

Network News

Monthly News & Updates

December | 2024

MLITSD News and Events

Construction Health and Safety Program Report

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) puts together a report for the Provincial Labor Management Health and Safety Committee each month with an overview of events, court bulletins, and statistics. This report is generally available the first week of the month and is posted on the IHSA website.

[Access construction reports](#)

2024-2025 Compliance Campaign

From April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, MLITSD inspectors will be focusing on several areas, sector specific. Please take a look below for more information on your particular sector's compliance campaign initiatives and available resources through IHSA. You can also find more information on the campaigns [here](#).

Construction

MLITSD Construction inspectors will conduct two enforcement campaigns; **Falls from heights** in single-family residential and multi-family residential including residential re-roofing and **struck by** material, equipment and vehicles.

To assist stakeholders with achieving compliance IHSA is highlighting the following resources this month:

Falls

- [Ladder Awareness – Fall Prevention Webinar](#)
- [Fall Protection Quick Facts Podcast episode](#)
- [Ladder Use in Construction Guideline](#)
- [Ladder Risk Assessment Checklist](#)
- [Step Ladder Safety Talk Video](#)

Struck-by

- [Struck By Incidents and Heavy Equipment \(IHSA046\)](#)
- [Health and Safety Advisory: Working Safely Around Heavy Equipment](#)

(W455)

- **H&S Advisory: Attachments – Quick Couplers (W450)**
- **Reducing the Risk of Workers Being Struck by Vehicles or Mobile Equipment (W402)**
- **Safety talk on securing loads**

Surface Mining & Aggregates

Mining inspectors will check that employers are:

- meeting the new requirements set out in section 182 of Regulation 854 for developing and maintaining an airborne hazards management program that came into force of Sept. 1, 2023

Visit **IHSA's Aggregate page** to watch a joint webinar on the requirements of this campaign and locate other supporting resources.

[Access Mining Report](#)

Specialized Professional Service

Worker exposure to chemical agents in the workplace, and WHMIS training based on the amended Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR).

To assist stakeholders with achieving compliance during the year-long campaigns, IHSA is highlighting the following resources this month:

- **[IHSA's Silica Control Tool topic page](#)**
- **[Current occupational exposure limits for Ontario workplaces](#)**
- **[WHMIS - A guide to the legislation](#)**

Legislative Updates and Alerts

Ontario introduces Working for Workers Six Act, 2024

On November 27, 2024, the Ontario government introduced the Working for Workers Six Act, 2024 which would build on the previous five Working for Workers acts with a suite of proposed measures to protect the health and wellbeing of workers, bring more people into the skilled trades and keep costs down for Ontario workers.

There are many key proposals, which if passed would result in changes to the Employment Standards Act, Highway Traffic Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Workplace Safety and Insurance Act.

[Learn More & View Bill](#)

Comment period open for *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act*

The Ontario government has recently introduced the *Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act, 2024*. The proposed Act includes six initiatives related to the Ministry of Transportation's mandate to enhance road safety across the province. A detailed summary of these proposals is available on Ontario's Regulatory Registry.

The government is seeking feedback on this proposal. The consultation period will be open to December 18, 2024.

[Learn more](#)

Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development's online notices research session announced

The Ontario Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development is updating the portal where the public can submit notices required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act. As part of this process we are reaching out to the users of this portal to speak to them about the process and want to know more about their experiences.

If you are interested in participating in our study, here are some additional details:

- This will be a casual session, conducted online through web conferencing.
- They will be approximately 60 minutes in length and will occur between December 2024 and January 2025.
- Any personal information (such as your name) will not be tied to the feedback you give during the session. We will also anonymize our notes.

If you have any concerns on how we handle privacy and data collection, feel free to ask.

If you are interested in participating, please contact [Leo Chen](#).

[I want to participate](#)

Fire Marshal launches new website on lithium-ion battery safety

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) has launched a new website as part of an ongoing effort to reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires throughout Ontario.

This new resource provides a centralized hub of critical information, practical safety tips, and expert guidance to help Ontarians understand and mitigate the risks associated with lithium-ion batteries.

[Learn more](#)

IHSA News and Events



REGISTER NOW

NCSO®/NHSA™

Educational Conference 2024

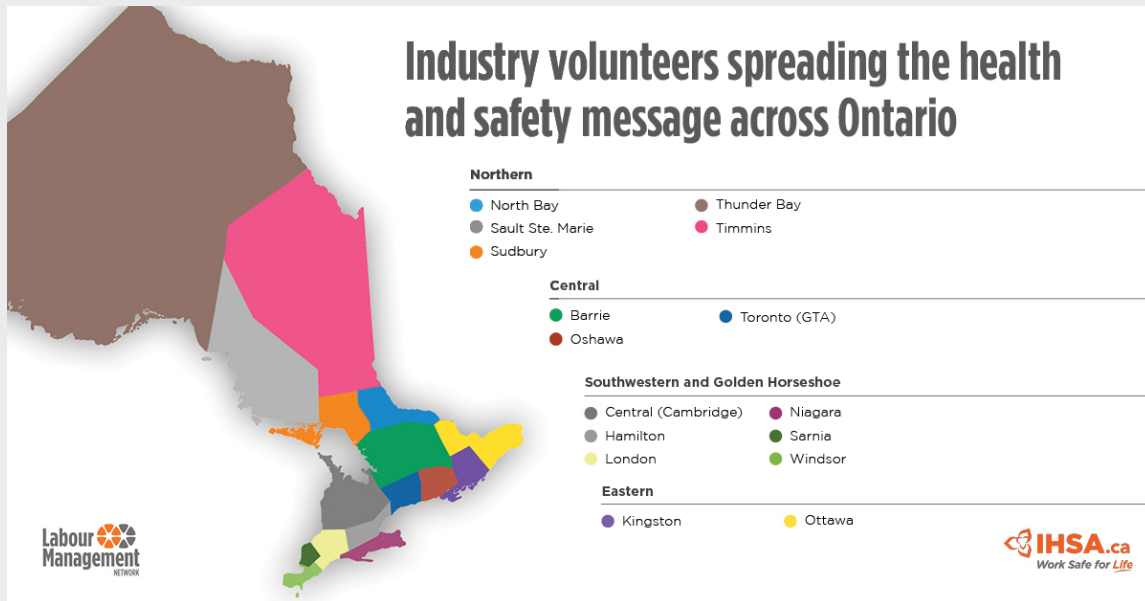
Virtual Event:
November 21, 2024

IHSA.ca
Work Safe for Life

Resources from the NCSO®/NHSA™ Educational Conference are now available

The NCSO®/NHSA™ Educational Conference was well received on November 21, with more than 225 in attendance with many great questions and comprehensive discussion. If you missed out, IHSA has released copies of the presentations for your reference.

Access
resources



IHSA's Labour-Management network is waiting for you

With 11 training facilities and dozens of consultants across the province, we are able to offer training and resources to members no matter where they are. This is made possible by input and outreach of the 16 regional committees of our Labour-Management Network.

Made up of dedicated volunteers from the industries IHSA serves, the committees focus their efforts on local outreach campaigns and events, reminding everyone of the importance of workplace health and safety. These events range from hazard-specific workshops to large symposiums.

From Windsor to Thunder Bay—and more than a dozen regions in between—the committees collaborate with colleges, unions, and trade associations, and engage with local businesses—particularly those who may employ newer and/or younger workers, as well as companies whose workers are engaged in high-hazard activities. To learn more, watch our [Labour-Management Network video on YouTube](#).

Learn
more

Featured IHSA Resources

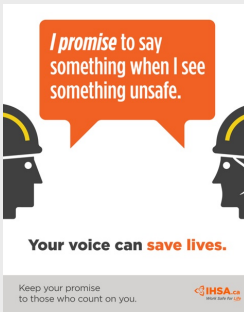


Collaborating with Threads of Life, IHSA has launched a new Keep Your Promise Campaign: See Something, Say Something.

Working safely is a daily promise that you make to yourself and to those who care about you. Safety is also your legal responsibility in the workplace. When you see a health and safety hazard and report it to your supervisor, you can prevent someone from being injured or killed on the job.

Access Resources

Do your part, and understand the campaign to lead by example!



- Implement and support the campaign at your workplace
- Share/promote the campaign
- Share your efforts on social media
- Make it part of your regular discussions/safety talks
- Order and adopt the supporting resources
- Have your workers make a pledge and wear the stickers
- Share it with your sub-contractors
- Make it part of your orientation program



Winter is on its way: be prepared
The cold temperatures and icy conditions that are often a part of Canadian winters can cause hazards at the workplace. IHSA's [winter hazard topic page](#) has details on safe driving, working, and other important information.

View Winter Weather - Controls & Best Practices

IHSA.ca
Work Safe for Life

MENSTRUAL PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS: FAQs

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) was asked a series of questions regarding the menstrual product requirements on jobsites, and the following are their responses.

- **What are the specific requirements?**
From January 1, 2025, the Construction Projects regulation (O. Reg. 213/91) will have a new section 28.1 that will require that menstrual products be made reasonably accessible on construction sites of 20 or more workers who are regularly employed on a project for three months or longer. The products must be kept clean and hygienic at an accessible location where there is a reasonable amount of privacy.
- **What types of menstrual products need to be provided (e.g., tampons, sanitary pads)?**
Both tampons and menstrual pads must be provided.
- **How many products should be made available at a time?**
A supply of menstrual products must be available at the project at all times for the duration of the project and refilled as frequently as necessary to ensure they are available when needed.
- **Who is responsible for providing the menstrual products?**
The contractor is responsible for providing the menstrual products.
- **Is it the general contractor or the employer for each subcontractor on-site?**
The contractor is responsible for providing the menstrual products.
- **Where should the menstrual products be made available?**
In a location that allows for discreet, easy access while maintaining worker privacy.
- **Should they be placed in specific restrooms or sanitary facilities?**
The contractor can place the menstrual products in one or more locations. If it is in a toilet facility only, it must be easily accessible to any worker. The menstrual products could be placed in female-designated toilet facilities, but they must be in at least one toilet facility that is accessible to any worker.
- **How should the products be stored to ensure they remain sanitary?**
The menstrual products must be kept clean and hygienic. As examples, the menstrual products could be kept in an accessible dispenser, a sealed container, or an enclosed cabinet to meet this requirement.
- **What is the cost implication for contractors?**
Contractors must ensure that menstrual products are provided and made accessible to all workers. Consequently, the contractor would be responsible for ensuring that there is a continuous supply of these products, both tampons and menstrual pads, throughout the duration of the project. They would also be responsible for the cost of the container in which the products are stored to ensure they are kept clean and hygienic.
- **Will the government or any agencies provide funding or support?**
This is not a consideration at this time.

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W053 November 2024
Labour Management

Menstrual Product Requirements: FAQ

IHSA, in partnership with the MLITSD, has created a FAQ document to help employers and contractors understand the **updates to Section 28.1** of O. Reg 213/91, effective January 1, 2025.

Download FAQ

New eLearning course: Opening the Door

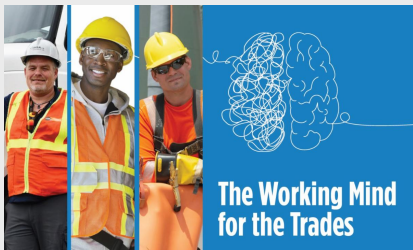


to Support

IHSA is excited to introduce a new eLearning mental health course, 'Opening the Door to Support', designed to equip supervisors, managers, and leaders with essential skills and tools to support mental health in the workplace. This course created collaboratively with the Mental Health Innovations (MHI), is currently offered at no charge, is accessible to a broad audience, and delivers a self-paced learning experience.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Opening the Door to Support takes an interactive, story-based approach that immerses learners in real-life scenarios from the trades. Participants will work through six modules, covering topics such as breaking down stigma, recognizing signs of mental distress, communicating supportively, and many more.



Register Now: The Working Mind For the Trades

IHSA is partnering with Opening Minds, a division of the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to pilot a new training program designed to reduce stigma surrounding mental illness in trade-sector workplaces.

[Register for manager training](#)

[Register for worker training](#)

The courses have been adapted for trades sectors from Opening Minds' The Working Mind, an evidence-based learning program developed to help Ontario workplaces better understand mental illness and foster psychologically healthy and safe working environments.



IHSA safety talks now on YouTube

A safety talk is a hands-on way to remind workers that health and safety matter everyday onsite. You might be familiar with our **PDF safety talks** or our **Safety Talks Manual (V005)**, but did you know we also have a variety of safety talk videos on our YouTube channel? Take a moment to explore our Safety Talks playlist.

[Visit our YouTube channel](#)

Latest podcast episodes available

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IHSA Safety Podcast
New Episodes Regularly

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The **IHSA Safety Podcast** is a free podcast that seeks to improve the lives of workers in Ontario. The latest episodes include:

Episode 95: Basics of air quality testing in the workplace

Episode 96: Respiratory protection program

[Listen now](#)

Industry News and Events



Stop use/recall notice: 3M DBI-SALA Sealed-Blok self-retracting lifelines

IHSA wishes to alert its members to an important product recall specific to 3M fall protection equipment.

3M has identified an “aging effect” that may impact the safe performance of its DBI-SALA Sealed-Blok self-retracting lifelines (SRLs). In the event of a fall, these SRLs may fail to lock up as designed, exposing users to serious injury or death.

This issue affects various models of 3M DBI-SALA Sealed-Blok SRLs manufactured between January 2022 and October 2024, as well as devices repaired by 3M or an authorized service centre during that time period. So far, there have been no reports of injuries related to this issue.

[Learn More](#)



IHSA, OHCOW survey open

Workplace mental stressors—such as working alone, shiftwork, driving, trauma exposure, poor ergonomics, or exposure to hazards—are health and safety hazards that can affect workers’ mental and physical wellbeing and lead to illness or injury.

[Construction survey](#)

[Transportation survey](#)

IHSA is inviting workers in the construction and transportation industries across Ontario to participate in a survey that is the first of its kind in Ontario. Developed by IHSA and Occupational Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW), the survey aims to identify mental stressors at workplaces so they can be eliminated or reduced, thus improving overall mental wellness.

Addressing and minimizing causes of mental distress at work is essential for maintaining workers' safety and wellbeing. As an employer, you can help us do this by promoting this survey to your workforce. Reach out to [IHSA](#) for more information.

Anyone who completes and submits the survey could enter to win one of three Visa gift cards valued at \$50, \$150, or \$250. All responses will be anonymous and confidential. You can learn more about the survey at [StressAssess.ca](#).

CSA award nominations now open

The leadership and expertise of CSA Group's committee members are critical to helping us create a better, safer, and more sustainable world. Each year, CSA honors members whose contributions and commitment are especially noteworthy by presenting the John Jenkins Award, the Award of Merit, and the Young Professional Award.

[Learn more](#)

What's new

Stay updated on current news from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development



[Read more](#)

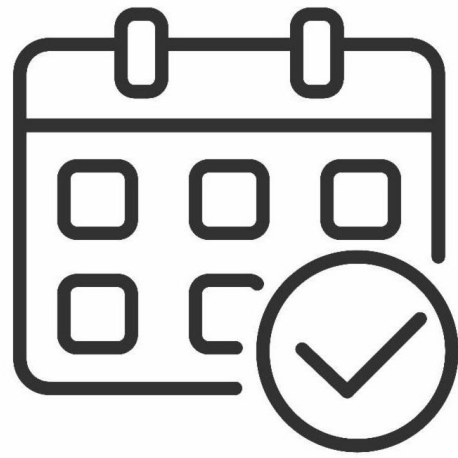
Fleet Safety Council and transportation-related news

Access monthly updates, news, and events from the Fleet Safety Council and the transportation industry that IHSA supports.

[Visit the Fleet Safety Council website](#)



National Safe Driving Week- December 1-7
International Day of Persons with Disabilities- December 3
International Volunteer Day - December 5
IHSA office closure - December 24-January 2



Watch here for a list of upcoming industry events and dates throughout the year. **Have an important date to include?** Email **Ariel White** with details.



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