



Surface Mining & Aggregate Network News

Welcome to IHSA's Surface Mining & Aggregates Quarterly Newsletter!

At IHSA, we are committed to helping workplaces in the surface mining and aggregates sector stay safe, informed, and up to date. This quarterly newsletter is designed to keep you connected with the latest health and safety resources, industry events, legislative updates, and best practices tailored to your sector.

Each issue will bring you valuable insights, expert guidance, and tools to help protect workers and prevent incidents on the job. Whether you're looking for training opportunities, regulatory updates, or new safety initiatives, we've got you covered.

Stay informed, stay safe, and let's work together to build a safer industry.

MLITSD News & Events

Mining Health and Safety Program

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) puts together a report for the Surface Mining & Aggregate Working Group each quarter with an overview of events, court bulletins, and statistics. This report can also be located on the IHSA's aggregates webpage.

[Access report](#)

Surface Mining and Aggregates compliance campaign

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.

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 Changes & Alerts

Ontario passes Working for Workers Six Act, 2024

On December 19th, 2024, the Working for Workers Six Act, received Royal Assent which builds on the previous five Working for Workers acts with a suite of 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 changes to the Employment Standards Act, Highway Traffic Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Workplace Safety and Insurance Act.

[Learn more](#)

Read recent court bulletins related to health and safety

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development has released a number of court bulletins relating to health and safety issues, injuries, and fatalities.

[Learn more](#)

Role of OPS during caretaker period

During the caretaker period there are generally no new policy or program initiatives, and consultations, appointments, regulatory postings, public engagement, announcements and ministry events are limited.

[Learn more](#)

IHSA News and Events

Sector Specific Training

IHSA facilities, customer locations, and through external partners. Additionally, 45,656 participants completed our eLearning courses. IHSA's training programs are designed to give workers the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe on the job and return home safely at the end of the day.

Did you know that IHSA offers training courses specifically for your industry?

- **Surface Miner Common Core**
- **Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) Part 1 & Part 2 – Aggregates**

We also provide a range of hazard- and role-specific training programs, including Basics of Supervising, Hoisting & Rigging, Traffic Control, Silica Awareness

Stay informed, stay safe, and take advantage of the training opportunities available to you!

**Learn
more**



Join now

Passionate about workplace health & safety?

Join the Surface Mining & Aggregates Working Group

IHSA's Surface Mining & Aggregates Working Group brings industry professionals together to share knowledge, best practices, and innovative solutions for a safer, more productive workplace.

By joining, you'll gain access to exclusive discussions, events, and resources tailored to your sector's unique challenges. Whether you're experienced or new to the industry, this group supports your growth and strengthens safety culture.

Together, we can build a safer future for the surface mining and aggregates industry.

Do you have health and safety questions?

IHSA's expert consultants in surface mining and aggregates are here to help.

Contact Ryan Smith at rsmith@ihsa.ca or 613-218-1242, or David Greene at dgreene@ihsa.ca or 519-575-3811 for assistance.

Featured IHSA Resources



**View Aggregate
Resources**

Aggregates dedicated resources

IHSA's Aggregates page is your go-to resource for health and safety in the surface mining and aggregates industry. Here, you'll find industry-specific training, safety best practices, legislative updates, and essential resources to help keep workers safe and operations compliant. Whether you're looking for guidance on hazard prevention, training opportunities, or regulatory requirements, IHSA is here to support your safety journey.



Safe Work Practices for the Aggregates Industry

This manual provides workers in the aggregates sector with guidelines for performing their work safely. At 20 chapters, this is a comprehensive health and safety resource. It covers not only common worksite hazards but also hazards specific to the aggregates industry such as:

- Explosives and Blasting
- Crushing, Screening, and Washing Operations
- Shovels, Cranes, and Draglines
- Front-end Loaders
- Bulldozers
- Haulage (Rock) Trucks
- Haulage Roads
- Stockpiling and Dumping Procedures.

[Download Guide](#)

The basis for this document is the Mining & Aggregates Safe Work Practices from the former Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association (MASHA). All personnel in the aggregates industry should read, understand, and use these rules in their everyday work practices.

Guideline for Mobile Diesel Generating Plants

Mobile diesel generating plants are widely used within Ontario's aggregate industry, but there are very few written standards or guidelines for their safe operation. A mobile diesel generator is a self-contained diesel generator that can be transported to a worksite.

IHSA's Mining and Aggregates Working Group identified an industry need for information on the safe operation of mobile diesel generating plants to be distributed. That's why the group created the *Guideline for Mobile Diesel Generating Plants*.

[Download](#)



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

I promise to say something when I see something unsafe.

 IHSA.ca
Work Safe for Life

- 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



Latest podcast episodes available

IHSA's Safety Podcast recently launched it's 100th episode.

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

Episode 99: Asbestos Awareness and Training Requirements for Workplace Safety

Episode 100: Working Outside in the Canadian Winter

[Listen now](#)

Occupational health

Research Participants Needed

Radon Exposure: Risk Perception and Safety Practices Among Ontario Construction Workers

This study has been reviewed and approved by Toronto Metropolitan University's ethics board (REB) 2024-480 and is funded by the School of Occupational and Public Health at Toronto Metropolitan University.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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WHAT IS THE STUDY ABOUT?

- THIS STUDY AIMS TO EXPLORE ONTARIO CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' KNOWLEDGE, RISK PERCEPTIONS, AND SAFETY PRACTICES RELATED TO RADON EXPOSURE IN THEIR WORKPLACE.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Are you a construction worker currently employed in the Ontario construction industry?
- Have you been employed in the Ontario construction industry for at least 6 months?
- Are you working on construction sites only in Ontario?
- Are you 18 years old or older?
- Are you fluent in English?

If you answered yes to ALL of the above questions, THEN you are invited to participate in our study!

You will be asked:

To complete a 15 minutes long online survey

**IN APPRECIATION OF YOUR TIME
YOU WILL BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO
ENTER INTO A DRAW TO WIN 1 OF
TWENTY \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARDS**

Research study focuses on radon exposure

The focus of the research is to assess the knowledge, risk perceptions, and safety practices of Ontario construction workers regarding radon exposure. Understanding the perceptions and safety practices of construction workers can help identify gaps in existing safety protocols and inform policies related to radon safety in construction.

Learn
more

Industry News and Events



Join OHCOW for RSI day February 7

The Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW) is hosting its 26th RSI day. This event includes a series of webinars on a variety of topics related to repetitive strain injuries. Full descriptions and details are available on the OHCOW website.

Learn
more

Are you
prioritizing your
mental wellbeing
at work?

Take the **StressAccess** survey



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**.

Ontario trucking associations push for safety, compliance reforms in talks with government

A coalition of trucking industry associations, including IHSA, is urging the Ontario government to take action and help address problems ranging from road safety and driver training standards to compliance enforcement — issues they describe as causing a critical decline in industry professionalism and public safety.

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What's new

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

Ontario

what's new

Ministry of Labour, Immigration,
Training and Skills Development

Read
more

Transportation Network News

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

[Access
newsletter](#)

Construction & Electrical Utility Network News

Access monthly updates, news, and events from the Construction & Electrical Utility industry that IHSA supports.

[Access
newsletter](#)

Interested in receiving this quarterly newsletter?

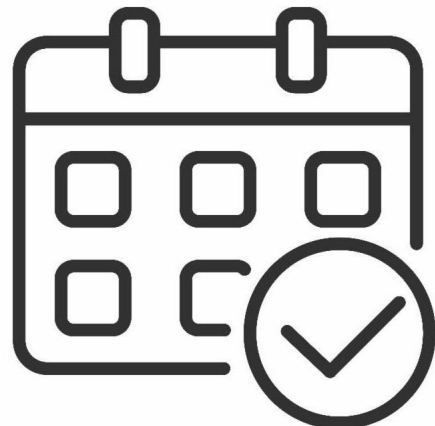
Stay informed! Sign up for IHSA's Surface Mining & Aggregates Quarterly Newsletter for the latest safety resources, industry updates, and training opportunities. [Click here to sign up.](#)

Have ideas or topics for the next issue?

Submit your suggestions and help shape IHSA's Surface Mining & Aggregates Quarterly Newsletter! Email [Ariel White](#) with details.

Industry Dates

Psychology health month - February
Black history month - February
Heart and stroke month - February
Winter walk day - February 5
Family day - February 17
Ontario Snowmobile Safety Week - February 10-17
Repetitive Strain Injury day - February 28



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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