

## Report for the Labour-Management Network March 2024

### Monthly Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
January 1 – January 31, 2024	0	19	19
January 1 – January 31, 2023	1	32	33

### Fatality & Critical Injury Year-to-Date Overview – Construction

Reporting Months	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
2024 Jan. 1 – December 31	0	19	19
2023 Jan. 1 – December 31	1	32	33

*Helping you achieve compliance on construction projects and window cleaning operations*

[General requirements](#)

[Access to and egress from a work area](#)

[Excavations](#)

[Fall protection and roofing re-shoring](#)

[Equipment](#)

[Electrical hazards](#)

[Hygiene](#)

[Forms, formwork, falsework, and](#)

[Housekeeping, fire protection, public way protection, traffic control, and hot tar or bitumen tankers or kettles](#)

[Asbestos on construction projects](#)

[Diving operations](#)

[Window cleaning operations](#)

**Disclaimer:** This information has been prepared to assist workplace parties in understanding their rights and duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations. This information does not constitute legal advice. To determine your rights and duties under the OHSA, please contact your legal counsel or refer to the legislation.

## **Section 1 – Senior Manager's Comment**

In the high-stakes world of construction, safety is paramount. Every day, construction workers face a myriad of hazards—from working from heights to struck-by hazards—and maintaining a vigilant focus on safety is crucial. However, one of the biggest threats to safety in the construction industry is complacency.

Complacency can manifest in various ways in the workplace. In the context of construction, it often appears as a lack of attention to detail, a disregard for safety protocols, or a failure to recognize potential hazards. This attitude can have serious consequences, leading to accidents, injuries, and even fatalities.

There are several factors that contribute to complacency in the construction industry. One of the most significant is familiarity. Workers who have been on the job for a long time may become so accustomed to their surroundings and tasks that they stop actively thinking about safety. This can lead to a false sense of security and a lack of vigilance.

Another factor is pressure to meet deadlines and quotas. In the fast-paced world of construction, there is often pressure to work quickly and efficiently. This can lead workers to cut corners or take risks in order to get the job done on time.

Additionally, workers may become complacent if they feel that safety is not a top priority for their employer.

So, how can we combat complacency in the workplace and promote a culture of safety in the construction industry? The first step is education. Employers should provide thorough training to all workers on safety protocols and procedures. This should include regular refresher courses to ensure that safety remains top of mind.

Additionally, it's important to create a work environment where safety is valued and rewarded. Employers should recognize and praise workers who demonstrate a commitment to safety, and should take swift action against those who disregard safety protocols.

Regular safety inspections and audits can also help to combat complacency by identifying potential hazards and ensuring that safety protocols are being followed. These inspections should be conducted by trained professionals and should be thorough and comprehensive.

Finally, it's important for workers to take personal responsibility for their own safety and the safety of their colleagues. This means actively looking out for potential hazards, speaking up if something doesn't seem right, and following safety protocols at all times.

In conclusion, complacency is a dangerous mindset that has no place in the construction industry. By promoting a culture of safety, providing thorough training, and fostering a work environment where safety is valued, we can help to ensure that construction workers stay safe on the job.

Sincerely, Brian Barron

Senior Manager  
Construction Health and Safety Program  
Occupational Health and Safety Branch  
Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

## Section 2 – What's New

### [Workplace Naloxone Program ends March 31](#)

Ontario's Workplace Naloxone Program provides support to employers who are required to comply with the naloxone requirements in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* by providing **free** naloxone training for up to two workers per workplace and/or one **free** nasal spray naloxone kit per workplace. Workplaces that still need Naloxone kits have until March 31 to get a free kit and training.

[Get a free naloxone kit and training](#)

### [Supporting Ontario's safe employers](#)

The Chief Prevention Officer has recognized 16 more companies under the [Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers](#) (SOSE) program. By successfully implementing a recognized health and safety management system in their workplace, these companies join a growing group of SOSE leaders.

The program can provide these companies with financial rewards in the form of WSIB rebates.

[Learn more](#) | [See the video](#) (also in [described video](#))

### [New certification management system for mandatory safety training](#)

On February 26, the ministry will launch a new system to manage certification records for mandatory [working at heights](#) and [joint health and safety committee certification](#) training. Records in the current system will be moved to the new one from February 23 to 25, and links will be updated on the ministry's website. Users will notice a change in the look and feel of the new system, but learners will still be able to access records, find training providers and register for courses, while training providers will still be able to manage courses and apply for approval of their programs. The change incorporates user feedback to make the system more responsive and easier to use. Ministry staff are available to support users during this transition.

[Get help with the new system](#)

For the latest what's **new** – MLITSD articles, see: [What's New!](#)

## Section 3 – Court Bulletins

# Workplace Fatality Results in \$110,000 Fine for Kitchener-area Construction Company

**Convicted:** Matpol Metal Roof Manufacturing Ltd., carrying out business as Canadian Metal Roof Manufacturing Ltd., 77 Misty Street, Kitchener, Ontario N2B 3V6, a construction company that installs metal roof systems.

**Location of Workplace:** A private residence on Waterloo Street, London, Ontario.

**Description of Offence:** A worker was fatally injured in a fall while installing metal sheathing on a second-storey roof. By not ensuring the worker used fall protection while on the roof, Matpol Metal Roof Manufacturing Ltd. (Matpol) failed, as a constructor, to ensure that every employer and every worker performing on a project complied with the [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#) and its regulations.

**Date of Offence:** April 6, 2022

**Date of Conviction:** January 10, 2024

### Penalty Imposed:

- Following a guilty plea in the Provincial Offences Court in London, Matpol Metal Roof Manufacturing Ltd. was fined \$110,000 by Justice of the Peace Emma Sims. Crown Counsel was Alicia Gordon-Fagan.
- The court also imposed a 25 per cent victim fine surcharge as required by the *Provincial Offences Act*. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

### Background:

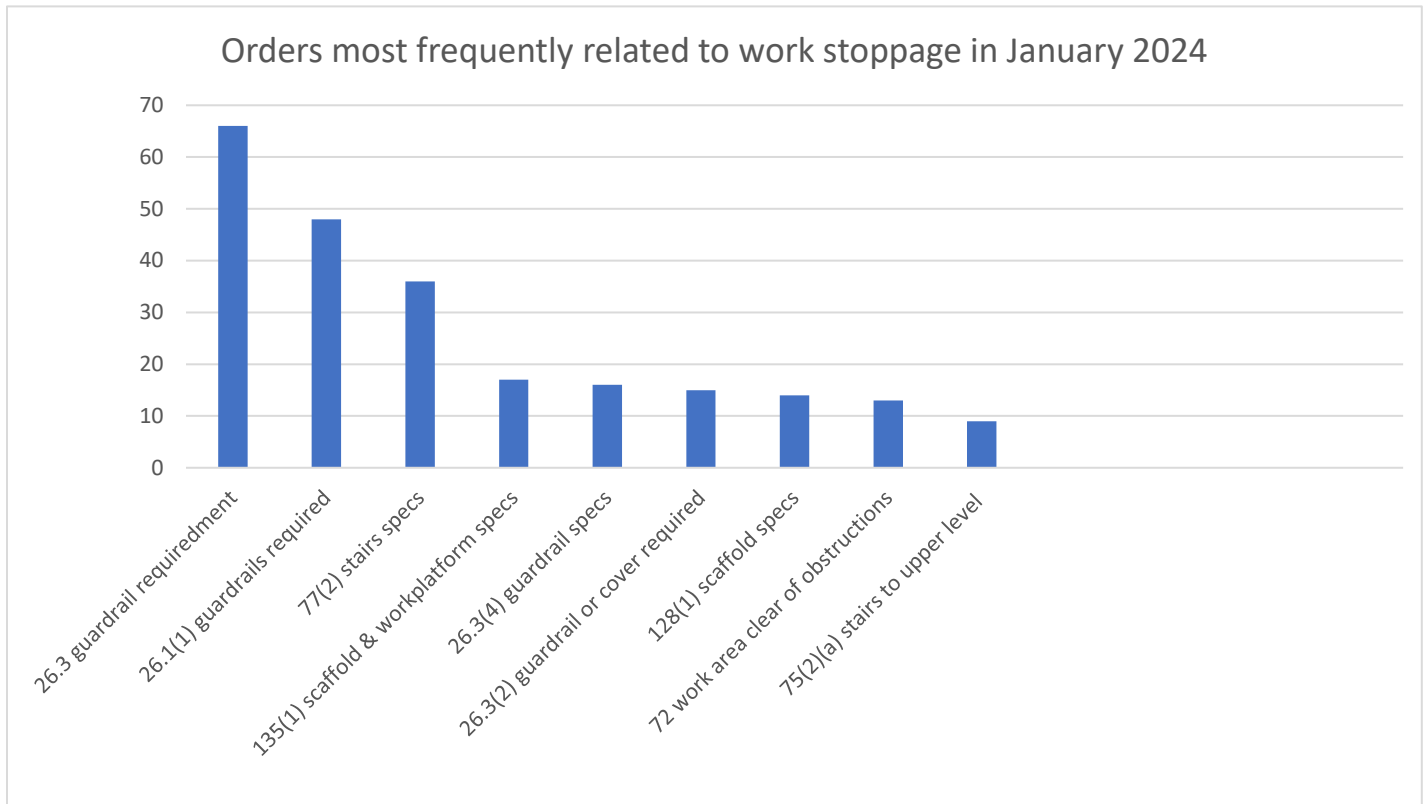
- Matpol was the constructor on a project installing a metal roof on a single-family home. Matpol subcontracted another roofing company to complete this work.

- On April 6, 2022, a worker from the subcontracted company was installing metal sheathing on the second-storey roof of the building, when they fell to the ground and suffered fatal injuries.
- A Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development investigation found that while fall protection equipment was available on site for use at the time of the incident, the worker was not wearing fall protection when they fell from the roof.
- Matpol Metal Roof Manufacturing Ltd. failed, as a constructor, to ensure that where a worker is exposed to a fall of more than three metres, and it is not practicable to install a guardrail, the worker shall be adequately protected by a method of fall protection, as required by [section 26.1\(2\)](#) of Ontario Regulation 213/91 and contrary to [section 23\(1\)\(b\)](#) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Court Bulletins can be found here: <https://news.ontario.ca/en>

## Section 4 – Enforcement Trends – January 2024

MLITSD Construction Inspectors conducted 1,528 field visits at 1,188 workplaces during the month of January 2024. They responded to 294 **events\*** throughout the province during that month and issued **302 Stop Work Orders\*\***. Of those, 254 were issued during a pro-active inspection and 48 were issued during an investigation stemming from an event.



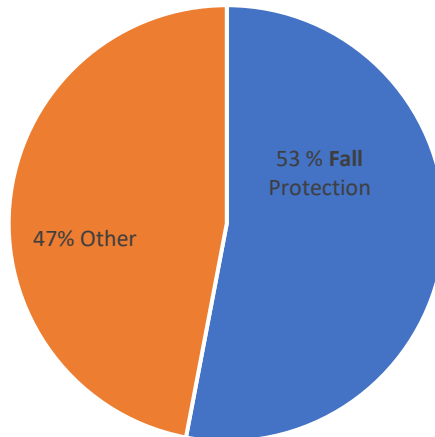
*\*Events consist of complaints, work refusals, critical injury, fatality, an occurrence, or injury as prescribed*

*\*\*A stop work order is issued where imminent danger is observed at the time of inspection requiring the work to be stopped until the appropriate remedial action can be taken to make the situation safe for workers to work.*

54% of all Part 1 tickets issued by MLITSD Construction Inspectors in January 2024, were in relation to either a **lack, or inadequate use, of fall protection equipment.**

Since Jan. 1, 2023, and up till December 31, 2023, 53 % of all Part 1 Tickets issued by construction inspectors have been for these same fall hazard related contraventions.

Part I tickets issued from January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023



*\*\*Other contraventions where Part 1 Tickets were issued include all other requirements within O. Reg 213/91\*\**



# Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

## Occupational Health and Safety Branch, Construction Health and Safety Program



### Section 5 – Critical Injuries

#### Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2024 January	2024 January 1 – January 31
<b>Critical</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>

Injury Type	2023 January	2023 January 1 – December 31
<b>Critical</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>316</b>

*NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Official statistics will be issued quarterly by the Program Analysis, Evaluation and Outcomes Unit of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Data are subject to change due to updates in the enforcement database. Only events reported to the ministry are included here. Except for fatalities, event categories in the ministry's data set are based on what was assigned at the time of the initial report to the ministry. The reported event category may not represent what occurred at the workplace.*

JANUARY 2024 CRITICALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	ETTL	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	TOTAL	
Falls from Heights	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Falls From Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Falls from Ladders	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Same level slips and trips	1	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Struck by equipment	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Struck by material	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
collapse of structure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Electrical Contact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excavation Collapse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development**  
**Occupational Health and Safety Branch, Construction Health and Safety Program**



	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Details (as reported to MLITSD)</b>	<b>Reported Cause</b>
1	January 2, 2024	Val Caron	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered broken right tibia as a result of falling on ice while exiting vehicle.	Fall – Same level surface
2	January 3, 2024	Minto	Single Family Housing	Worker - Drywaller	Worker suffered critical injury due to fall from scaffold.	Fall – from height
3	January 4, 2024	North York	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker - Mason	Worker tripped over masonry blocks and fell on same level ground, resulting in broken right hand.	Fall – same level surface
4	January 4, 2024	North Bay	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker rolled ankle on same level ground, resulting in the fracture of the ankle.	Trip – Same level surface
5	January 10, 2024	Midhurst	Single Family Housing	Worker - Drywaller	Worker fell while descending scaffold, resulting in broken wrist.	Fall – from height
6	January 12, 2024	King City	Single Family Housing	Worker – Electrician	Worker suffered loss of consciousness due to a fall from a ladder.	Fall – from height

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7	January 12, 2024	Bracebridge	Single Family Housing	Worker – Drywaller	Worker suffered loss of consciousness due to a fall when handrails were removed.	Fall – from height
8	January 12, 2024	Ottawa	Single Family Housing	Worker – Eavetroguh Installer	Worker suffered critical injury due to fall from roof.	Fall – from height
9	January 13, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered broken right ankle as a result of tripping over debris on same level surface.	Trip – same level surface
10	January 15, 2024	Stouffville	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered broken right ankle as a result of slipping on snow on same level surface.	Fall – same level surface
11	January 15, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker - Plumber	Worker suffered multiple fractures in multiple fingers as a result of being crushed by pipe.	Struck by – material
12	January 16, 2024	Kleinburg	Single Family Housing	Supervisor – Site Super	Supervisor suffered broken ankle as a result of slipping on same level surface.	Fall – same level surface

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13	January 16, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker fell from unsecured scaffold resulting in a broken ankle from the fall and facial lacerations from falling scaffold material.	Fall – from height  Struck by – material
14	January 16, 2024	Thornhill	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker - Labourer	Worker suffered broken elbow as a result of tripping on same level surface while carrying material.	Trip – same level surface
15	January 23, 2024	Barrie	Single Family Housing	Worker – Roofer	Worker suffered fractured elbow and loss of consciousness due to a fall from two-storey roof.	Fall – from height
16	January 24, 2024	Mississauga	Tunnel	Worker – Equipment Operator	Worker suffered broken knee after walking into stored material.	Struck by – material
17	January 29, 2024	Woodbridge	Single Family Housing	Worker - Roofer	Worker suffered broken ankle as a result of a fall from ladder.	Fall – from height

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18	January 29, 2024	Toronto	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker suffered loss of consciousness after falling two storeys from a ladder.	Fall – from height
19	January 30, 2024	Sault Ste. Marie	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Workers suffered broken arm as a result of slipping on scaffold and making contact with the guardrail.	Trip – same level surface  Struck by - material

SECTOR DESCRIPTION	SHORT DESC
Asbestos Removal - Type 1	ASB1
Asbestos Removal - Type 2	ASB2
Asbestos Removal - Type 3	ASB3
Bridge Construction	BRID
Cable	CABL
Caisson	CAIS
Cofferdam	COFF
Commercial Building Construction	COMM
Diving Construction	DCON
Diving Environmental	DENV
Diving Industrial	DIND
Diving Mining	DMIN
Electrical Towers & Transmission Lines	ETTL
Excavation	EXCA
Gas Service Connection	GAS
Excavation - Grading	GRAD
Hydro	HYDR
Industrial Building Construction	INDU
Institutional Building Construction	INST
Marine Construction	MARE
Mining Plant Construction	MINP
Moving of a Building/Structure	MOVE
NEC – Construction (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECC
NEC – Diving (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECD
Asphalt Paving	PAVE
Pipeline	PIPE
Hydroelectric Power Plants & Rel	POWP
Railway	RAIL
Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	RESM
Single Family Housing	RESS
Highway & Road Construction	ROAD
Sewer/Watermain Construction	SEWW
Shaft Construction	SHAF
Shipbuilding & Repair	SHIP
Subway	SUBW
Telephone	TELE
Trenching	TREN
Tunnel	TUNN
Well Drilling	WELL
Window Cleaning Services	WIND

