



January 26, 2017

Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff  
Director of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch  
Ministry of Labour  
505 University Ave  
19th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

Chris Plouffe,  
Acting Provincial Coordinator, Construction Health and Safety Program  
Ministry of Labour  
505 University Ave  
19th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

Dear Ms. Sackville-Duyvelshoff and Mr. Plouffe,

I am writing to you in follow-up to our meeting of November 21, 2016 regarding the Guidance Document your office has been working on for the new *Suspended Access Regulations*, which has since come into effect on January 1, 2017. We were pleased that you and the other Ministry of Labour officials agreed about the importance of this document, and I respectfully urge the Ministry of Labour to finalize this document and release it to the industry.

The Scaffold Industry Association of Canada's (SIAC) top priority is the safety of its workers and all Ontarians and SIAC has continuously stressed how necessary this document is part of that, as our Members require clarification on the intent of several of the new regulations. The SIAC is committed to helping the industry complying with the new regulation, however, the absence of the Guidance Document has created uncertainty in the industry and difficulty in achieving that without knowing the Ministry's intent.

In November, we were advised that the Guidance Document would be ready by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Then in December, we were advised it would 'possibly' be ready by December 31<sup>st</sup>. It is now January 26<sup>th</sup>, and the industry is still without a Guidance Document or clarity on the 11 specific areas we had questions about.

To make matters worse, I have learned these new rules are being enforced by your inspectors in the field. We thought we had come to a consensus at our November



meeting, but there have been several stop work orders issued around the very regulations we said required clarification.

Our meeting in November was extremely productive. I hope we can continue that constructive dialogue, and work together to keep our workers safe and ensure the industry can properly comply with the new regulations.

Sincerely,

Roger Marsland  
President

Cc: Rob Foote, Office of the Minister of Labour  
Enzo Garritano, IHSA