

## **CANADIAN HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION POSITION ON WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Workplace health and safety issues have become increasingly important in Canada. This field of activity is within provincial jurisdiction, and, accordingly, has been managed by provincial and territorial departments of occupational health and safety, provincial workers' compensation boards and provincial construction safety associations. CHBA supports the efforts of these organizations to achieve the following objectives and goals:

- 1. To eliminate or reduce worker injury, illness and fatality in the workplace** by pursuing goals and actions including the following:
  - a. Striving for a culture of health and safety in the workplace.
  - b. Promoting healthy and safe workplace practices.
  - c. Providing affordable and accessible construction safety training.
  - d. Developing and making available resource materials on occupational health and safety.
  - e. Providing advice and educational programs on the prevention of workplace injury, illness and disease.
  - f. Working with regulatory bodies to develop legislation and regulations affecting workplace safety.
  - g. Providing information on health and safety regulations and compliance requirements.
  
- 2. To reduce the physical, emotional and economic impact of workplace injury and illness** through the provision of the following measures:
  - a. A fair and adequate compensation system.
  - b. Rehabilitation programs.
  - c. Return to work programs.
  - d. Education and training in managing workplace injuries and illnesses.
  - e. Access to qualified services to treat injuries and diseases.
  - f. Programs to assist injured workers in overcoming disabilities.
  - g. Compassionate and respectful treatment.
  
- 3. To provide equitable treatment to all workers.**
  
- 4. To support programs that protect the rights of all workers**, especially vulnerable workers, including programs that prevent sexual harassment in the workplace.
  
- 5. To support the economic well being of workers** through the following actions:
  - a. Initiatives that yield harmonious and productive labour-management relationships.
  - b. Initiatives that increase productivity, particularly by encouraging innovation and rewarding creative thinking, and thereby help to develop a healthy, efficient, productive and dynamic construction industry.
  - c. Assisting workers to succeed in a changing workforce.
  - d. Supporting training and education of workers.