

FAQ's

1. Why is this change happening?

- The rate of the levy has decreased six times over the past 20 years.
- The average rate of compensation has dropped from \$5.18 in 1993 to \$3.65 in 2016.
- The construction payroll has grown 300% in the same period.
- The NSCSA, under the current model, cannot adequately meet the demand for OH&S Services.

2. Who decided to change the funding model?

- In 2014 the Board approved a new strategic plan for 2015-2020.
- In 2013 the Board was successful in negotiating a rebate for COR certified employers. In 2014 the rebate was = \$1,200,000 and in 2015 = \$1,156,246
- Faced with lower WCB assessment rates; the lowest levy rate in 20 years; and, improved accident performance, the NSCSA Board of Directors, after consultation with the founding member groups, unanimously approved a long term sustainable funding strategy.

Our founding members are comprised of:

- Atlantic Concrete Association
- Construction Association of NS
- NS Road Builders' Association
- NS Home Builders' Association
- Mainland NS Building & Construction Trades Council
- Cape Breton Building & Construction Trades Council
- NS Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal
- Nova Scotia Power Inc.

3. What are the benefits?

- This funding strategy will allow the NSCSA to keep its fees for services at the lowest cost possible and effective January 1, 2016, will provide these additional benefits to members:
- The COR training program (Principles of Loss Control, COR Evaluation, Leadership for Safety Excellence, Hazard Identification and Control) will be offered at no charge.
- Firms getting COR certified for the first time will have their first year COR evaluation fee waived.

4. Is the rate going to increase again?

The Board of Directors does not anticipate an upward change in the rate of the levy for the foreseeable future. As the new levy is based on payroll, funding will increase and decrease based on industry activity but the rate will not change.