Struck-by safety solutions

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- Cannabis in the workplace
- Smoking cessation
- IHSA’s small business initiative
- Near miss reporting
- Distracted working
- Conquer struck-bys
- Are you getting the most from your training?

A specialized approach to health and safety
Radon is a radioactive gas that you can’t see, smell, or taste. It is produced by the decay of uranium, which is found in soils and rocks. This makes it a “naturally occurring radioactive material” or NORM.

Radon gas can move freely through the soil and escape into the air or seep into buildings—such as a home, office, or school.

Once outdoors, it becomes diluted. Indoors, however, it can build up to hazardous levels, especially in poorly ventilated areas or spaces below ground.

It is found most often in the following places:

- Basements and crawl spaces
- Underground mines and tunnels
- Water treatment plants
- Petroleum production plants
- Fertilizer manufacturing facilities
- Metal recycling facilities.

**Identify controls**

All enclosed buildings should be tested for radon. Do-it-yourself kits are reasonably priced and can be purchased from the Radiation Safety Institute of Canada or the Ontario Lung Association.

Health Canada recommends long-term radon testing over a period of at least three months. It’s best to test in the colder months because windows and doors are generally kept closed during that time.

If the radon level in a workplace is more than 200 Bq/m³, the employer should tell workers about the presence of radon and warn them about the health effects of exposure.

The employer should consult an expert who specializes in radon testing and remediation. Health Canada recognizes the Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program (C-NRPP) certification program.

If the radon level in the workplace is between 200 and 800 Bq/m³, the employer should carry out a “NORM Management” program. This involves:

- Changing work practices
- Keeping the public out or limiting access by workers to areas where radon levels are high
- Taking steps to reduce the level of radon to less than 200 Bq/m³.

If the radon level in the workplace is more than 800 Bq/m³, the employer should carry out a “Radiation Protection Management” program. This involves:

- Putting administrative controls in place such as the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Establishing a dose monitoring program to track the annual amount of exposure that workers receive
- Measuring workplace radon levels periodically
- Taking steps to reduce radon levels to less than 200 Bq/m³.

**Explain dangers**

Radon can enter a building through cracks in the foundation floors and walls. It can also enter through gaps around construction joints, support posts, window casements, service pipes, drains, or sump pumps.

If radon gas enters the lungs, it can damage the cells that line the lungs. Long-term exposure to high levels of radon can cause lung cancer. Health Canada estimates that radon exposure causes 3,200 lung cancer deaths each year in Canada. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second-leading cause in smokers.

Health Canada recommends that radon in the air be less than 200 becquerels per cubic metre (Bq/m³). An estimated 6.9% of Canadians are living in homes with radon levels above this number.

Are you ready for cannabis in the workplace? ............................................................4
Help workers blow their habit up in smoke ....6
Small business outreach initiative tours the province .............................................8
Never miss reporting a near miss .................10
Distracted working.................................................12
Why you need a plan to conquer struck-bys......................................................14
Are you getting the most from your training? ..........................................................16

On the cover...

Struck-by hazards are going to be reviewed on sites across Ontario this fall as MOL Inspectors conduct a two-month blitz.

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The terms “cannabis”, “legalization”, and “decriminalization” have become front-page news. It feels as if everyone in Canada is getting ready for the huge impact that will be caused by the coming invasion of legal marijuana.

Certainly, the statistics from some US states that have legalized recreational marijuana are a cause for concern, especially the increase in motor-vehicle incidents. But let’s remember that the use of marijuana in our workplaces is not new.

Employers across Ontario have been expressing concern that the use of cannabis—either medical or recreational—will result in more employees coming to work under the influence. Companies that perform high-hazard work are especially concerned because their employees must be more safety-conscious.

If your current workplace health and safety policies and procedures do not address cannabis in the workplace or are inadequate to handle the issues that come along with it, you may be exposing your workers to more hazards than you realize. The use of cannabis in the workplace is merely part of a much broader class of workplace hazards: impairment.

Impairment in the workplace
Generally speaking, impairment is a state of reduced competence, or reduced physical or mental ability, which can lead to an injury, illness, or incident. The Canadian Human Rights Commission describes the appearance of impairment at work as “odour of alcohol or drugs, glassy or red eyes, unsteady gait, slurring, poor coordination.”
When most people think of impairment, alcohol and drugs mainly come to mind. Although they may be the most obvious examples, impairment can be caused by many substances and also by events. Basically, any substance or event that results in a lack of concentration, an inability to complete a task, or an inability to solve problems or make decisions can cause impairment.

These effects can even be caused by life stresses such as divorce, illness, or expecting a baby. Or they can be caused by the side-effects of medication (e.g., dizziness or nausea) or by lack of sleep. These forms of impairment all fall into the same category as alcohol and drug use, but they aren’t always taken into consideration. If an organization is developing a policy that just deals with drugs and alcohol, other forms of impairment will be left out.

Impairment or “fit-for-duty” policy
If employers already have policies and procedures that address all sources of impairment or fitness for work, the legalization of cannabis should not really affect workplace health and safety. It is simply necessary to broaden the definition of impairment and widen the focus on causes beyond drugs and alcohol.

The positive side to all the media coverage about cannabis is that it’s creating the opportunity to discuss the subject of impairment with everyone. In fact, clear communication between all groups in a workplace about the importance of a safe and healthy work environment is one of the things that will reduce the impact of impairment in the workplace.

Policies should also be applied fairly and consistently, and both supervisors and employees need to be trained so that they will know what their responsibilities are for dealing with any source of impairment.

Although the topic of cannabis in the workplace is prominent in the news, the subject of impairment on the job is not new. Everyone in a workplace, especially those performing high-risk work activities, should have clear guidance and services to assist with impairment.

The end goal in all of this is to reduce any fears or stigma surrounding the subject of workplace impairment, and to provide workplaces that are accommodating, healthy, and safe.

What makes a good impairment policy?
1. It encourages a culture that prioritizes safety and allows for conversations about hazards like impairment.
2. It states clearly whether or not employees are allowed to use, possess, or be under the influence of certain substances while at work.
3. It is jointly developed by labour and management, including the Joint Health and Safety Committee.
4. It should specify the many sources of impairment, such as alcohol, medications (used legally or illegally), cannabis (recreational or therapeutic), any other substance, and conditions like fatigue or stress.
5. It ensures that all employees know and understand the definitions and sources of impairment.
6. It allows for education and training to be provided to all employees, including supervisors.
7. It defines the mechanism for reporting impairment and specifies how confidentiality will be maintained.
8. It gives employees the opportunity to declare if they feel they may be impaired, and specifies that such a statement can be made in confidence and without fear of stigma or reprisal.
9. It includes prevention initiatives and employee support programs such as an Employee Assistance Program (EAP).
10. It states how disciplinary actions will be conducted when they are necessary.
Help workers blow up in smoke

Despite the medical facts about tobacco, smoking continues to be a part of our lives—both at home and at work. Even if you don’t smoke, you probably know someone who does. Most of us know the harm that smoking can cause. But for those with the habit, quitting can seem impossible.

IHSA has collected the following information that can help people who want to quit. Companies can use this information to put together a smoking cessation program for their employees.

Why Workers Should Stop Smoking

According to the Ministry of Health, smoking costs the Ontario economy about $2 billion a year in health care costs. Workers who smoke are at higher risk of contracting certain diseases. These diseases are not only caused by exposure to cigarette smoke but also by exposure to other hazardous substances in the workplace.

Because of the health effects, smoking has been blamed for lost productivity that costs the Ontario economy about $5 billion a year. That means there is a very real cost to your company if you have smokers on the payroll. There is even an increased risk of a fire if cigarettes (and matches, lighters, etc.) are not disposed of properly.

The goal of the provincial Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy is to reduce the number of smokers by 10% by 2023. It’s also trying to decrease smoking-related deaths by 5,000 and reduce general exposure to second-hand smoke throughout Ontario.

In Ontario, smoking at work is governed by the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. This Act bans smoking in enclosed workplaces, including buildings, structures, construction-site trailer offices, loading docks, and delivery trucks or other work vehicles. A person who does not comply with the Act could be fined up to $5,000. For corporations, there is no maximum fine.
How Employers Can Help

Quitting is not easy, especially for people who are frequently reminded of the habit by working with other smokers. As an employer, you can play an important role in helping the workers who want to quit smoking:

• Find out if your workplace employee assistance program (EAP) offers counselling to employees who quit smoking. If it does, let your employees know about it.

• Hold a “quit smoking” contest.

• Host a health fair or “lunch and learn” where workers can learn about support services.

• Look into subsidizing or sharing the cost of devices or other aids that may help stop smoking.

• Adopt a smoke-free policy at work.

• Inform workers about resources that are available to help them stop smoking.

Resources

Workers who want to stop smoking may find help and resources by visiting the Smokers’ Helpline on the Canadian Cancer Society’s website: smokershelpline.ca. A wide range of quitting resources are also available through the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport on its website: ontario.ca/page/support-quit-smoking

How IHSA Can Help

IHSA has created a topic page for people who want to quit smoking. There you’ll find information, safety talks, and more. You can find it under Smoking Cessation in the Topics & Hazards section of our website.

IHSA’s free Quit Smoking Poster (P054) can be downloaded from the Free Product Downloads section under Products on the IHSA website.
Small business outreach initiative tours the province

If you’re a small contractor or the owner of a small business, you can get free health and safety information and products from IHSA when you visit selected Home Depot stores this fall.

Through its new Small Business Outreach Initiative, IHSA has been setting up its information booth in Home Depot stores all over Ontario and offering small business owners and contractors a special All Access Pass. The pass entitles you to a free IHSA course that non-members normally have to pay for. It also gives you samples of some of our members’ products such as the Contractor’s Toolkit (B045), Safety Talks Manual (V005), and the Construction Health and Safety Manual (M029).

With the All Access Pass, you will not only reap the benefits of an IHSA health and safety course but also will come away with an abundance of helpful information that you can put to use on your jobsite. We hope you will see how a health and safety system is good for your business as well as for your workers.

IHSA’s Brian Eisan talks to contractors at Home Depot locations across Ontario. Visit Brian and his colleague Tim Melo at your nearby store.
A small construction company connects with IHSA

One small business owner who took advantage of the All Access Pass was Marvin Aquirre from Stone World Construction Inc., who stopped by the IHSA booth at the Home Depot in Woodbridge. Marvin had never heard of IHSA, and he was intrigued to find out how we could help him with health and safety at his companies.

I found that the information that was readily available to me on-site was great. They gave me a starter kit that shows what’s mandatory on the jobsite, and my IHSA bag also included some items that are on the mandatory jobsite checklist.

I also took full advantage of the All Access Pass they gave me. I registered myself in the free Basics of Supervising course, and I had some of the free resource material sent to my business so that I can refer to them and implement some policies that I never knew were mandatory.

Brian and Tim at the IHSA booth helped me see that health and safety is just as important as any other aspect of my business, if not more so! I will definitely be using the services of the IHSA in the near future as I am now a member firm!

Marvin was not the only business owner who found the All Access Pass useful. The chart below is a good indicator of how many other businesses have accessed the information or picked up a pass and how many of them have become members of IHSA in order to receive more health and safety products and training services free of charge or at reduced prices.

IHSA Resources Promoted During the Campaign (Apr 1 to Aug 2, 2017)

- **Small Business web page**: 2,626 pageviews
- **All Access Pass**: 250 pageviews*

*NOTE: 54 of those who viewed the page completed the All Access Pass form, providing us their contact information so that we can contact them to register for a program.

Safety travels near and far

You can find out exactly where we’ll be, and when, by following our posts about the All Access Pass on social media. Each week there will be new posts on Instagram @ihsasafetynews and Twitter @IHSAnews. More locations may be added in the future.

So look for our booth at your local Home Depot this fall. We’d love to meet you and give you some useful health and safety information as well as some free IHSA products to take back to your site.
Near misses are leading indicators of health and safety performance. To understand how, we should consider a core theory in workplace accidents or incidents: The Safety Triangle.

The Safety Triangle is a ratio of major and minor injuries to near misses, established by H. W. Heinrich in his 1931 book, Industrial Accident Prevention. The ratio states that for every 330 incidents, there is one major lost-time injury or fatality, 29 minor injuries requiring first aid, and 300 near misses.*

The ratio is not necessarily identical for all occupational groups or organizations. But the lesson is that there are many opportunities to learn from the events leading up to a near miss in order to prevent similar situations before workers are injured or property is damaged.

The Safety Triangle theory demonstrates that the more frequently near misses occur, then the more likely an incident resulting in injury or property damage will occur. For example, if your co-worker trips on loose debris and garbage on the worksite every day, it’s only a matter of time before they actually fall and hurt themselves. For this reason, near misses are considered an important leading indicator of a company or project’s health and safety performance.

Leading indicators are used to predict the likelihood of future incidents so that the necessary steps can be taken to proactively prevent such incidents. Associated with the leading indicator is the lagging indicator, which measures safety performance only after an incident has occurred. The number of lost-time injuries, non-lost-time injuries, and property damage are all lagging indicators of health and safety performance.

Leading and lagging indicators can be thought of in terms of whether they precede (lead) or follow (lag) an incident.
Why report near misses?
While it is necessary to report and record incidents that cause injury or damage, nothing can be done to prevent them after the fact. This is why it is so crucial to report, record, and learn from leading indicators such as near misses in order to prevent future incidents from taking place.

The information gathered through near-miss reporting is valuable for finding the root causes of dangerous incidents, proactively taking steps to reduce the danger, and improving the company’s health and safety performance metrics.

By reporting near misses, employers and workers can significantly improve worker health and safety, enhance the health and safety prevention culture of the company, and ensure that the day-to-day operations meet the health and safety standards required by law.

Encouraging near-miss reporting
By encouraging employees to report near-miss incidents, companies can promote health and safety measures before workers are injured or property is damaged. To help encourage this, employers can take the following steps to involve all workers in reporting the near misses they see:

- Create a workplace culture that puts health and safety and reporting first and put a policy and procedure in place that is communicated to all employees with the support of senior management. The attitude of an organization towards health and safety starts at the top of the organization.
- Educate employees on why near miss reporting is necessary, the important role that workers play in reporting events, and the process for reporting. Build examples of near misses into training programs and use them during safety meetings.
- Use near miss reporting as a leading indicator and report back to the organization and staff on the positive steps taken to the improve workplace safety. Consider also compiling a monthly “lessons learned” report, which is an anonymous summary of near-miss reports, and give it to all staff.

Reporting, recording, and learning from leading indicators such as near misses is a key building block of the health and safety culture of any company. Identifying weaknesses in the safety process by reporting near misses will help predict the likelihood of future incidents and ensure the necessary steps are carried out to prevent such incidents. Everyone who participates in a near miss reporting system is proactively working together to improve their workplace health and safety performance, reducing both the human and financial costs of workplace injuries and incidents.

IHSA would like to thank the members of the Carpenters Trade Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee for their contributions to this article and Ellis Don for giving us access to one of their sites for photos.
We all know how dangerous it is to be distracted by phones and other mobile devices when we’re driving. But what if these distractions are happening on a worksite?

Just like driving, working on a busy jobsite or operating tools and heavy machinery requires full concentration. When a worker is talking on a phone or using any other mobile device, they’re thinking about something other than work or safety. Sometimes workers even take off their personal protective equipment (i.e., safety glasses, gloves, hearing protection, or hard hat) in order to use their phone. A worker using a mobile device can also distract other workers in the area.

When a worker isn’t focusing on the hazards of their work tasks and their surroundings, bad things can happen fast—property can be damaged or someone can be injured or even killed.

Prevent distracted working

There are several things that can be done to guard against distracted working on the jobsite.

1. Develop a health and safety policy or company rule about cell phone use on the jobsite. Make sure that the policy is communicated to all workers and is being strictly enforced. It can include such restrictions as:
   • Mobile devices must never be used while operating any equipment or when driving a vehicle.
   • Mobile devices on worksites can be used only in safe work areas as designated by the company (e.g., break rooms or site trailers).
   • Mobile devices must be completely turned off so that the ringer will not startle anyone.
   • Mobile devices must be left in vehicles or in a lockbox at the site trailer to reduce the temptation to use them on the jobsite.
   • Mobile devices must never be operated in a flammable environment or near flammable fumes or liquid.
2. Give a five-minute safety talk that reminds workers about the dangers of being distracted by mobile devices on jobsites.

3. Put up posters around the jobsite that bring attention to the problem of distractions caused by using hand-held devices.

These are effective ways to reduce distractions on the jobsite. However, it’s always good practice for site workers and visitors to make sure they’ve been seen by heavy equipment operators. Make eye contact with the operator and “wait for the wave” to make sure you’ve been seen.

When workers are more focused on their jobs rather than their devices, the quality of their work will improve and there will be fewer incidents caused by the distraction of mobile devices. Ultimately, that will create a safer workplace for everyone.

How IHSA CAN HELP

IHSA has a number of products that can help a company promote awareness of distracted working hazards and help decrease the use of mobile devices on jobsites:

• **Texting on Jobsite Awareness Poster (P050)**
  This 17” x 22” poster will serve as a reminder to put hand-held devices away while on the jobsite by giving an example of what you may miss.

• **Wait for the Wave Poster (P051)**
  This 17” x 22” poster is printed on weather-resistant polystyrene with holes in each corner so it can be more easily displayed around the jobsite.

• **Mobile devices on worksites safety talk**
  Download this talk from the Safety Talk web page in the Tools & Resources section of the website or find it in the Safety Talks Manual (V005).

• **Mobile devices on worksites policy**
  Download sample health and safety policies on cell phone use and customize them to suit your needs. Find them on the Company Health & Safety Rules web page in the Policy and Program Templates section under Tools & Resources.

• **Health and Safety Advisory: Mobile Devices (W454)**

Download this advisory by visiting the Free Product Downloads page under Products.
According to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), the construction industry experienced over 1,300 lost-time injuries (LTIs) that were categorized as Struck Against Object or Struck By Object last year. This accounted for over 25% of all LTIs in the sector in 2017. In the last few years, struck-bys has become one of the biggest killers on construction sites, surpassing falls. Even workers who were performing the job of signaler have been killed by the same heavy equipment they were directing.

The Ministry of Labour (MOL) plans to roll out a two-tiered blitz initiative as a means of addressing this rising concern. The two phases of the blitz will specifically target reversing equipment on construction projects. The initial phase will begin on September 1st and last until the end of the month. It involves helping companies with compliance and prevention education. The second phase involves launching an enforcement campaign that will run from October 1st until October 31st.

The MOL’s blitz also states that “constructors and employers must ensure vehicle and equipment operation is planned and organized and that adequate traffic control measures and procedures are in place at projects”.

But with so much road work constantly going on across the province, roadside safety is an ongoing challenge. Heather Lewis is one of the health and safety coordinators for the Coco Group, one of the busiest paving companies in Ontario. IHSA teamed up with her and Coco during its development of a new campaign that will focus on struck-bys.

Developing traffic protection plans
Superintendents and project managers face a variety of obstacles when developing traffic protection plans for road work zones. This makes maintaining a safe work site a challenge for people like Heather Lewis.

“There can be contract restraints—the inability to close lanes on a roadway and maintaining the flow of traffic. In addition to that, some jurisdictions may be looking for work to be done at night so as not to affect the travelling public, which can further increase the hazards that need to be dealt with,” says Lewis.

Other concerns that come up when creating a job plan for heavy equipment work involve the access and egress points for work vehicles and how they must travel in and out of the flow of traffic on public roads in a safe manner.

“Obviously reversing in these types of situations is going to create a significant hazard for equipment operators and workers,” says Lewis.

“We generally have to deal with tight work areas, so it becomes important to create turn-around zones or areas that can be exclusively for reversing or three-point turns. We want to minimize reversing as much as possible in these kind of work zones.”
Dealing with distractions
Distraction is also a key hazard in today’s digital landscape—not only from the travelling public but also from the workforce.

IHSA’s Struck-by campaign will focus on staying alert when working with and around heavy equipment. It will seek to raise awareness about the importance of communication between workers and heavy equipment operators.

Struck-by incidents are a significant concern and that’s why we need to stay alert at all times! Having policies in place to prohibit the use of electronic personal devices is one of our company requirements. In addition, we also require that employees having in-depth conversations move away from the work zone to a safe location in order to be removed from the line of fire and reduce the risk of them being struck.

Lewis also points out that once you address the communication on site, you also must be vigilant in watching out for the travelling public.

A construction site changes hour-to-hour, minute-to-minute, so communication becomes vitally important as we get our traffic protection setup as per the Ontario Traffic Manual, and have the appropriate signage and delineation that is required to ensure that we direct vehicular traffic through our work zone in a safe manner. We need to make sure that the public knows where we are working, so that signage and awareness is just as important.

Putting the plan into practice
While communication and planning are the primary focus of working safely around heavy equipment, one of most important aspects of a safe and effective traffic protection plan is to conduct an onsite review prior to commencing work.

A safe and effective traffic protection plan involves coming out to the site, evaluating the hazards and looking at the traffic patterns. These are all key points to be incorporated into your plan. So we want to ensure that Superintendents and Project Managers who are preparing the traffic plan are actually here on site, so they can see the issues, they can spot additional concerns, and address hazards they may not have detected by referring to the contract documents.

With the rate of growth in cities across the province, there doesn’t seem to be an end in sight for the amount of infrastructure developments or road work on our major highways and arteries. The best plan we can have moving forward is one that equips our workers with what they need to navigate these high-hazard working conditions, and raise awareness of the importance of staying alert around heavy equipment and vehicular traffic.

Having signallers and workers that are trained, aware, and alert, and who understand their duties and responsibilities in these kind of working conditions is an excellent step towards ending struck-by incidents.
Are you getting the most from your training?

Falling from heights continues to be a leading cause of injuries and fatalities in Ontario construction. That’s why working at heights training is mandatory for all Ontario workers on a construction project who may use a method of fall protection. Since 2015, this training must meet a provincial standard (i.e., it must be approved by the Chief Prevention Officer [CPO]).

IHSA’s Working at Heights—Fundamentals of Fall Prevention (WAH) was one of the first courses to be approved by the CPO. With the help of our training partners, our approved course has been delivered to more than 140,090 participants in the province.

You may know one of these participants. You may even be one of them.

Protecting workers and their families from the devastation caused by a fall injury is a duty that we take seriously. We want to do as much as we can for participants in our one-day training course.

As part of IHSA’s commitment to continually improving our health and safety training, we’ve been collecting information from WAH course participants. We wanted to find out how much they’re learning from the course, how long they’re retaining the information, and if their training is reinforced when they return to work.

Knowledge gained

If you’ve taken IHSA’s WAH program, you’ll know that it begins with a pre-test to determine what participants already know and identify where they need to improve. At the end of the day, participants are re-tested to find out what they’ve learned from the course.

The chart below shows the percentage of correct answers to three questions on a random selection of pre- and post-tests. Using this data, we can measure the overall increase in participants’ knowledge at the end of the program. This knowledge will help them work safer and lessen the chances that they will be injured or cause damage on the job. Typically, participants will increase their knowledge by 20% after taking IHSA’s WAH course.

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Knowledge gained

If you’ve taken IHSA’s WAH program, you’ll know that it begins with a pre-test to determine what participants already know and identify where they need to improve. At the end of the day, participants are re-tested to find out what they’ve learned from the course.
Vulnerable workers

IHSA offers WAH training in 11 other languages that are commonly spoken in the construction industry. We do this to reach more of our “vulnerable workers”, which includes new Canadians who may not speak the language or know the health and safety legislation.

The learning data we gathered from some of these participants in 2016 showed that less than half knew the proper angle for setting up a portable extension ladder. However, after taking IHSA’s WAH training, more than 90% of them answered that question correctly. This same group increased their knowledge about calculating free fall distance by 62%.

Knowledge retained

Increasing knowledge by the end of the course is only part of the equation. If participants don’t put this knowledge into action, they may forget it. Also, they may go back to their old habits or try to cut corners to save time.

To combat forgetfulness and complacency, the Ontario Ministry of Labour requires workers to take a half-day refresher course on working at heights every three years. IHSA used some of the data we collected during our one-day WAH course when we developed our half-day WAH Refresher course.

Knowledge retention factors

Three factors are critical to ensuring that the information given to participants is not only remembered but also used on the jobsite:

1. Dynamic instruction—IHSA uses highly skilled instructors who can give the participants sector-specific information. From the comments collected at the end of the WAH program, we know that our instructors make a difference. In a random selection of 602 participants, 99.7% said they would recommend this training to others. Some of their comments about the instructors are included on the following page.

2. Supporting materials—IHSA provides WAH participants with supplementary products to complement what they’ve learned in training. Aside from their course material, they take home a pocket reference guide, which condenses the course information and makes it easily accessible. Other items such as our Tie Off and WAH posters and stickers can reinforce learned information when participants go back to work.

Earlier this year, IHSA put together a Falls Kit that can be ordered for free by emailing doyourpart@ihsa.ca. Visit the Fall Prevention & Working at Heights topic page on our website for more information.

3. Site-specific training—The most important factor, and one that is often overlooked, is the requirement for employers to provide site-specific WAH training. According to the Construction Projects regulation (213/91):

26.2 (1) An employer shall ensure that a worker who may use a fall protection system is adequately trained in its use and given adequate oral and written instructions by a competent person.

Adequate oral and written instructions given to a worker should include:

• Informing them about the actual fall hazards they may be exposed to on the jobsite
• Reviewing the procedures for protecting themselves against these fall hazards
• Training them on the particular equipment they will be using on the site.

For more information, download the health and safety advisory on Working at Heights—Site-Specific Training (W254) from the Free Products section from the ihsa.ca website.

One of the first WAH courses in another language was delivered in Russian in 2015
Commitment to quality

IHSA will continue to collect information about knowledge improvement so that we can keep improving our training programs. This commitment to quality also extends to our products and other services.

These are some of the ways that we maintain the quality of our deliverables and ensure that they comply with health and safety legislation and industry best practices:

- Our health and safety resources are created with input from IHSA subject-matter experts who consult with industry stakeholders and regulatory agencies to ensure the information is accurate and relevant to the industries we serve.

- We have carried out more than 185 audits of our training programs since 2015 to ensure the teaching is consistent and that participants are meeting the learning objectives.

- We analyze test results and the learning experiences of our students to ensure our training is providing the knowledge and skills needed to work safely on the job.

To learn more about IHSA training programs, visit ihsa.ca/training to see what courses are coming up in your area. We also offer courses at the customer’s location and our new state-of-the-art Mobile Classroom can travel to any location.

In early 2017, IHSA reached a milestone of 100,000 participants trained in WAH

Comments from participants about IHSA trainers

...was excellent. He made it interesting.

...was great. He relates it to jobsites.

...is good at what he does.

Senior students from Beaver Brae Secondary and St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Kenora, who are enrolled in a specialist construction program, completed IHSA’s WAH course in March 2017

Products such as the pocket reference guide, posters, and stickers can reinforce WAH training on site
IHSA can help you KEEP YOUR PROMISE

IHSA has made it convenient for Ontario employers to keep the message of safety in front of their workers everyday. You’ll also see our messages on community transit and public spaces in cities across Ontario. Visit our website regularly to see new products!

Visit ihsa.ca/keepyourpromise

Let’s help everyone keep their safety promise.

Posters

Stickers

COMING SOON

Safe driving

Struck-bys
NEW
Mental Health Awareness Poster (P052)

Why it’s important to bring awareness

Mental Health can affect anyone. But it often goes unnoticed. IHSA is a supporter of mental health awareness. We have designed and developed a double-sided poster (P052) to promote awareness and show support to anyone and everyone affected by mental health in the workplace and at home.

Visit ihsa.ca/pmentalhealth today for more information and to order your copy.

IHSA receives 2018 Readers’ Choice Award

IHSA was recently voted to be the winner of the 2018 Readers’ Choice Award by the consumers of the Canadian Occupational Safety Magazine published by Thomson Reuters. It’s a fantastic testimonial to be chosen as the best Working at Heights Training Provider (Ontario), and a great encouragement to IHSA trainers and staff to know that their hard work is being appreciated by our members.

2018 Annual General Meeting

October 3, 2018

Take notice that the Annual General Meeting of voting members (the “Meeting”) of Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (“IHSA”) will be held on October 3, 2018 at the Centre for Health and Safety Innovation, 5110 Creekbank Road, Mississauga, ON L4W 0A1.

Additional details and registration information will be available on the ihsa.ca website at ihsa.ca/AGM/2018-Annual-General-Meeting.aspx