

06-66

For Immediate Release  
June 9, 2006

## **IMPROVING WORKPLACE SAFETY FOR YOUNG WORKERS** *Employment Standards Poster Promotes Fair And Safe Workplaces*

TORONTO – The McGuinty government today launched an updated and strengthened employment standards poster as part of its commitment to young worker health and safety.

“We are on the side of working families and want to make sure their sons and daughters know their rights and are safe at work,” said Labour Minister Steve Peters. “That’s why our new employment standards poster directs young workers to a comprehensive source of information about workplace safety for young people.”

The poster points young workers to a portal on the Ministry of Labour website, where they will find the information they need to protect their health and safety and understand their employment rights. It also has a great deal of other handy information and useful links. The ideas for the portal came from students who participated in CBC’s Making the Grade project.

Most employers are required by law to display the new Version 3.0 of the poster in their workplaces. The poster must be placed in at least one conspicuous place in every workplace of the employer where it is likely to come to the attention of employees. Before August 7, 2006, officers may issue compliance orders for failure to post the document, but will not issue notices of contravention or initiate prosecutions unless compliance orders are not followed.

The new poster is available free by downloading it from the Ministry of Labour’s website, [www.labour.gov.on.ca](http://www.labour.gov.on.ca), by visiting a ServiceOntario Centre, or by contacting ServiceOntario at 1-800-267-8097; it can also be ordered from Publications Ontario for the cost of shipping and handling, at 1-800-668-9938.

“We are also supporting businesses, especially small businesses and entrepreneurs,” said Peters. “By launching the new employment standards poster we are assisting them to know their obligations under the law.”

-30-

Contacts:

Susan McConnell  
Minister’s Office  
416-326-7710

Belinda Sutton  
Ministry of Labour  
416-326-7405

*Disponible en français*