

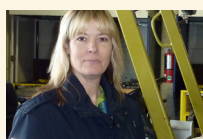
Health & Safety At Work **TODAY**

Issue #6 | April 2014

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New schedule of workplace inspection blitzes, province-wide and regional initiatives



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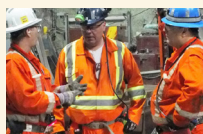
Workplace rights campaign targets vulnerable workers



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Mining health, safety and prevention review seeks input



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New schedule of workplace inspection blitzes, province-wide and regional initiatives



The Ministry of Labour is publishing its provincial year-long enforcement initiatives and regional initiatives, in addition to its oft-publicized enforcement blitzes, which typically run for a month or two. This enhances the transparency of the ministry's enforcement efforts.

As part of the *Safe At Work Ontario* strategy, the ministry's occupational health and safety inspectors have consistently conducted proactive **inspection blitzes** on sector-specific hazards, which are designed to focus on key issues, raise awareness and increase compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Meanwhile, **provincial inspection initiatives** allow for each of the ministry's occupational health and safety programs to heighten their enforcement focus year-round for those hazards or issues that have been identified by the ministry, system partners or stakeholders.

Provincial inspection initiatives are designed to mobilize inspectors and the health and safety system to focus on hazards that are either high-risk or have a high number of injuries. Details of provincial initiatives will be published in the ministry's sector plans later this year.

Regional initiatives are also part of the *Safe At Work Ontario* strategy. These initiatives allow the ministry to mobilize its enforcement efforts and focus on issues that may prevail in a specific area of the province (e.g., wineries, which are mainly located in southwestern Ontario).

Regional initiatives may be limited to one or two months or run up to two years, depending on the size of the sector.

Province-wide Health and Safety Blitzes

Focus	Sector/Business Type	Date
Excavation Hazards	Construction	May 2014
New and Young Workers	Industrial	May-August 2014
Fall Protection / Hazards	Construction	July-August 2014
Explosives	Mining	July-August 2014
Material Handling	Industrial	September 15-October 26, 2014
Ground Control	Mining	October-November 2014
Machine Guarding	Industrial	November 3-December 14, 2014
Slips, Trips and Falls	Industrial	February 2-March 15, 2015
Water Management	Mining	February-March 2015

Provincial Health and Safety Initiatives

Focus	Sector/Business Type	Date
Health Care Initiative • Musculoskeletal Disorders • Exposures • Contact with / Struck by Object Injuries • Workplace Violence • Internal Responsibility System Evaluation	Health Care	July 1, 2014-March 31, 2015
Traffic Protection and Control	Construction	April 2014-March 2015
Roofing, Residential Housing, Infill Housing	Construction	April 2014-March 2015
Industrial, Commercial, Institutional	Construction	April 2014-March 2015
New Small Business Registration and Internal Responsibility System	Industrial workplaces	April 2014-March 2015
Workplaces with Young or Vulnerable Workers Receiving X-ray Exposure	Industrial workplaces with X-ray equipment	April 2014-March 2015
Dust/Ventilation Management	Mining	April 2014-March 2015
Mobile Equipment	Mining	April 2014-March 2015
Remote Controls	Mining	April 2014-March 2015
Asbestos Program and Inventory	Mining	April 2014-March 2015
Hygiene	Dermatitis, Globally Harmonized System compliance in industrial workplaces	April 2014-March 2015
Ergonomics	• Workplaces with high rate of musculoskeletal disorders • Vehicle-pedestrian interaction • Manual transfer of mobile industrial waste containers • Manual keg handling • Temporary workers • Storage and material handling at construction projects	April 2014-March 2015

Regional Health and Safety Initiatives

Location	Sector/Business Type	Date
Central West	- Amusement Devices - Tower Cranes, Man and Material Hoists, Concrete Pumps - Farming	- July-September 2014 - October 2014 - April 2014-March 2015
Central East	- Food Distribution Centres - Industrial Plazas - Man-Material Hoists - Retirement Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities	- Spring 2014 - Spring, Fall 2014 - Fall 2014 - Spring, Summer, Fall 2014
Eastern	- Arborists and Tree Care Industry / Landscapers - Wineries / Micro-breweries - Wood / Metal Fabrication Shops - Automotive Shops (not inspected in last 2 years) - New Small Businesses (not previously registered) - Farming Operations with more than 5 workers - Mining (verification of Common Core Training)	- June-November 2014 - September-November 2014 - April 2014-March 2015 - April 2014-March 2015 - April 2014-March 2015 - May-October 2014 - Spring-Summer 2014
Northern	- Sawmill Mechanical/ Conventional Logging and Hauling - Remote access Tourism, Recreation and Hospitality Workplaces - Residential/Cottage Development	- April 2014-March 2015 - June 23-September 9, 2014 - June-July 2014
Western	- Farming - Field-to-Bottle (wineries) - Developmental Services - Retirement Homes - Seeds-to-Blooms (greenhousing) - Small Manufacturers - Roofing	April 2014-March 2015



Are you:

- > Treated fairly at work?
- > Working in a safe & healthy workplace?
- > Trained to deal with workplace hazards?

EVERY WORKER HAS RIGHTS

Learn more about **your workplace rights.**

ontario.ca/workplacerrights

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

 Ontario

Workplace rights campaign targets vulnerable workers

Ontario conducted an advertising campaign in March to help vulnerable workers understand their workplace rights.

The month-long “Know Your Workplace Rights” campaign, featured advertisements in 27 languages from Arabic to Vietnamese – and reached TV, digital media and ethnic print publications. The campaign sought to raise awareness of workers’ rights to be treated fairly on the job, work in a safe and healthy workplace, and to be trained to handle workplace hazards.

The campaign is part of the Ontario government's ongoing commitment to protect vulnerable workers, immigrants, new Canadians who speak neither English nor French, migrant workers and foreign live-in caregivers.

"The main goal is to reach out to the ethnic community and make vulnerable workers aware of their rights in the workplace," says Tom Zach, Director of the Ministry of Labour Communications and Marketing Branch, which oversaw the campaign.

"Many workers – especially those whose first language is not English or French – are not aware of their protections under Ontario's workplace legislation. We need to speak to them in their own language."

Almost 315,000 immigrant workers in Ontario use a language other than English or French on the job, according to a 2006 Statistics Canada report.

The Ministry of Labour encourages employers, workers and other interested parties to share and post the multilingual resources produced for the campaign. The resources are at: Ontario.ca/workplacerrights

Additional workplace resources in other languages can be found here: www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/multi/index.php

Mining health, safety and prevention review seeks input



The Ministry of Labour has begun holding public consultations across Ontario to seek input on how to ensure an even safer and stronger mining sector.

Consultations have already been held in Timmins, Kirkland Lake and Sudbury as part of a comprehensive one-year mining health, safety and prevention review led by Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer. Future consultations will be held in Red Lake, Marathon and London.

The ministry would like input on a variety of topics, including:

- the role of health and safety system partners
- the Internal Responsibility System (IRS)
- technology/management of change
- training, skills and labour issues
- health and safety hazards in the mining sector, and
- emergency preparedness/mine rescue

Upcoming consultation locations and times:

- Red Lake - Wednesday, April 30, 2014
 - Afternoon Session – 2:30 p.m.
 - Evening Session – 6 p.m.

- Marathon - Thursday, May 1, 2014
 - Afternoon Session – 2:30 p.m.
 - Evening Session – 6 p.m.
- London - Tuesday, May 13, 2014
 - Afternoon Session – 2:30 p.m.
 - Evening Session – 6 p.m.

To register, please email or call **at least one week in advance** to let the ministry know who will be attending, with whom you are affiliated (if relevant), and whether you will be presenting. Reach us at MOLMiningReview@ontario.ca or 416-326-6388.

The mining review is examining ways to further improve the health and well-being of workers in the sector, with the CPO receiving expert advice and strategic input from an advisory group of industry, labour, and health and safety representatives. The group was formed to ensure that the public's and stakeholders' views are reflected in the review.

A consultation paper was released this spring.

Health and safety training for workers and supervisors becomes mandatory on Canada Day



The Ministry of Labour wants to remind workplaces that mandatory health and safety training for workers and supervisors comes into force July 1, 2014.

This means that workers and supervisors at workplaces that fall under the Occupational Health and Safety Act need to be trained in basic health and safety awareness by that date.

Free resources are available to help you train workers and supervisors:

- Worker and supervisor workbooks
(English, French and seven other languages)
- Worker and supervisor modules online
(English and French)
- Employer guides on the training program
(English, French and seven other languages)

The resources can be accessed at Ontario.ca/learntoworksafe.

We are on target to ensure more than six million Ontarians – supervisors and workers – get fundamental training on the occupational health and safety laws in Ontario.

It's the next step in helping to ensure that all workers know their rights and responsibilities on the job.

Safe At Work Ontario stakeholder consultations draw valuable feedback



In February 2014, the Ministry of Labour, in partnership with the Health and Safety Associations, hosted stakeholder consultation sessions as part of the ministry's *Safe At Work Ontario* strategy.

Stakeholders across Ontario were invited to meet with the ministry to discuss how the occupational health and safety system could work together to:

- address work activities that lead to a greater frequency or severity of work-related injuries, illnesses and/or fatalities
- provide additional support to businesses with fewer than 50 workers that have limited resources and workplace health-and-safety knowledge
- help workers who are more vulnerable than others to work-related injuries, illnesses and fatalities

Thirteen consultation sessions were organized, including sessions in Ottawa, Kingston, Cornwall, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Hamilton, London and the Greater Toronto Area.

Participants were generally satisfied with the occupational health and safety system's efforts to reduce injuries and fatalities in Ontario's workplaces.

Stakeholders indicated that the ministry's efforts to increase communication to them regarding high hazards have greatly improved; however, further clarification should be provided on the roles of enforcement and prevention. They also noted that mandatory awareness training – which will come into force July 1, 2014 – is a great step in the right direction. Some other suggestions included ensuring the definition of high hazard is clear and considering multiple ways to deliver training, including face-to-face and e-learning.

Stakeholders also said that the definition of vulnerable workers should be made clear so those workers can identify themselves, and more explanatory information on the Internal Responsibility System (IRS) should be available for vulnerable workers. Finally, while information in other languages is useful, it is good only for those who are literate. Some vulnerable workers may not be literate even in their own language.

Small businesses account for the majority of businesses in Ontario. However, many small-business owners are unaware of their duties and obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). Small businesses generally want to know what they have to do to comply with the OHSA. Therefore, make information simple and clear, stakeholders suggested. Stakeholders also encouraged the ministry to consider having another category for small businesses such as micro business for those with operations fewer than 20 employees. Stakeholders also said the system needs to find ways to identify employers that are not registered with the WSIB, including addressing the underground economy.

Ongoing stakeholder engagement is key to the *Safe At Work Ontario* strategy to better understand what is happening in the field, so that the ministry can respond quickly to changes in the workforce.

The ministry uses this information as part of the annual planning process for *Safe At Work Ontario*. Feedback is then analyzed and prioritized to determine what can be delivered short- and long-term.

Invitations to the next stakeholder consultation session will be sent in November 2014. Those sessions are slated for January 2015. However, comments and discussions are welcome at any time. For more information on the *Safe At Work Ontario* sessions, please email us at SAWOConsultations@Ontario.ca.

Diving Operations Regulation amendments enhance worker safety

New amendments to the Diving Operations Regulation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act came into force on March 1, 2014. The amendments align the regulation with current industry standards, provide for new work techniques and practices, and enhance worker safety through training and equipment requirements.

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/medcode_diving.php

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/rigcode_diving.php

Events

Partners in Prevention

Canada's Largest Health and Safety Event
April 29-30, 2014, International Centre, Mississauga
Visit the Ministry of Labour team in booth 519!

www.healthandsafetyontario.ca/2012confohs4.aspx

Partners in Prevention, regional conference series

- Superior, Sault Ste. Marie, April 15-16, 2014
- Northeastern, Sudbury, October 2, 2014
- Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, October 21, 2014
- Southwestern Ontario, Kitchener, October 28, 2014
- Forum North, Thunder Bay, November 4-5, 2014
- Golden Horseshoe, Niagara Falls, November 20, 2014

www.healthandsafetyontario.ca/ConferencesEvents/Conferences.aspx

National Day of Mourning

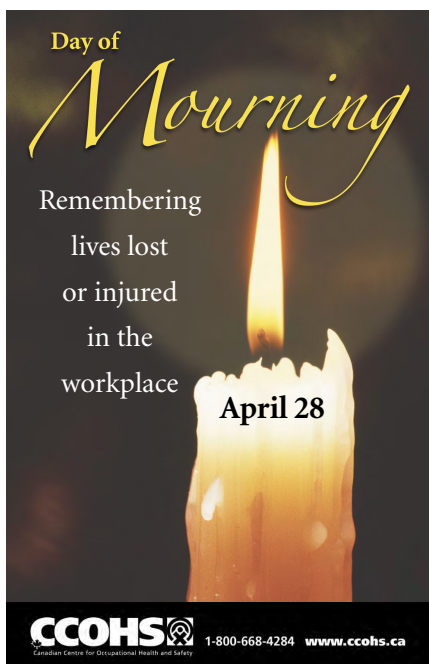
Every year on April 28 we pay our respects to, and remember, the thousands of workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness as a result of work-related incidents. We also honour the many families and friends who have been deeply affected by these tragedies. By working together – with employers, workers and our health and safety partners – we can prevent worker injuries and deaths before they occur.

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/topics/april28.php

Steps for Life

We'll be walking in communities across Ontario. Join us! Every May, people of all ages take part in the Steps for Life five-kilometre walk to raise funds to support Canadian families living with the outcome of a workplace tragedy and to raise awareness about the importance of workplace safety. This year, the walk falls on Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, May 4.

www.stepsforlife.ca/



Minimum Wage in Ontario

Ontario is increasing minimum wage to \$11 per hour on June 1, 2014, giving the province the highest minimum wage in Canada. Ontario is acting on the recommendations of the Minimum Wage Advisory Panel to ensure a fair, competitive, and predictable wage system for both workers and businesses in the province.

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/es/pubs/guide/minwage.php

NAOSH Week: May 4-10, 2014

In early May, workplaces across the country will celebrate North American Occupational Safety & Health (NAOSH) Week. Its aim is to focus the attention of workplaces and the public on the importance of preventing injury and illness in the workplace, at home and in the community.

www.naosh.org/english/

Court Bulletins

Court Bulletins are announcements about convictions for violations of Ministry of Labour legislation. They are available at: www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/news/courtbulletins.php

New resources

Every worker has rights

We want workers in Ontario to understand their rights at work – that they have the right:

- to be treated fairly at work
- to work in a safe and healthy workplace
- to be trained to deal with workplace hazards, and
- to join a trade union.

Available online in 27 languages. Ontario.ca/workplacerrights

Greenhouse inspection video

Watch what a Ministry of Labour inspector typically does during an inspection of a commercial greenhouse.

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/gallery/v_greenhouse_hs.php

Best Practices for building and working safely on ice covers in Ontario, Infrastructure Health & Safety Association.

This document has been adapted, with permission, from the the Government of Alberta's Best Practices for Building and Working Safely on Ice Covers in Alberta. It is dedicated to the nearly 500 people in Canada who have lost their lives over the past 10 years while crossing or working on floating ice.

www.ihsa.ca/images/pfiles/554_IHSA029.pdf

Hazard Alert: Horizontal Handling of Steel Plates

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/alerts/a30.php

Hazard Alert: Sweep Augers in Silos

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/alerts/i36.php

Health Care Sector Trends

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/sawo/sectorplans/hcst.php

Mining Sector Trends

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/sawo/sectorplans/mst/index.php

OHS and ES rights for agricultural workers: English, French and Spanish tip sheets

www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/atwork/aw_tips.php