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Automotive Aftermarket Retailers of Ontario
since 1939

May 2018

On May 15, 2018 AARO attended the first Employer Advisory Group meeting with the Ontario College of Trades (OCOT) in Toronto. The college has new leadership with newly appointed CEO, George Gritzotis. AARO executive director, Diane Freeman met with Mr. Gritzotis in January of this year to discuss the colleges Strategic Plan and 2018 Priorities. The meeting was very successful and Mr. Gritzotis invited AARO to attend all stakeholder meetings and give industry feedback at their group advisory meetings.

The college has taken a new direction with more emphasis on how to meet the needs of the skilled trades. Mr. Gritzotis is committed to devoting significant time and effort on an ongoing basis to engage with industry stakeholders.

AARO member, Bob Ward is currently on the Board of Governors with OCOT and as a fellow member he will be a huge advantage with the motive power sector. Bob owns a shop in St. Thomas and has served on the AARO board as a director and Vice President prior to his appointment with the College of Trades.

AARO members and non-member are concerned about the shortage qualified technicians and apprentices who are taking automotive service technician as their career.

As a result, AARO sent out a survey to the membership to ask about co-op students and young people entering into the motive power sector.

Here are the results of the survey:

58% have co-op students in their shops

43% do not have co-op students in their shops

63% feel that the curriculum does not cover the necessary basics for automotive repair

90% of the students are given Health & Safety training prior to starting working in the shop

52% feel Guidance counselors are offering Automotive Service Technician as a career choice, however

90% said Guidance Counselors need to be more education on the requirements of becoming an Automotive Service Technician

When asked if OCOT should play a roll in promoting skilled trades in schools including those with co-op programs the results were:

42% strongly agreed

28% agreed

10% neither agreed or disagreed

2% strongly disagreed

10% other

Protect yourself from Cyber-attacks

The threat of Cyber-attacks has increased exponentially over the past year. It is no longer just large corporations that are being targeted. In fact, last year, 50% of all Cyber-related claims took place in the small to medium sized business space. We believe the potential of a Cyber Attack represents a major threat to your business.

As an AARO member, you have access to PBL's exclusive Cyber Liability Program underwritten by CFC insurance.

Claims examples which are covered under the PBL/CFC Cyber Liability Program

- 1) Scams which cause a financial loss. eg. Phishing for credit card or account numbers by phone or email. The next scam being developed by hackers is always unknown, and just around the corner.
- 2) Network security liability-your computer system is breached-Virus causes damage to your business, a supplier or clients banking information is hacked through your company's system, which results in them suing you for financial loss eg. A third party financial loss because of a virus that is traced back to your computer system
- 3) Confidential contract info is hacked and you are sued by your supplier or a client for damage as a result
- 4) Telephone hacking i.e. your phone was hacked and had \$20,000 in long distance calls put on it
- 5) Employee identity information stolen ie. Bank account info is hacked which causes financial loss. As an employer, you could be responsible.
- 6) Network extortion eg. Ransomware- You need to pay X amount in ransom to get back control of your computer systems- which may also result in business interruption.

Contact Bev Muldoon at the AARO office for more information 1-800-268-5400.

Coming Soon! MVIS App for your Smart phones, iPad and computers.

That's right AARO has developed an MVIS App for the Safety Inspections. Soon you will be able to download the app right from the AARO Website and have it on your phones, iPad or computers. The design of the app is the same of the inspection books that you are using now. It will be easy for you to use since you are already using the same format on paper. Once you're finished with the inspection you will just print it and give one copy to your customer and you will keep the other one for your records.

Let us quote you on Group Insurance benefit

AARO members whether your travelling and need insurance for out of country or you want to protect your earnings in case of sickness or injury AARO has an insurance plan to meet your needs. Prescription costs and dental care can be costly and being part of a group has benefits of savings with lower premiums.

Not to mention, AARO members are receiving personal service with Luanne Fedosoff, AARO's Group Insurance Administrator who will walk you through the coverages and help you with claims submissions.

No obligation quote call Luanne Fedosoff at 1-800-268-5400.

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