



Your Monthly News & Updates

Below please find an update on the latest SIAC activities and other important industry information.

Safe at Work Ontario: Slips, Trips, and Falls Initiative

The provincial government is developing an initiative to raise awareness of hazards and ensure that employers are taking appropriate action to prevent falls on the job.

Safe at Work Ontario: Slips, Trips, and Falls will consist of two phases and will run until July 12th, 2019.

Phase 1 will be a compliance support and awareness campaign supported by the IHSA, while Phase 2 will be focussed on inspections to ensure that fall protection systems are in place, including:

- Housekeeping (waste and debris removal, storing reusable material, etc.);
- Access and egress (free of slippery material, proper built ramps, proper use of ladders, adequate lighting, etc.); and,
- Hazards related to falls from heights including the planning, training and supervision involved.



[Click here to learn more and for additional resources.](#)



Health & Safety Strategy Consultations

Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) Ron Kelusky is hosting stakeholder consultations across the province for Ontario's new five-year Occupational Health and Safety Strategy.

To learn more and register for a session, [please click here.](#)

Verify Working at Heights (WAH) Training Online

MOL has recently launched SkillsPass for Working at Heights (WAH) and Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) Certification training records, allowing workers and employers to verify WAH training online. Employers are able to join a webinar session to learn more and can register for an Employer Module to review staff's CPO approved records of training. [Click here to learn more](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

Last month, SIAC's Board of Directors met and began planning the 2019 AGM, to be held on **Thursday, May 16th, 2019**. Additional details to come.

If you would like to put your name forward for SIAC's 2019-2020 Board, please email info@siac-ontario.ca.

Scaffolding and Access Equipment Sector Committee

The [SIAC recently announced](#) the formation of a new sector committee mandated to:

- Develop best practices;
- Solve and resolve safety issues facing the access industry;
- Work to proactively address emerging issues with the MOL, IHSA, the Section 21 Committee and other sector partners; and,
- Raise matters of importance on the industry's behalf.



The next upcoming meeting will be held in May and SIAC will continue to update members on any new developments.

IHSA Labour-Management Health & Safety Committee Update

IHSA's Provincial Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee (Construction) met on March 6th.

The Committee discussed WSIB's New Rate Framework which will be implemented on January 1st, 2020 and will include simpler business classification, changes in premium rates, collective liability, and a more efficient use of administration. [Click here to learn more.](#)

They also reviewed MOL's proposal to amend existing requirements for temporary stairs, including:

- Clarifying where temporary stairs should start and end (i.e. requiring temporary stairs in underground levels);
- Identifying specific situations where the installation of temporary stairs may not be possible; and,
- Revising width dimensions to accommodate for movement of large equipment.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

IHSA agreed to share minutes from its construction PLMHSC with SIAC as part of our combined effort to strengthen the partnership between the Associations. You can find the complete March 6th meeting minutes [HERE](#).



Feature Your Company in SIAC's Next Magazine

SIAC's quarterly magazine, Access Canada, is delivered to over 1,000 companies in the construction industry.

If you would like to inquire about advertising, member features, or article submissions for SIAC's Summer 2019 issue, please contact info@siac-ontario.ca.

Keeping Safety a Top Priority

On Wednesday, March 20th, 2019, three men were taken to hospital after a scaffolding collapse in the Fort York area in Toronto. The SIAC would like to wish these workers a speedy recovery and will continue to update our members on developments.

On Friday, March 22nd, 2019, 20 pieces of metal fell 60 feet from a scaffold and were found scattered along the road at Yonge and Queen St, forcing authorities to block off the area. Thankfully no workers or pedestrians were injured.

Accidents like these remind us why health and safety are a top priority. The Association and our members will continue to emphasize and advocate for a safer workplace for the protection of workers, pedestrians, and businesses.