

**Ministry of Labour,
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Development**

Prevention Council

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SAFETY YEAR-END MESSAGE FROM THE PREVENTION COUNCIL

December 2020

Ontario's Prevention Council and Chief Prevention Officer Ron Kelusky released the following statement today:

The end of the year is quickly approaching and we're all looking forward to a brighter 2021. It is important that all Ontarians to remain focused on safety and to use the year end as a time to review safety plans for the New Year.

It hasn't been an easy year, mainly due to the challenges we all faced related COVID-19 and how it has impacted our lives and our work. In addition, some hard-working Ontarians lost their lives while doing their day-to-day jobs. In December alone, there have been jobsite fatalities in London, Oshawa and Toronto. These recent jobsite fatalities highlight the fact that we need to proactively apply a safety lens to everything we do.

During the last few weeks of 2020, the PC recommends that we deliver on our safety responsibilities and follow these expectations:

Lead by example: Everyone must be a safety leader. Be engaged, visible and demonstrate your personal commitment to safety.

Focus on the fundamentals: Plan, communicate, mitigate and stop if conditions change. Everyone is empowered and expected to speak up. Our top priority should be making good choices on and off the job.

Prepare for the holidays: The holiday season can be a distraction for all of us. We need to stay alert and focus on the tasks we are doing and give ourselves enough time to do them.

Make health the highest priority: A second wave of COVID-19 is reminding us that we have to be diligent and take care of ourselves and each other. As we enter 2021, please continue to enforce COVID-19 protocols in all workplaces.

Thank you for your commitment to safety.

Blair Allin

National Health and Safety Representative, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

Brian Arnold

Fire Chief, Cambridge Fire Department

Patrick Bourgeois (Vice-Chair)

Construction Manager, Peter Kiewit Sons ULC

John Bourke

Business Manager/Financial Secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Rodney Cook

Vice President Workplace Health and Safety Services, WSIB

Michael Dauncey

Director Health and Safety Corporate, Mattamy Homes

Cora DeMarco

Manager, Technica Mining

Colin de Raaf

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Ron Kelusky

Chief Prevention Officer, Ministry of Labour, Training, Skills and Development

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Erin Oliver (Chair)

Vice President of Health, Safety and Sustainability, Modern Niagara Group Inc.

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Peter Rowe

Director, Chair of the Regulatory Committee, Ontario Petroleum Institute

James St. John

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