



KNOW THE FACTS

Re: Bill 31 —about formwork...



Calls from contractors and unions to government to re-view the formwork exemption led to the appointment of the expert investigator Kevin Burkett. All parties agreed to his appointment.

Kevin Burkett wrote in his report: “The mandated system of single trade province wide collective agreements in the ICI sector of the construction industry (which recognizes the affinity of trades employees for their craft union) serves an important public policy objective—stable labour relations in the ICI sector of the construction industry—and should be preserved and protected to the greatest extent possible. The formwork exemption to the Labourers’ designation order is an exception to the mandated system of labour relations in the ICI sector, not part of it.”

Now one side is screaming foul. KNOW THE FACTS.

CLAIM: Bill 31 moves ICI work from one union to another in Toronto’s high-rise construction industry.

FACT: The formwork exemption **only** affects the ICI sector: institutional, commercial and industrial work. It has nothing to do with the residential sector in Toronto.

CLAIM: This is biased legislation.

FACT: Carpenters did not get everything they wanted. Neither did LIUNA. This process was based on the recommendation from an experienced mediator and a two-year long process. Schedule 14 in Bill 31 is about preserving and protecting the provincial bargaining regime in the ICI sector.

Does Bill 31 Deny Access to Collective Bargaining?

The simple answer is no.

Under this Bill, members of LIUNA will have exactly the same rights as all other construction workers in the province of Ontario. There is proposed draft language to make sure that every single worker’s Charter right to collective bargaining will be protected as required by the Supreme Court of Canada.

Does this open the floodgates and expand the Carpenters’ scope of work?

Bill 31 does not create any bargaining rights for the Carpenters. Further, this Bill does not require any worker to join the Carpenters Union. Bill 31 offers a minor correction to make labour relations fairer in the ICI sector in Ontario. Bill 31 makes absolutely no changes to existing collective bargaining in the residential sector. Bill 31 will not remove anyone’s pension or benefits.

Find out more:

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

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