



The Heavy News Weekly

Snow Removal Policy Addressed - No Change **WORKSAFELY**

Nicole Chabot as Chair of the MHCA Snow Removal Committee; Chris Lorenc, President of MHCA; and Stan Maluk, member of the committee, attending in support, appeared at the November 3, 2015 meeting of the City's Infrastructure Renewal & Public Works (IRPW) Committee to present an industry assessment of CUPE's suggestion that the city deliver all snow removal service through an expanded in house presence.

CUPE essentially recommended the spending of literally hundreds of millions of dollars on equipment, plant, facility, new hires and related without offering any semblance of rationale, other than they would do it better and unlike industry, 'not for profit.'

The brief that was presented to the IRPW Committee is available for review on the MHCA website, www.mhca.mb.ca. There was considerable coverage of the issue on television, radio and then print with nothing negative associated to the industry advanced views.

The Winnipeg Public Service Report recommended status quo going forward endorsing the current public/private mix to be a cost effective accommodation. It recommended no further changes. The IRPW Committee chaired and led by Councillor Janice Lukes unanimously voted to receive all submissions as information.

The results were very good from a taxpayer perspective and were the outcome of a collective industry effort.

Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B
MHCA President

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MHCA Congratulates Prime Minister Trudeau and newly appointed Cabinet

The MHCA would like to congratulate Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his newly appointed cabinet, who made their official debut on November 4, 2015, in Ottawa.

This day marks a significant day in Canada's history, for Trudeau's cabinet consists of equal members of men and women, the first ever Muslim minister, the first Aboriginal justice minister, and the first Northern Fisheries minister.

In Trudeau's welcoming speech to Canadians, he proudly states, "It's an incredible pleasure... to present a cabinet that looks like Canada".

On behalf of the Association, we look forward to working with Winnipeg's representative, Jim Carr, and the cabinet that promises change, openness and transparency.



Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B
MHCA President

CCA to advocate and educate on prompt payment's importance

Originally published by Daily Commercial News and featured in CCA Weekly



The Canadian Construction Association (CCA) has determined it will take an educational role with the federal government as it concerns expressing the importance of prompt payment on projects.

"The plan is to strike a task force of members of this board and we would invite the NTCCC (National Trade Contractors Coalition of Canada) to add some members to that task force to work together with us on this," explained Anibal Valente, CCA chair, at the association's recent board meeting in Thunder Bay, Ont.

The CCA mobilized on the issue of prompt payment earlier this year through two instances, the first by retaining stakeholder status to provide input for Ontario's Construction Lien Act review.

The second instance was to provide a response to the NTCCC, which sought the CCA's support for its initiative to seek the enactment of federal prompt payment legislation.

At CCA's spring board meeting in Prince George, B.C. the association first discussed how it would respond to NTCCC's request.

"Back in Prince George we deferred reply to the NTCCC because of the need to spend more time in reviewing this (issue) with all the partner associations and members to ensure that everyone at the board was informed on the issues," added Valente.

After this consultation was completed the CCA further explored the issue at its Sept. 29 Industry Summit and it developed the following motion, generated through consensus and approved in Thunder Bay: "That CCA work with its partner associations, interested stakeholders, and federal contracting authorities, to educate the federal government on the importance of prompt payment and cash flow on federal construction projects, and work together to resolve any concerns, which may include the enactment of federal prompt payment legislation acceptable to the industry."

The groundwork built at the CCA's Industry Summit was crucial to the association drafting its motion, explained CCA's executive. Summit participants identified problems, suggested solutions and made the following recommendations:

— CCA has a leadership role to play in Canada with respect to industry payment and cash flow issues;

- Also, it needs to establish a clear policy position on payment and payment practices in the Canadian construction industry;
- CCA can be a hub or clearinghouse for sharing prompt payment information and best practices both domestic (including provincial) and international;
- There is support for creating new and/or strengthening existing CCDC/CCA standard contracts and guides that speak to prompt payment, including embracing the adjudication process, the right to suspend the work/ terminate the contract for breach of the payment terms and greater transparency as to the flow of funds in the contracting chain;
- CCA should not proactively get involved in any provincial initiatives, but participate if asked;
- There is general support for the CCA to educate the federal government on industry payment challenges and to support the notion of federal prompt payment legislation applicable to federal government construction contracts only. However, there was no consensus regarding the timing of such efforts given concerns regarding any resulting negative impact on similar efforts already underway at the provincial level; and
- CCA should involve all parties in the contracting chain and the industry in this discussion, including owners and consultants.

Gil Brulotte, CCA first national vice-chair, noted in CCA’s civil infrastructure council meeting in Thunder Bay, that the association is willing to sit down with federal owners and provide all the due diligence necessary on the prompt payment issue.

“We are trying to be proactive and not stay on the fence, this way we have a strategy,” he said.

“The concern is not so much legislation but a need for the industry to push a better cash flow process. There is no way we should say we are in favour of a specific document unless it has been clearly vetted and it is appropriate for the whole community that we deal with.”

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NEWS RELEASE

**WCB Communications, 333 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W3**

**Tel.: 204-954-4113
Fax: 204-954-4968
www.wcb.mb.ca**

For Immediate Release

November 4, 2015

Balance and Fairness in the Rates You Pay

(WINNIPEG) – The Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba (WCB) is introducing changes to its current rate model to enhance fairness and balance.

Following consultations that were conducted with stakeholders last year, improvements were recommended and compiled into a report that is available on the WCB website.

"We gathered feedback from both employers and labour and are using it to help enhance our rate system," says Winston Maharaj, WCB President and CEO. "Over the next five years, we'll be phasing in changes to create a system that balances individual employers' claims experience with collective liability."

By moving towards more collective liability, small and medium employers will be protected from the potential of a single claim drastically driving up their premiums. Instead, rate setting for small and medium employers will place more weight on the collective experience of their industry. For larger employers, the rate model will continue to place more weight on their individual claims experience.

As well, we're compressing the risk categories so that there's not as much range between the maximum and minimum rates that employers can pay. The size of the range will also be reflective of the employer's size.

"We recognize that there are differences among small, medium and large employers, and we want to be responsive to their unique circumstances," says Maharaj.

Reduced volatility is also a feature of the new rate system. To help reduce volatility, we are reducing the annual change limit that regulates how much rates are allowed to go up or down in one year.

-2-

"Overall, the changes we're making will lead to a system that is less aggressive and more in line with the rest of Canada," explains Maharaj.

Employers can expect changes to the current model to take effect in 2016 and 2017 to bring it closer to the new model.

The WCB's strong financial position supports a gradual transition to the new rate model, which will be introduced in 2018.

Go to www.wcb.mb.ca and click on Rate Model under WCB Info, or [click here](#).

The Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba is a mutual workplace injury and disability insurance agency funded by employer premiums. We are here to insure and support safe and healthy work and workplaces. We put workers and employers at the centre of all we do. We provide them with valued services for injury prevention, compensation and return to health and work while maintaining system integrity.

For more information contact:

Warren Preece
Director of Communications
Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba
204-954-4113
1-855-954-4321, ext. 4113
Email: wcb@wcb.mb.ca



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Awards Breakfast & Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 20, 2015 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

RBC Convention Centre, Room 2EF (second floor)

Greetings from: The Honourable Steve Ashton, Minister of Infrastructure & Transportation

Keynote Speaker: Dan Lett, Columnist, Winnipeg Free Press

Awards, Year in Review and Membership presentations to follow.

Tickets: \$49 +GST (per person)

No. of tickets: _____



MHCA Annual Chairman's Gala

AN EVENING IN BLACK & WHITE

Saturday, November 21, 2015

**RBC Convention Centre,
Winnipeg, MB**

Cocktails - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner - 7:30 p.m.

Tables of 10 available

Tickets: \$205 +GST /person
(all inclusive)

No. of tickets: _____

Company: _____ **Contact Person:** _____

Phone: _____ **Please Invoice:** _____

Visa / MC / AMEX #: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____ **3-Digit Security Code:** _____

Card Holder Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Delta Winnipeg, reservations: 204-944-7243 - room rates starting at **\$149**

Quote: Manitoba Heavy Construction Association

Fill out this form in full and fax it to Christine Miller at the MHCA office at 204-943-2279.

To request a special meal, to accommodate any food allergies and/or dietary restrictions, you can reach Christine directly at 204-947-1379 or christine@mhca.mb.ca.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEXT YEAR'S

EXPO NORTH

Destination: **Thompson**
February 24 & 25, 2016

EXPO SOUTH

Destination: **Winnipeg**
April 5 & 6, 2016



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Sunday, February 7 to Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Fairmont Kea Lani

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- Accommodations at the Fairmont Kea Lani, Hawaii's only all-suites oceanfront resort
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- An extensive social program, including four fabulous evening events
- An educational program that will address today's emerging issues and trends
- Exclusive group and kids activities offered daily
- The AON Golf Classic on the Wailea Gold Course, home of The Champions Skins Game
- 4 great days of networking and sunshine!

Don't miss your opportunity to be **"Where the West Meets"!**

For Convention & Registration information, visit www.wcrhca.org

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iMaQs

iMaQs Training by the Manitoba Mines Branch

The Manitoba Mines Branch will be offering iMaQs Training at the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association (MHCA) on December 2 and 9, 2015.

The training will focus on:

- Registering online for an iMaQs account
- A walk-through of how to look for information as disposition owner and/or administrator conducting business on behalf of the company
- Submitting and editing an Exemption Certificate
- Submitting a Quarry Return
- Using iMaQs Map Viewer
- Entering and submitting an application online (Private Quarry)

This training course will include a live test system demonstration and hands-on training on how to effectively enter and search for information. Throughout the duration of the course, Mines Branch Quarry Recording Office staff will be available to answer questions and assist clients with how to use iMaQs. All course materials will be provided.

December 2 - training session, 9 a.m. - noon
December 9 - training session, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

To register for the iMaQs training course, contact Christine Miller at:

MHCA
Unit 3 - 1680 Ellice Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0Z2
Phone: 204-974-1379 ex. 14
Email: christine@mhca.mb.ca

For further information on the training itself, contact the Manitoba Mines Branch:

Phone: 204-945-6528
Email: Mines_Br@gov.mb.ca



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THE EDUCATION & TRAINING ISSUE



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Fire Extinguishers

A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out small fires or controlling it until the fire department arrives. Portable extinguishers, intended for the home or office, are not designed to fight large or spreading fires; however, even against small fires, they are only useful given certain conditions:

The operator is properly trained and knows how to use the extinguisher;
The extinguisher is within reach and in working order, fully charged; and
The model of extinguisher can handle the nature of the fire.

Select your Extinguisher

Choose your extinguisher carefully: a fire extinguisher should bear the seal of an independent testing laboratory and be properly labeled to properly show what type of fire it is designed to extinguish.

The extinguisher must be large enough to put out the fire. Fact: most portable extinguishers discharge completely in as few as eight seconds.

Classes of Fires

There are three basic classes of fires. All fire extinguishers are labeled with standard symbols for the classes of fires they can put out:

Class A: Ordinary combustibles such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and many plastics.

Class B: Flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, grease, tar, oil-based paint, lacquer, and flammable gas.

Class C: Energized electrical equipment including wiring, fuse boxes, circuit breakers, machinery, and appliances.

Many household fire extinguishers are "multi-purpose" A-B-C models, labeled for use on all three classes of fire. If you are ever faced with a Class A fire, and you don't have an extinguisher with an "A" symbol, don't hesitate to use one with the "B:C" symbols.

A red slash through any of the symbols tells you the extinguisher cannot be used on that class fire and a missing symbol tells you only that the extinguisher has not been tested for use on a given class of fire.

Warning: It is dangerous to use water or an extinguisher labeled only for Class A fires on a grease or electrical fire.

Installation & Maintenance

Extinguishers should be installed in plain view, above the reach of children, near an escape route and away from stoves and heating appliances.

Extinguishers require routine care. Read your operator's manual and ask your dealer how your extinguisher should be inspected and serviced. Rechargeable models must be serviced after every use. Disposable fire extinguishers can be used only once; they must be replaced after one use.

Following manufacturer's instructions, check the pressure in your extinguishers once a month.

Remember the PASS Word

Stand 6 to 8 feet away from the fire and follow the four-step PASS procedure. If the fire does not begin to go out immediately, leave the area at once. Always be sure the fire department inspects the fire site.

PULL the pin out: This unlocks the operating lever and allows you to discharge the extinguisher. Some extinguishers have other devices that prevent inadvertent operation.

AIM low: Point the extinguisher nozzle (or hose) at the base of the fire.

SQUEEZE the lever below the handle: This discharges the extinguishing agent. Releasing the lever will stop the discharge. Some extinguishers have a button that you press.

SWEEP from side to side: Moving carefully toward the fire, keep the extinguisher aimed at the base of the fire and sweep back and forth until the flames appear to be out. Watch the fire area. If the fire re-ignites, repeat the process.

Should you fight the Fire?

Before you begin to fight a fire:

- Make sure everyone has left, or is leaving, the building.
- Make sure the fire department has been notified by dialing 911.
- Make sure the fire is confined to a small area and that it is not spreading beyond the immediate area.
- Make sure you have an unobstructed escape route to which the fire will not spread.
- Make sure that you have read the instructions and that you know how to use the extinguisher.
- It is dangerous to fight a fire under any other circumstances. Instead, leave immediately and close off the doors and windows if possible.



**TO REGISTER,
PLEASE CONTACT:**
Sarah Higgins
sarah@mhca.mb.ca

Training Schedule

COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	Nov. 2 -3	MHCA Office
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	Nov. 4	MHCA Office
COR™ Auditor	Nov. 5 - 6	MHCA Office
Traffic Control Coordinator	Nov. 16 - 17	MHCA Office
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence, Thompson, MB	Nov. 30 & Dec. 1	Burntwood Hotel
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management, Thompson, MB	Dec. 2	Burntwood Hotel
COR™ Auditor, Thompson, MB	Dec. 3 - 4	Burntwood Hotel
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	Dec. 14 - 15	MHCA Office
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	Dec. 16	MHCA Office
COR™ Auditor	Dec. 17 - 18	MHCA Office

For the full calendar of upcoming training schedules, visit www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely

THOMPSON, MB WINTER ROADS TRAINING



Winter Roads Training will be held at the Burntwood Hotel, in the Executive Room, from **November 30 – December 4, 2015**

COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	November 30	For any training requests and to register, please contact: Sarah Higgins WORKSAFELY™ Training Coordinator e: sarah@mhca.mb.ca t: 204-594-9060
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	December 1	
COR™ Auditor	December 2	
WHIMIS	December 3 (a.m.)	
Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG)	December 3 (p.m.)	
Winter Roads Training	December 4	

This training is open to anyone. Training for Aboriginal Communities building winter roads will be sponsored by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation

Please note that a minimum of six (6) students is required to hold the training. WORKSAFELY™ policy states cancellation must be made at least two business days in advance - otherwise, full course fee charges will apply



Volatile is the new Up

By Peter G Hall, Vice President and Chief Economist



Up. A simple, 2-letter word, but one of the most difficult in current econo-speak. It has been redefined almost endlessly on our up-deprived, post-crisis planet. Some may even wonder whether it belongs in a forecast title anymore. Volatile, on the other hand, resonates; there has been enough of that lately, and it seems to be on the rise, fanning a new round of fears about a new round of weakness. Could we have it all wrong – could current volatility actually be a signal of liftoff?

Volatility is the easy part – it seems to be everywhere. The CBOE volatility index tells the tale for the US: it has recently hit 3-year highs, and its climb may not be over. Other indicators are experiencing much wilder swings. Oil prices have more than halved. Base metal prices have also plunged, and precious metals are sliding too. Currencies fill out the turbulence list. Against the currencies of US trading partners, the greenback is up on average by 17 per cent in just over a year. Swings in commodity-based currencies are larger. The list goes on, and to it we could add geopolitical and meteorological volatility. A simple conclusion is that 'up' is as elusive as it has been for eight years. How could 'up' possibly have anything to do with this?

Well, let's start with GDP growth. US figures for the second quarter keep getting revised up; the current one? A stunning 3.9 per cent, annualized. True, third-quarter early estimates aren't as impressive; these may also be revised up. Then there's Western Europe. This may come as a surprise, but there, growth has been above the long-run trend for four successive quarters, and it looks like there's a fifth on the way. There are signs that emerging markets are catching on. True, there are key problem-spots, but even China is ahead of expectations. So much for the data; given market mayhem, is this sustainable?

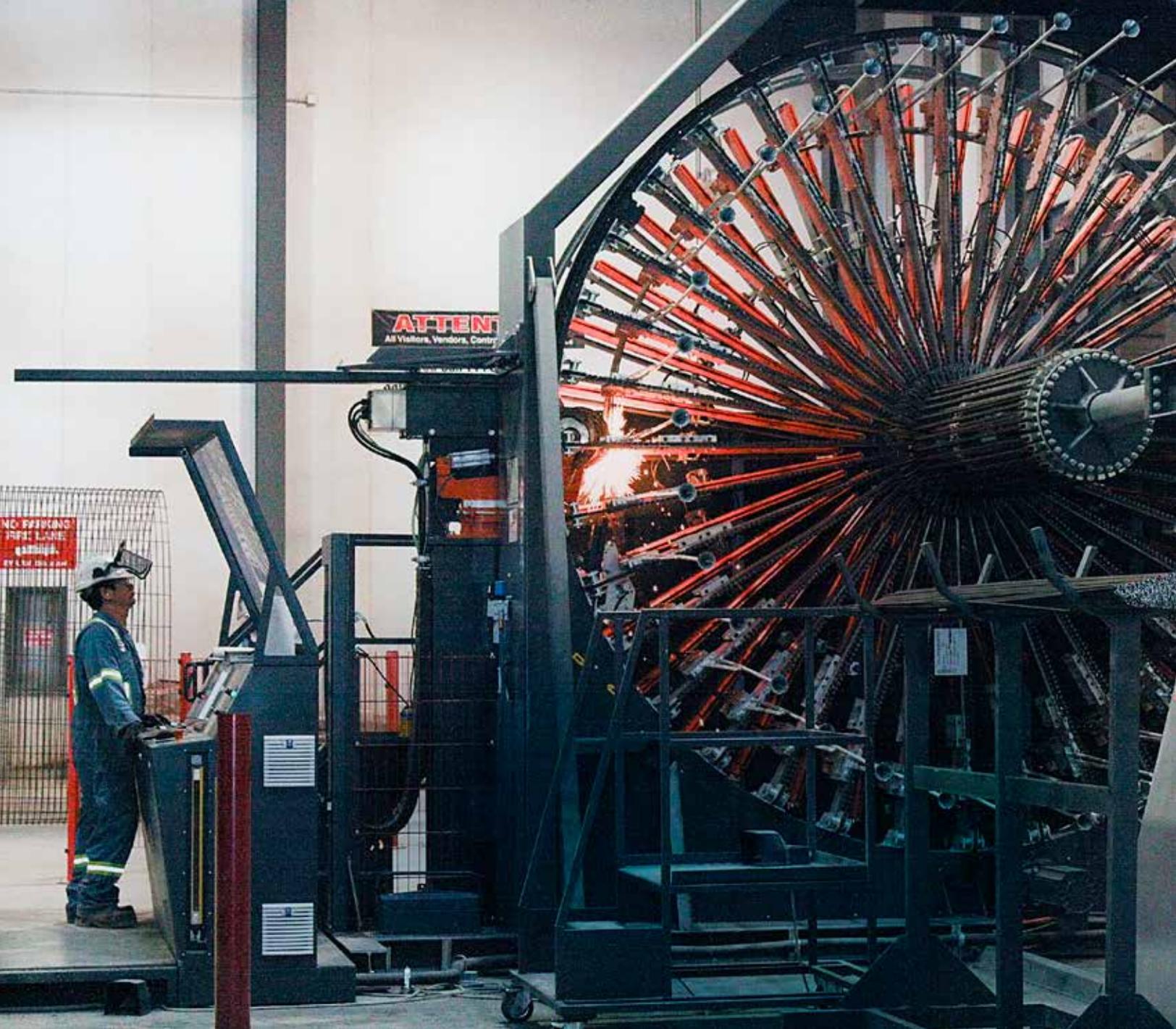
Check out the US scene, where potential growth remains strong on three broad fronts: consumers are sturdy, thanks to solid job growth, rising real wages, restored confidence, better-managed household budgets and a \$100 billion bonus from lower gasoline prices. Housing markets are rising smartly, and demand is still well ahead of new building activity. Cash-rich businesses are bumping up against very tight capacity constraints as orders continue to rise. Imports are taking some of the pressure off, but there's no question that on balance, underlying conditions can sustain above-trend growth for at least the next two years. In Western Europe, fiscal progress is generally allowing economies to breathe again, and in the process they are discovering pent-up demand of their own. Moreover, Europe's exporters are capitalizing on a weaker currency and revived US demand.

Rising economic pressure is the reason the Fed is on the verge of tightening. This is the clearest evidence that growth is back. And it's also the reason behind the volatility. After years of low rates and endless outsized liquidity injections, the Fed is now reeling in its extraordinary stimulus – and with it, the unintended, persistent inflation of asset prices. Get it? In most growth cycles commodity prices and affected currencies would be on the rise, and liquidity would be increasing. This time, it's the reverse – for now, growth and volatility are inextricably linked.

What does this mean for EDC's Autumn 2015 Global Economic Forecast? Developed markets will rise first, with growth climbing from 2.0 per cent this year to 2.4 per cent in 2016. Emerging markets will follow with 3.8 per cent growth this year and 4.4 per cent next, continuing to contribute a higher share of overall output, but clearly following the lead of the advanced economies. This will bring world growth to 3.0 per cent this year and 3.6 per cent for 2016, a noteworthy increase.

Canada's exporters are following suit. Plunging prices are decimating energy and metals exports, but currency weakness has spurred double-digit gains elsewhere. On balance, things will be flat this year, but 2016 should see a 7 per cent increase that is enjoyed by a broad range of sectors.

The bottom line? Far from a warning of danger, recent volatility is a clear sign that growth is back, and on a broader base. Canada is already capitalizing, and is expected to build on this year's success into 2016 and through the medium term.



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