

Ontario Appoints New Chief Prevention Officer
Province Committed to Ensuring Safe and Healthy Workplaces
March 6, 2018 4:30 P.M.

The province has appointed Ron Kelusky as Ontario's new Chief Prevention Officer (CPO), continuing the government's commitment to ensuring safe and healthy workplaces.

Prior to his appointment as the CPO, Mr. Kelusky was the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Public Services Health and Safety Association and was responsible for health and safety solutions for Ontario's healthcare, education, government and First Nations sectors. Mr. Kelusky led a number of projects including a system-wide review of violence in the health care sector and strategies on improving outcomes for first responders experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder.

The Chief Prevention Officer oversees the Prevention Office within the Ministry of Labour, and has a wide range of responsibilities, including:

- Working with Ontario's health and safety system partners to prevent workplace injuries, illnesses and fatalities
- Reporting to the Minister of Labour on the performance of Ontario's occupational health and safety system
- Setting province-wide training and safety programs standards
- The establishment of a provincial occupational health and safety strategy

Improving occupational health and safety is part of Ontario's plan to create fairness and opportunity during this period of rapid economic change. The plan also includes a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, easier access to affordable child care, and free prescription drugs for everyone under 25 through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation.

QUOTES

" Ron Kelusky's experience in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors makes him an outstanding choice as the Chief Prevention Officer. His ability to build and maintain strong relationships with stakeholders, as well as his passion for worker health and safety, is well-known throughout the health and safety sector. I am confident that he will lead us to healthier and safer workplaces, which will benefit people across the province. I welcome him aboard."

- Kevin Flynn
Minister of Labour

" I am humbled by this appointment and excited to begin building upon the significant improvements the Ministry has made in reducing workplace injuries over the past several years. Today, Ontario is a safer place to work but there continues to be much more to be done. I look forward to listening to and collaborating with our health and safety partners, employers, labour leaders and workers to ensure Ontario workplaces are the safest in Canada and throughout the world."

- Ron Kelusky
Chief Prevention Officer

" The Prevention Council looks forward to working with Ron Kelusky as the new Chief Prevention Officer. We know that he shares our sense of urgency to reduce the number of workplace fatalities and injuries. Far too many Ontarians are injured at work. Ron will provide the strong leadership to fully optimize the role. We can commit that each member of the council will work hard to support the new CPO in support of our shared vision of a safer and healthier Ontario."

- Graeme Norval
Chair, Prevention Council

QUICK FACTS

- The creation of the Chief Prevention Officer position was one of the key recommendations in a December 2010 report from an [expert panel](#) mandated to review Ontario's workplace health and safety system.
- The CPO has led important initiatives such as the [Mining Health Safety and Prevention Review](#), the [Construction Health and Safety Action Plan](#), and implemented important programs such as the [Working at Heights Training](#).
- Mr. Kelusky will take up his appointment on March 12, 2018.

LEARN MORE

- [Report and recommendations](#) of the Expert Advisory Panel on Occupational Health and Safety.

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