# New Working at Heights Standard is Coming

The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD) report revealed 2021 was a typical year for construction deaths in the province with 22 fatalities, tied for the third most in the past seven years.

The government has reported that the Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) has completed the five-year review of the Working at Heights Training Standards.

It is anticipated that the revised standards will be released in spring 2022 and will come into effect by summer 2022.

Workplace blitzes and awareness campaigns planned by the MLTSD for 2022 include education and enforcement of working at heights protocols on construction sites, an initiative to prevent struck-by injuries when operating vehicle and mobile equipment, and education and enforcement of safe operation of vehicles and equipment on construction sites including cranes, forklifts and other heavy equipment.

## Amendments to the OHSA

Note: On March 1, 2022, the day named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, the Act is amended by adding the following section: (See: 2021, c. 35, Sched. 5, s. 1)

#### Duties of owners — washroom access

29.1 (1) Subject to subsection (2), the owner of a workplace shall ensure that access to a washroom is provided, on request, to a worker who is present at the workplace to deliver anything to the workplace, or to collect anything from the workplace for delivery elsewhere. 2021, c. 35, Sched. 5, s. 1.

Exceptions

(2) Access to a washroom at a workplace is not required under subsection (1),

(a) if providing access would not be reasonable or practical for reasons relating to the health or safety of any person at the workplace, including the worker who requests to use a washroom;

(b) if providing access would not be reasonable or practical having regard to all the circumstances, including, but not limited to, the nature of the workplace, the type of work at the workplace, the conditions of work at the workplace, the security of any person at the workplace and the location of the washroom within the workplace; or

(c) if the washroom is in, or can only be accessed through, a dwelling. 2021, c. 35, Sched. 5, s. 1.

## Office of the Employer Adviser Webinars

The OEA is hosting a series of **FREE** webinars on various WSIB topics such as the one listed below. For more courses available to construction, now construction and reprisal information access the <u>OEA web site</u>.

#### Section 50 Unlawful Reprisals Mar 1, 2022 | Time: 2:00 pm

This webinar explains the process and timelines for responding to a Section 50 unlawful reprisal allegation, and the OEA services available to help employers facing such an allegation.

A Practical Guide to Return to Work for Employers (Non-Construction) Mar 24, 2022 | **Time:** 2:00 pm This webinar explains the benefits of having a return to work program, your legal obligations under the WSIA, key steps for implementing a return to work program and plan, as well as resolution strategies for disputes in return to work.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at askoea@ontario.ca





Ministry of Labour, Training

and Skills Development

# **New JHSC Exemption Process**

If your JHSC certification is about to expire and you are an active certified member, you may apply for a onetime exemption to extend your certification for another three years without taking refresher training.



# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Your request must be approved by the Chief Prevention Officer before your certification expires. It typically takes 10 business days to approve a request.

A new Exemption form is available for processing the exception that is integrated within the Certification Management System (CMS). This form will reduce processing time. Applicants who meet all exemption requirements are eligible to receive an automatic and immediate approval of their exemption request. If granted a one-time exemption, a certified committee member is exempt from the requirement to take JHSC Certification Refresher Training within three years of their last certification completion date, giving them six years instead.

A certified committee member is eligible to apply for an exemption if they meet all criteria outlined in <u>Appendix B of the JHSC Program Standard</u>:

- The exemption form is submitted within three years of the member's most recent JHSC certification completion date (i.e., before the certification expires)
- They have served as a committee member within 12 months of applying
- They have not previously been granted an exemption

Committee members who have been deemed to be certified by the CPO or certified by the CPO under the 1996 JHSC Certification Standards will maintain their certifications and do not require an exemption.

The new <u>Exemption form</u> can be accessed from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development website.

- Click "apply for a one-time exemption", or access the link directly
- Provide the email address for the user who is submitting the request (submitter) to enable the passwordless log-in
- The submitter will receive an email with a link to access the new Exemption Form
- After clicking the link, select the "Launch" option at the top of the page
- Follow the instructions on the form and complete all mandatory fields, filling in the information for the certified committee member applying for the exemption
- Once completed, click the "Submit" button to confirm the request

It is important to note that a valid Learner ID must be provided when filling out the application form for the certified committee member, otherwise the request cannot be processed. If all eligibility criteria have been met, the request may be approved automatically. If not all criteria have been met, the request will be reviewed by ministry staff and processed within 10 business days.

Upon completion and submission of the form, the submitter will receive automated email notifications whenever the status of the request is updated. If an exemption is granted, the certified committee member will receive a notification email only if they have a valid email address on record.

# In the Courts

Review the bulletin below and click on the link to know more if these hazards could occur in your workplace.

#### Feb 8, 2022 Critical Injury Urban Electrical Contractors Fined \$85,000



A worker was connecting electrical cables located in the main electrical switchboard at the project, an electrical explosion occurred, critically injuring the worker.

An investigation of the incident by the MLTSD concluded that the power supply to the main electrical switchboard was not disconnected and locked out of service before any work on the switchboard had begun and not kept disconnected and locked out of service while the work continued.

This is contrary to S 190(4) of Reg 213, and to S 25(1)(c) of the OHSA

## Feb 9, 2022 Critical Injury Triple M Metal Corp, Fined \$120,000

A worker was loading a rail car (car 2) with his crane. His crane was equipped with an electromagnet device, allowing him to move and place cubed scrap metal that another worker had made using a "bailer".

Other rail cars (cars 4 and 5) were waiting to be processed on an adjacent spur line and were next to be filled. After the worker had finished loading the rail car, he climbed down from his crane for the purposes of releasing brakes on rail car 3, which was on the same rails as rail car 2.

As the worker was either climbing onto rail car 3, or releasing the mechanical brakes the other crane operator shunted rail car 1, sending it down the tracks and eventually colliding with rail car 3. During this process the worker was critically injured.

This was contrary to S 25(1)(c) of the OHSA and specifically, S 45(a) of Reg which requires that material, articles or things, required to be lifted, carried or moved, shall be lifted, carried or moved in such a way and with such precautions and safeguards, including protective clothing, guards or other precautions as will ensure that the lifting, carrying or moving of the material, articles or things does not endanger the safety of any worker.

#### Feb 10, 2022 Burn Injury Skyjack Inc. Fined \$100,000

A worker suffered serious burns resulting from a spark from the welding process. The employer should have provided apparel sufficient to protect the worker from injury.

While the worker was welding an assembly, a spark from the welding process fell into the pocket of the worker's denim apron, resulting in the worker's clothing catching fire.

The denim apron and coveralls that the worker was wearing were found to have several failures.

This is contrary to section 84(e) of Regulation 851, R.R.O 1990 as amended

#### Feb 17, 2022 Critical Injury Results in \$55,000 Fine for Goodwood Company

A worker was attempting to set a 'position arm' of an attachment to the lower jaw of the excavator. The boom of the excavator suddenly descended and caused the position arm to critically injure the worker.

The injured worker was asked by a co-worker to assist in completing the installation of a 'grapple' attachment to the boom of an excavator.

A Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development investigation revealed that the process used by the injured worker and the co-worker made it possible for the worker to be exposed to a crushing hazard.

Accordingly, the employer committed the offence of failing to comply with section 25(2)(h) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

# Joint Health and Safety Training (In Class and Distance Learning)

Safetyscope can help with:

- In Class sessions for JHSC Part 1, Part 2 and Refresher Training
- Distance Learning (Virtual) Training utilizing DBC Inc. MLTSD approved Joint Health and Safety Refresher training courses.

#### Safetyscope is an approved provider

We have continued to expand our scope and now Safetyscope is an approved providtor the following:

- Toronto Water for Working at Heights
- Safetyscope is a TSSA Approved Training Provider
- Safetyscope is an approved provider for Corrections Canada

# **Online Training with InFuse**

Safetyscope has partnered with InFuse Compliance Systems to offer a full turn-key Health & Safety solution that includes a robust suite of Online Training. For more information <u>Click Here</u>

# Safetyscope's Public Training Sessions

With our COVID-19 procedures in place, Safetyscope is now holding regular public training sessions in Working at Heights, Working at Heights Refresher and Confined Space Awareness.

# Safetyscope staff are 100 percent vaccinated.

All students coming to our training will need to show ID and vaccination certificates. If your organization requires any additional courses, please contact us with your training needs at training@safetyscope.net.

# Safetyscope Continuing to Maintaining Registration as an OWWCO Training Provider

These courses meet the criteria in subsection 29(4) of O.Reg. 128, Certification of Drinking Water System Operators and Water Quality Analysts. On Completion of training all participants will receive a certificate of completion with corresponding CEU Value.

1.	Working at Heights	.7 CEU
2.	WHMIS 2015	.4 CEU
3.	TDG	.4 CEU
4.	Working in Confined Spaces Rescue Level	2.8 CEU
5.	Confined Spaces Attendant Non Entry	1.3 CEU
6.	Confined Spaces Advanced Entrant	.7 CEU
7.	Confined Spaces Attendant Refresher	.7 CEU
8.	Confined Spaces Rescue Refresher	.7 CEU
9.	Standard First Aid	1.4 CEU
10	. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	.4 CEU
11	. Spill Response	.7 CEU
12	. Trenching Hazards	.4 CEU



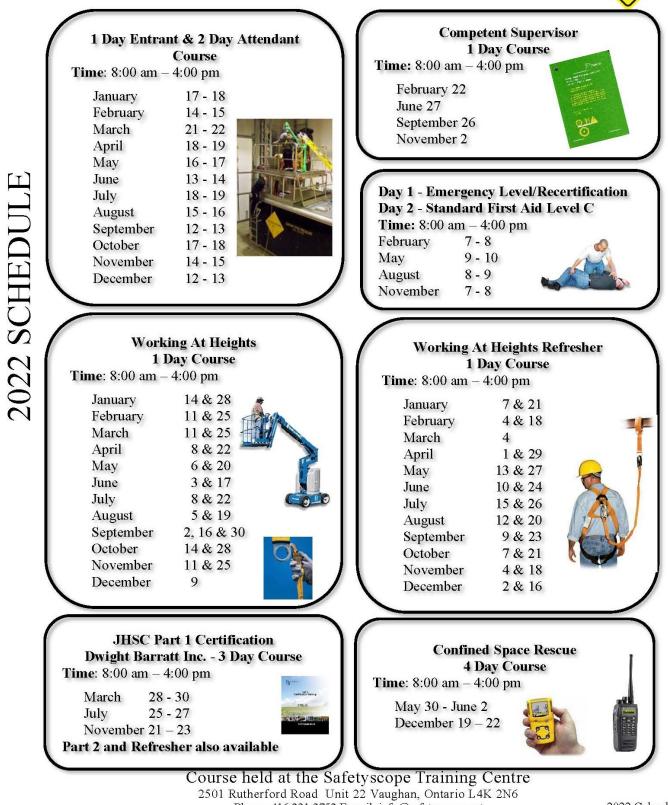








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2022 Calendar Year