

## In-Person Classroom Training Class Size Restrictions

As of November 23, 2020, two regions in Ontario that have been moved to Stage One (Lockdown) status are the Toronto and Peel public health regions.

Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) approved Health and Safety Training Providers located in those two health regions need to restrict in-person classroom training delivery to a maximum of 10 students.

An amendment has been made to [O. Reg 82/20 Reopening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act, 2020](#) that changes the rules for areas of Ontario that are classified as being in Stage One:

The regulation permits businesses that primarily deliver health and safety training to remain open with capacity limits. The regulation specifies that the total number of persons permitted to be in each instructional space at any one time must be limited to the number that can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the business or place, except where necessary for teaching and instruction that cannot be effectively provided if physical distancing is maintained.

In any event the total number of students in each instructional space at any one time cannot exceed 10 persons.

## MLTSD Education and Enforcement Campaigns

All businesses are encouraged to have a safety plan but businesses in certain sectors that are in yellow, orange or red zones under the [COVID-19 response framework](#) are required to have a safety plan and all business in Stage One that remain open are required to have a safety plan in place by November 30th. A template can be found by [clicking here](#).

The Ontario government is launching a series of education and enforcement campaigns to ensure businesses across the province are taking the necessary steps to keep employees, consumers and the public safe. These campaigns will support the current efforts of police, municipal by-law officers, and public health inspectors to educate businesses and enforce the COVID-19 health and safety requirements. Officers will be asking employers to produce their workplace safety plans.

If a person or business is not found compliant with orders under the Reopening Ontario Act, they could be ticketed with a fine of \$750 under the Reopening Ontario Act. Where prosecuted without issuing a ticket and on conviction, individuals could be fined up to \$100,000, and directors and officers of a corporation could be fined up to \$500,000. Any individual convicted of an offence under the Reopening Ontario Act could also receive a term of imprisonment of up to one year. The maximum fine for a corporation convicted of an offence under the Reopening Ontario Act is \$10,000,000. For more info [Click Here](#)



## Test Yourself

First Correct answer wins a prize – answer to be published on the web site.

Is it too soon for COVID Jokes?

What is the difference between a confined space and an asymptomatic super spreader?

Send your answer by email to: [newsletter@safetyscope.net](mailto:newsletter@safetyscope.net)

## This Months Tip:

**Find someone you can make laugh**

**Why is the pandemic like a confined space?**

Because you can't go inside without a mask.

**Why is the world with COVID like a confined space?**

Because such a world was obviously not designed for human occupancy.

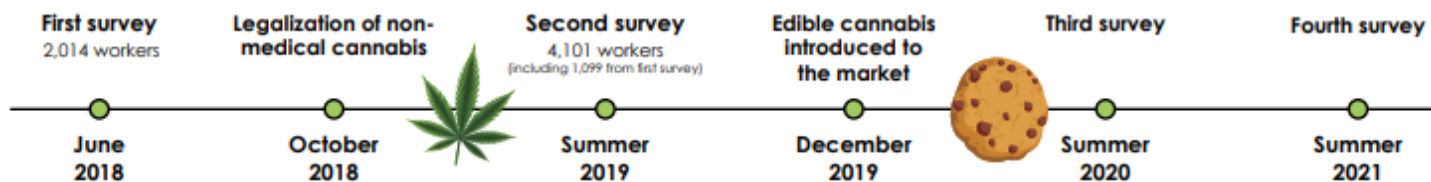
**Think about it.**

## Safetyscope Upcoming courses

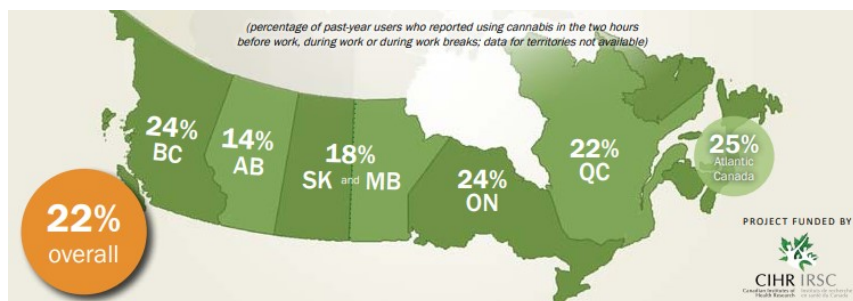
<b>Working @ Heights</b>	Dec 11
<b>W@H refresher</b>	Dec 4 & 18
<b>Confined Space Entrant Course</b>	Dec 14 - 15
<b>Confined Space Rescue</b>	Dec 21 - 24
<b>First Aid</b>	
<b>JHSC Part 1</b>	
<b>Competent Supervisor</b>	

**Contact Us** with your training needs [training@safetyscope.net](mailto:training@safetyscope.net)

## Cannabis Use and the Canadian Workplace II



From 2018 to 2021, the Institute for Work & Health is conducting a yearly survey of Canadian workers about cannabis. The Baseline Survey done prior to legalization asked “[Are cannabis users consuming cannabis before or at work?](#)”



44% of workers surveyed said it would be easy to use cannabis during lunch or breaks and 21% of workers believe there is no risk or only a slight risk of harming themselves or others when cannabis is used within two hours of doing hazardous work. Anyone who works in the workplace should have been terrified, but they maybe they already knew this.

Following their baseline survey, the Institute for Work & Health surveyed more than 4,100 workers in the summer of 2019. The [second survey infographic](#) summarizes highlights from the first comparison between pre and post-legalization findings, based on the two surveys.

- In the 2019 survey about 40% of workers say their workplace has a protocol for reporting co-workers they suspect are impaired (up 16%)
- In the same survey the percentage of workers reporting use of cannabis just before or at work in the past year is about the same (up only 1%) while the percentage of workers reporting any use of cannabis in the past year has gone up by 9%.

The institute for Work & Health emphasized that this proves that the increased use of cannabis during the past year appears to be taking place on workers’ own time, away from work .

**What’s the Point of this statement?** We are not sure that we would have drawn the same conclusion.

If protocols for reporting impaired workers has gone up 16% why is it not reflected in a reduction of workers reporting use? These are the questions we are pondering.

- Were these protocol implemented
- Were workers and supervisors trained on how to implement these protocols and what would happen if someone reported an incident.
- Has there been an increase in reporting by workers
- Has there been a discussion by the JHSC about this hazard.
- If workers’ perceptions of the risks of using cannabis before doing hazardous work have not substantially changed then why hasn’t workplace usage dropped. Is anyone working on this?

In 2018 they asked why, specifically, are people using cannabis and the response stated that 78% said they were using it to manage anxiety, stress and to help with sleep.

In the 2019 survey the institute basically has said that legalization hasn’t made the situation any worse. Oh good, we have gone from 22% of workers surveyed who are consuming cannabis before or at work up to 23%.

**What is the 2020 survey going to show? Do you think our stress and anxiety have gone down?**



### In the Courts

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

#### **Oct 30, 2020 Reversing Bulldozer - [Aecon Construction Ontario East Limited fined \\$90,000](#)**

A worker received critical injuries after contact with a reversing bulldozer. The operator of the bulldozer should have had the assistance of a signaller watching for people who may have been in the path.

S 104(3) of Reg. 213 states that operators of vehicles, machines and equipment shall be assisted by signallers if the operator's view of the intended path of travel is obstructed and/or a person could be endangered by the vehicle, machine or equipment or by its load. Aecon Construction Ontario East Limited, as an employer, failed to ensure that the equipment operator was assisted by a signaller as required by the regulation.

#### **Nov 3, 2020 Struck By and Crush Injuries - [AGF Rebar Inc. and Supervisor fined a total of \\$97,000](#)**

A worker was struck and injured by material that fell off a trailer during the loading process (2018); another worker suffered a permanent injury while processing material in a machine (2019)

The company violated S 45(b) of Reg. 851 by failing to ensure material was placed or stored so that the material would not tip, collapse or fall, and violated S 25(1)(c) of the OHSA. The company was fined \$30,000 by the court. 18 orders were used with regards to guarding and/or to be maintained in the plant. AGF complied with all orders for the machines located inside its establishment but did not provide or install guards for the bender machine being used in the yard.

The company and its supervisor failed to comply with S 24 of Reg.851 by ensuring the machine in the yard was equipped with a guard or a device to prevent access to an exposed moving part that could endanger a worker and thereby did violate, respectively, sections 25(1)(c) and 27(1)(a) of the OHSA. The company was fined \$65,000 for the violation by the court and supervisor was fined \$2,000 for the violation

#### **Nov 12, 2020 Excavator Fatality - [Graham Bros. Construction Ltd. fined \\$150,000](#)**

A worker was killed after being struck by the bucket of an excavator.

Another worker was acting as a signaller and using hand signals to guide the excavator worker. A third worker, or "pipe layer" was standing at the top of the trench to one side. The placement of the excavator's bucket and boom were centered on the trench and almost fully obstructed the operator's view of the trench wall, the catch basin and the second worker although the operator could see the second worker's hand signals.

The company failed as a constructor to ensure that a signaller was in full view of the excavator operator, contrary to S 106(2)(b) of Ontario Regulation 213 and S 23(1)(a) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

#### **Nov 12, 2020 No Lockout—Critical Injury - [Erie Meat Products Ltd. \\$50,000](#)**

A temporary worker who was cleaning excess packaging from a machine was injured after removing interlocking guards from the front of the machine.

During a subsequent MLTSD inspection, it was learned that the machine was not locked-out when the injured worker was removing excess plastic from the machine. As such, Erie Meats committed the offence of failing, as an employer, to ensure that the measures and procedures prescribed by S 76 of Reg. 851 were carried out in the workplace contrary to S 25(1)(c) of the act.

#### **Nov 26, 2020 No Lockout—Critical Injury - [Amer-Can Investments Inc fined \\$40,000](#)**

A worker was injured after coming into contact with a cutting blade, which should have been equipped with a guard to prevent injury as required by law.

The defendant failed as an employer to ensure the measures and procedures prescribed by S 24 of Reg 851 were complied with, contrary to S 25(1)(c) of the act. This is an offence contrary to S 66(1) of the act.

### Protect Your Health While Shoveling

Shoveling snow from your driveway and outdoor walkways may seem like a task that requires little, if any, forethought and planning. But, a bit of preparation and a few shoveling techniques will help you do the job more effectively and help you protect your health.



#### Step 1: Assess your health

First and most important, be sure that you are in good enough health to withstand the exertion of snow shoveling.

#### Step 2: Work with the sun

The ideal time to shovel snow is mid-morning when outdoor temperatures have risen a bit but it's early enough to give the sun time to do its work in preventing black ice from forming after the snow is removed.

#### Step 3: Prepare your body and your feet

Eat a filling, healthy breakfast and dress in a few layers with clothing that is comfortably fitting, but don't bundle up or you'll sweat. Shoes/boots need to be insulated and water-resistant and have good traction.

#### Step 4: Have sand and de-icer ready

Have a larger supply ready to sprinkle across the whole area after you're done shoveling. The sand will help melt the snow, prevent it from turning into ice, and add traction underfoot.

#### Step 5: Invest in a good shovel

It should be ergonomically designed with a bent handle to reduce the risk of back injury and an adjustable handle length to prevent overstretching your arms and a non-stick surface so you won't have to keep knocking off the snow.

#### Step 6: Work in an organized way

It is often best to start in the middle of a driveway so you can push snow in each direction and never move the same snow twice. Be sure to push rather than lift the snow, and avoid unnecessarily twisting and bending your back.

#### Step 7: Use proper technique

When you must lift snow, keep your arms close to your body, bend your knees, and lift with your legs and shoulders, not with your back.

#### Step 8: Move deep piles gradually

If you come across a drift or any spot more than a couple of inches deep, shovel it away a little at a time to avoid overstraining.

#### Step 9: Select where to "store" the snow

Pile the snow in a location that minimizes the need to twist or turn while carrying a snow-filled shovel, and also minimizes the need to walk far while carrying snow.

#### Step 10: Take frequent breaks

Take a short break at least every 20 minutes, drink some water, stretch, and if you have a thermometer or body-temperature app, check your temperature frequently.

#### Step 11: Rest and recover

Finally, when you're done shoveling and back inside, take 20 to 30 minutes to relax and recover. Warm up again with a hot drink or hot soup.

## Bill 223, Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Electronic Logging Devices), 2020

Passed first and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and send to a standing committee Oct 27, 2020

The Bill amends the Highway Traffic Act to require that operators ensure that each commercial motor vehicle that is under their control is equipped with an electronic logging device.

The Bill also requires that the information recorded by the device is in accordance with the “Technical Standard for Electronic Logging Devices” which is published by the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators.

### Coming soon

Infuse e training modules



### About Safetyscope

Safetyscope was established in 1989 as a company that specialized in Confined Space Assessments, training and Confined Space Supervision at their training center and offices in Vaughan, ON.

Safetyscope provides safety training in many safety categories. For further information, call 416-231-3752 or go to [www.safetyscope.net](http://www.safetyscope.net)

### 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.

If your organization requires any additional courses, please with your training needs at [training@safetyscope.net](mailto: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



**Safetyscope is a TSSA Approved Training Provider**

**Safetyscope is an approved provider for Corrections Canada**