

## Section 1

### Reporting Month Statistics – Quick Overview

Reporting Month	Month Fatalities	Month Critical Injuries	Month Total
DEC 14, 2017 – DEC 31, 2017	4	5	9

Reporting Month	Month Fatalities	Month Critical Injuries	Month Total
JAN 1, 2018 – JAN 15, 2018	0	6	6

### Provincial Coordinator's Comments

At our recent Safe at Work Ontario (SAWO) consultations, I had the opportunity to engage in some really interesting dialogue about risk, data and information management, workplace violence, MOL's enforcement campaigns and falls. I was amazed at the participant's innovative answers to the questions we were asking. I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to contribute positive, thoughtful and constructive comments, and for participating in the consultation sessions.

During the consultations, I heard many great ideas and also noticed some themes. One of these themes I heard from participants was the benefits of the working at heights (WAH) standard. One of the main benefits that the constructors and employers in attendance noted, was that they no longer have to worry about fall protection training when they hire a new worker (provided they have already received the training). While I agree that the development of the WAH standard was a step in the right direction, it does concern me that employers may be taking the training card at face value and thinking that is all that is required for workers to work at heights.

Not only should employers individually assess each worker's knowledge in WAH, employers also need to provide their workers component and application specific training which is not covered in WAH. This level of training is in accordance with section 26.2(1) of the construction regulation.

Having a working at heights training card is similar to a driver's license, it does not guarantee that you are a good driver or ensure that you truly understand all the rules of the road. A driver's license does not teach you how to get out of a tricky situation or how to avoid an accident, it's a card that shows that you have proven a minimum level of knowledge to be able to operate a vehicle on a public roadway. Similarly, WAH only proves that you have the basic understanding of fall protection principles.

As employers you have the responsibility to ensure that your workers have the appropriate level of training, knowledge and experience to be able to effectively use a fall protection system. Part of that responsibility is assessing each new worker to ensure they can properly apply WAH training to the fall protection situation at hand. In addition to verifying your workers application of WAH principles, section 26.2(1) of Ontario regulation 213/91 states that “an employer shall ensure that a worker who may use a fall protection system is adequately trained in its use and given adequate **oral and written** instructions by a competent person”. Section 26.2(1) is in addition to the WAH training requirements in Ontario regulation 297/13. WAH training is designed to give the basic fundamentals of fall protection principles whereas section 26.2(1) is designed to take that basic knowledge and strengthen it to a site specific application. Section 26.2(1) uses WAH as the base knowledge and builds site specific application and equipment into a complete training package to ensure the end user has the ability to successfully and safely perform the task at hand.

Our inspectors routinely find workers who have WAH training, which is positive, however, adequate training under section 26.2(1) is less common. As a result we often see the most basic of systems being used inappropriately which not only frustrates the worker, but also exposes them to unnecessary risk. Employers need to take the time to fully understand the fall protection systems that best suits the need of their workers on site and train the workers on the system’s appropriate application, limitations, use and installation.

As a system, we need to take a hard look at the training we are providing to our workers and determine whether or not it is providing a strong knowledge base that our workers can use and apply to protect themselves and others. Our inspectors will continue to ensure that both WAH training requirements, as well as adequate **oral and written** instruction under section 26.2(1) has been completed prior to performing work at heights.

Brian Barron  
Provincial Coordinator  
Construction Health and Safety Program  
Ontario Ministry of Labour

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## **Section 2**

- MOL Video: [Emergency Response Planning on Construction Projects](#)
- [Occupational Exposure Limits](#): The ministry has adopted new or revised occupational exposure limits with the help of stakeholder consultations. The changes came into effect January 1, 2018.
- [WSIB Chronic Mental Stress](#): Starting January 1, 2018, people with work-related chronic mental stress may be eligible for WSIB benefits. To be eligible, chronic mental stress must be predominantly caused by a substantial work-related stressor. Mental stress caused by an employer's management decisions or actions is generally not covered by the WSIB. If a claim is allowed, we will help with recovery and return to work. WSIB benefits can include psychological assessment, treatment, prescription medications, wage replacement and return-to-work services.
- [2018 WSIB Grants Program](#): The 2018 grants competition opened on Monday January 8, 2018. We will accept initial proposals until Tuesday, February 20, 2018. This page gives information about our grant priority areas and proposal selections process, proposal instructions, and the grants application form.
- [New Employment Standards Poster](#): To help ensure that employers understand their obligations and that employees know their rights, the Minister of Labour has prepared and published an Employment Standards Poster entitled "Employment Standards in Ontario". This poster describes important rights and requirements under the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA) and must be posted in the workplace where it is likely that employees will see it. Employers are also required to give every employee a copy of the poster.
- [New Minimum Wage](#): The *Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017* was passed on November 22, 2017.
- [Personal Emergency Leave](#)

### **Section 3**

## **Court Bulletin 1**

Dump Truck Tips Over, Mine Company Fined \$70,000 for Worker's Injuries

February 2, 2018 5:05 P.M.

Ministry of Labour

Convicted: Detour Gold Corporation, 199 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario.

Location: Workplace: Detour Lake Gold mine, about 185 km northeast of Cochrane, Ontario.

Description of Offence: A worker hauling rocks in a dump truck being operated in reverse was critically injured when the truck fell and flipped over on its roof. There was no berm (protective barrier) to support the truck and the road gave way beneath the truck.

Date of Offence: August 24, 2014.

Date of Conviction: November 27, 2017; Date of Sentence: February 1, 2018.

Penalty Imposed:

- Following a trial, Justice of the Peace L.M. Scully fined Detour Gold Corporation \$70,000 for failing to take the reasonable precaution of providing a suitable protective barrier along the open side of a haulage road. Decision rendered at Cochrane Town Hall, 171 Fourth Avenue, Cochrane; Crown Counsel Indira Stewart.
- 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:

- A worker was instructed to haul rock over to the area at the top of a tailings dam. The time was 4 a.m. and heavy fog had rolled in, causing severely reduced visibility.
- There was no berm (a protective barrier) on the side of the road where the rock was to be dumped. The rock being hauled was to be used by a bulldozer operator to widen the ramp and road and build a berm.

- The worker reversed to the area where the rocks were to be dropped; the truck was too close to the edge of a very narrow section of the road, where there was no berm, and the road gave way beneath the truck, which fell and flipped over onto its roof.
- The worker received critical injuries.
- Berms provide both a physical barrier and a physical and visual guide for the equipment operators to prevent events such as this one.
- The incident constituted an offence under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, section 25(2)(h): failing as an employer to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker.

## Court Bulletin 2

Roofing Company Fined \$55,000 After Worker Falls Through Roof Opening in Brampton

January 17, 2018 2:30 P.M.

Ministry of Labour

Convicted: Always Roofing Ltd., 97 Homesdale Road, York, Ontario, a company engaged in commercial, industrial and institutional roofing work throughout southern Ontario.

Location: 230 Advance Boulevard, Brampton, Ontario.

Description of Offence: Roofing workers removed a skylight but did not install a guardrail system around the opening or place a protective covering over the opening as required by safety regulations. A worker fell through the skylight opening.

Date of Offence: December 7, 2015.

Date of Conviction: January 16, 2018.

Penalty Imposed

- Following a guilty plea, the company was fined \$55,000 by Justice of the Peace Alston A. Gunness in Mississauga court (950 Burnhamthorpe Road West, Courtroom M1); Crown Counsel Shantanu Roy.
- 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

- Always Roofing had been hired to replace the existing flat roof of the building. Always Roofing workers removed a skylight, thereby leaving an opening on the surface of the roof.
- Following the removal of the skylight, the workers did not install a guardrail system around the opening nor did they place a protective covering over the opening.
- An Always Roofing employee was applying glue near the skylight opening, walking backwards and lost balance before falling through the skylight opening.
- The worker fell approximately 27 feet to the ground below, sustaining critical head injuries.
- The Ministry of Labour investigated and concluded that Always Roofing Ltd. committed the offence of failing as an employer to ensure that the measures and procedures prescribed by section 26.3(2) of Ontario Regulation 213/91 (the Construction Projects Regulation) were carried out at a workplace. This was contrary to section 25(1)(c) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Always Roofing failed to ensure that either a guardrail system or a protective covering was used to prevent a worker from falling through an opening on a work surface as required.

## Section 4

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

	2017 January 1 – December 31	2016 January 1 – December 31 Comparison with last year
Fatalities	22	14
Critical Injuries	271	182

*\*NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data, and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour. 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.*

### REPORTING MONTH: December 14 – December 31, 2017

#### Monthly Summary Report

#### December 14 – December 31, 2017 Fatalities (4)

*NOTE: 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 actually occurred at the workplace.*

By Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HYDR – 4</li> </ul>
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#### December 16 – December 31, 2017 Critical Injuries (5)

*NOTE: 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 actually occurred at the workplace.*

By Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INDU – 1</li> <li>• SEWW – 1</li> <li>• RESM – 1</li> <li>• RESS – 2</li> </ul>
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#### January 1 – January 15, 2018 Critical Injuries (6)

*NOTE: 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 actually occurred at*

*the workplace.*

By Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• COMM – 2</li><li>• INDU – 2</li><li>• RESM – 1</li><li>• RESS – 1</li></ul>
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**Critical Injuries (December 16<sup>th</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017):****Total 5**

#	Date of Incident	Region	Sector	Occupation	Details (as reported to MOL)
1	18-12-2017	CENTRAL EAST	RESM	Worker	Worker fractured their arm when they slipped while walking down the embankment of an excavation.
2	19-12-2017	CENTRAL WEST	SEWW	Worker	Worker fractured their ankle when they slipped while stepping of their truck.
3	21-12-2017	EAST	RESS	Worker	Worker broke their left leg when they fell from scaffolding while installing siding.
4	24-12-2017	WEST	INDU	Worker	Worker's leg was broken when the job box they were pushing fell off a cat striking their leg.
5	28-12-2017	CENTRAL WEST	RESS	Worker	Worker broke their leg when they were pinned between a truck and a car while attempting to remove equipment.

**Critical Injuries (January 1st – January 15th, 2018):****Total 6**

#	Date of Incident	Region	Sector	Occupation	Details (as reported to MOL)
1	02-01-2018	CENTRAL WEST	COMM	Worker	Worker fell off flatbed truck and sustained a fracture to left arm.
2	04-01-2018	CENTRAL EAST	RESM	Worker	Worker was stepping over mechanical pipes when they slipped and fell resulting in broken ankles.
3	08-01-2018	EAST	COMM	Worker	Worker installing plywood fell from the second storey hitting their head the ground resulting in loss of consciousness.
4	09-01-2018	CENTRAL WEST	RESS	Worker	Worker slipped on stairs and broke his arm.
5	11-01-2018	CENTRAL WEST	INDU	Worker	Worker fell 15 feet off a platform resulting in a loss of consciousness.
	14-01-2018	CENTRAL EAST	INDU	Worker	Worker walking along a steel deck when their right leg gave way resulting in a broken tibia.

**Section 5****Total Year-to-Date Fatalities (January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017): 22****Total Year-to-Date Fatalities (January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018): 0**\*All new entries (current month and reconciled data) appear in **bold**.

NOTE: Some detail will inevitably be missing from the PLMHSC Report. The document is intended to provide an initial overview, not a comprehensive report. Annual data reporting approved by the Director should be used by stakeholders if they wish to see all data available to the Ministry related to an event.

**Total 22**

#	Date of Incident	Region	Sector	Sub-sector, i.e.	Trade worker was working in	Details (as reported to MOL)
1	2017-Jan-16	Central East	RESM	Condominium project	Worker	Worker was cleaning a concrete mixing machine and was pulled inside, resulting in fatal injuries.
2	2017-Mar-08	Western	COMM	New Construction	Worker	A masonry block wall collapsed on a worker on the 3rd floor of townhouse project
3	2017-Mar-27	Central East	RESM	NEW Construction	Precast installer	Worker was unloading a concrete pre-cast panel from a truck when it fell on the worker.
4	2017-Mar-3	Eastern	RESS	Seasonal Residential new construction	Roofer	Worker fell off the roof approximately 9 feet to deck and approximately another 9 feet to the ground. April 22 2017 Worker succumbed to injuries
5	2017-April-6	Northern	MINP (Project at a Mine)	Demolition	Dump truck operator	Dump truck operator was pinned underneath a set of dual tires on his tri-axel dump truck
6	2017-April-10	Northern	COMM	Commercial sector, bank renovation.	Planner/estimator	The worker fell from a suspended ceiling.
7	2017-May-16	Western	NECC		Worker	A worker fell approx. 25 feet while working on the roof trusses of a barn. The worker did not regain consciousness
8	2017-Aug-01	Eastern	RESS	Residential renovation	Landscaper	A worker sustained a fatal injury while using a diamond bladed stone saw while cutting armour stone
9	2017-Aug-21	Northern	RESS	Commercial development, office	Carpenter	During the construction of a new residential garage, the truss collapsed – worker fell, suffering fatal injuries.

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10	2017-Aug-31	Central West	INDU	Industrial, Auto Parts Plant	Equipment set-up/diagnostics	Worker sustained fatal injury during the installation of a new stamping machine.
11	2017-09-08	Central West	INST	Institutional Building construction	Worker installing an elevator	Worker sustained fatal injury while attempting to install equipment.
12	2017-09-15	Central East	COMM	Interior Commercial Renovation	Structural Steel Stair Installer	A structural Steel Stair Installer was fatally injured at an interior renovation to a commercial retail space. Worker fell approximately 20 feet to the floor, suffering fatal injuries.
13	2017-09-30	Central East	RESS		Worker	Worker fell 5.6 metres while performing roofing activities. IW suffered fatal injuries.
14	25-Oct-17	West	RESS	Residential In-Fill	Carpenter	Workers were lifting a support wall in the basement of a project when the wall came down on top of one of the workers, fatally injuring the worker.
15	11-Nov-17	Central West	RESS	New construction	Plumber	A worker fell 5 feet down off of a ladder indoors while performing plumbing work for a residential home that is under construction. A ladder was leaning up against a stud wall which gave out, causing the worker to fall backwards and strike his head.
16	17-Nov-17	West	PAVE	Road	Supervisor	A worker was struck by a dump truck while it was operating in reverse.
17	24-Nov-17	West	RESS	Foundation Repair	Supervisor	A worker was fatally injured when the excavation they were performing waterproofing work in collapsed
18	5-Dec-17	Central West	RESS	Material Delivery	Equipment Operator	A worker sustained fatal injuries when the forklift they were operating tipped forward.
19 - 22	14-Dec-17	East	HYDR	Hydro line project	3 workers and 1 Pilot	The Pilot and 3 workers were fatally injured when the helicopter they were working from crashed at a hydro line project