention Works is a testament to his legacy.

During his tenure, Ron has proven he is a visionary, collaborative leader. His work has been instrumental in bringing the occupational health and safety system together by establishing new partnerships and providing steady leadership during tumultuous times. We've seen this during the pandemic. Under his guidance, the OHS system was able to swiftly support Ontario employers, workers and businesses, with the implementation of a range of new programs that have been pivotal in supporting Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19.

Finally, we would like to thank Ron for his tireless service. The Province is truly safer because of his commitment to occupational health and safety.

All the best in your retirement, Ron.

Blair Allin

National Health and Safety Representative, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

Brian Arnold

Fire Chief, Cambridge Fire Department

Patrick Bourgeois

Construction Manager, Peter Kiewit Sons ULC

John Bourke

Business Manager/Financial Secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Stephen Chaplin

Vice President of Health, Safety & Environment, EllisDon

Rodney Cook

Vice President Workplace Health and Safety Services, WSIB

Cora DeMarco

Manager, Technica Mining

Colin de Raaf

Director of Training, CLAC

Daniel Fleming

Manager, Training and Development GTA, NORCAT

Dr. Isra Levy

Vice President of Medical Affairs and Innovation, Canadian Blood Services

Bill Mader

Insulator, Local 95

Erin Oliver (Chair)

Vice President of Health, Safety and Sustainability, Modern Niagara Group Inc.

Patricia Pereira Janicas

Director, Health & Safety, Kenaidan Contracting Ltd

Dustin Philp

Plant Chairperson, Tormont-Concord Unifor Local 112

Sandro Pinto

Executive Director, LiUNA Local 183

Peter Rowe

Director, Chair of the Regulatory Committee, Ontario Petroleum Institute

James St. John

Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Central Ontario Building Trades

Roger Tickner

President, Tickner and Associates Inc.