



Winnipeg  
Construction  
Association  
BUILDING MANITOBA SINCE 1904

# Technical Bulletin

Prepared jointly by the Manitoba Association of Architects  
and the Winnipeg Construction Association,  
and intended as guidelines to increase awareness of  
recommended industry practices.



## Technical Bulletin #12

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### Subject: Designation of Major Building Construction Projects

The Construction Industry Wages Act provides for a number of construction minimum wage schedules in different regions of the Province. However, on a Major Building Project (as defined in the Act), regardless of the location in Manitoba, the Major Project Wage Schedule must be paid. The Major Building Project wage schedule and the Winnipeg Building Construction Wage Schedule are one and the same.

The regulations to The Construction Industry Wages Act (R.S.M. 1987, c. C190) contain a definition of Major Building Projects. The current regulation was amended and is now 194/91, which contains the following definition:

“Major Building Construction Project” means:

- A) the construction of or an addition to:
  - i. A power generating station or spillway,
  - ii. An oil refinery,
  - iii. A chemical plant,
  - iv. A steel mill,
  - v. A pulp mill, paper mill, or pulp and paper mill,
  - vi. A brewery,
  - vii. A distillery,
  - viii. A compressor station,
  - ix. A mining installation above the surface of the ground,
  - x. A mineral refinery,
  - xi. A smelter, or
  - xii. A petroleum processing plant, a gas processing plant, a petroleum and gas processing plant, or a petroleum pumping station
  
- B) the construction of an apartment building or a residential, commercial, industrial, community, government, municipal or school building or hospital where the total aggregate floor space exceeds 50,000 square feet or an addition to such a building where the total aggregate floor space of the addition exceeds 50,000 square feet, or

C) the construction of several buildings of the types mentioned in clause b) under a single contract or under several contracts between the same parties entered into at the same time in respect of the same project, where the total aggregate floor space of all the buildings under the contract exceeds 50,000 square feet.”

For the sake of clarity and to minimize the possibility of miscommunication, the WCA/MAA suggests that a clause indicating whether or not the regulation is, or is not, applicable to the specific project be contained in the *Instructions to Bidders* and the *General Conditions* sections of the project specification material. The suggested wording for this clause could read as follows:

#### **Classification of Project**

“This project **is / is not** classified under The Construction Industry Wages Act as a Major Building Construction Project. Any person or firms submitting a bid or tender in connection with the plans and specifications are hereby advised that the *Building Construction (Major/Winnipeg) Minimum Wage Schedule* **applies / does not apply.**”

**In the *Instructions to Bidders*, a simple clause in capital letters might read:**

“NOTE: THIS PROJECT **IS / IS NOT** CLASSIFIED AS A MAJOR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.”

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