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Your Association Update



## Your Monthly News & Updates

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

### SIAC Membership Survey

As part of our mission to provide the highest level of service to our members, the Scaffold Industry Association of Canada (SIAC) is conducting this short survey of its membership. By taking a few minutes to complete this survey, you will help the Association gain a better understanding of how it might improve its services to you.

The survey should take you 2-5 minutes to complete. Please note that your answers will be kept strictly confidential, and only the collective results of this survey will be shared.

[Click Here to Complete the Survey](#)

### MOL Inspections Begin on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development issued 7,483 orders from January 1,



**Blitz:**  
**Personal**  
**Protective**  
**Equipment**

2017 to December 31, 2017 for lack of personal protective equipment on projects. This was the second highest violation in construction workplaces for 2017.

Coming out of this, the Ministry has just begun focused inspections focused on the lack and misuse of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as foot, eye, hearing, and respiratory protection devices. Inspectors will target:

industrial, commercial and institutional building

- construction
- residential building construction
- civil engineering and roadwork

[To learn more about the blitz, please click here.](#)

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## Working at Heights Initiative Results

Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development recently released its annual report on occupational health and safety in 2018-2019 led by Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) Ron Kelusky.

Mandatory fall protection training for people working at heights was a priority recommendation of the [Expert Advisory Panel on Occupational Health and Safety](#).

In 2015 the Ministry implemented a workplace training standard to prevent falls and improve safety for workers who work at heights. Between April 2015 and March 2019, over 635,000 workers were trained on working at heights (WAH). In the 2018-2019 fiscal year alone, over 123,000 workers completed Working at Heights training or Refresher training.

From June 1 to 30, 2018, Ministry of Labour inspectors:

- conducted 788 field visits including 88 field visits with support role activities
- visited 707 construction projects
- issued 2,158 orders and requirements under the [Occupational Health and Safety Act \(OHSA\)](#) and its regulations, including 191 stop work orders

[Click here to access the full Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development 2018-2019 Health and Safety Annual Report.](#) To submit feedback on the annual report, please contact [preventionfeedback@ontario.ca](mailto:preventionfeedback@ontario.ca).

[Click here to access a summary of the results of the Working at Heights Inspection Initiative](#)

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## IHSA Labour-Management Health & Safety Committee Update

IHSA's Provincial Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee (Construction) met on January 15th, 2020. The following topics were discussed:

### WSIB Compass Update

The WSIB also reported on the use of Compass, a one-stop shop for businesses to access their claim information, return-

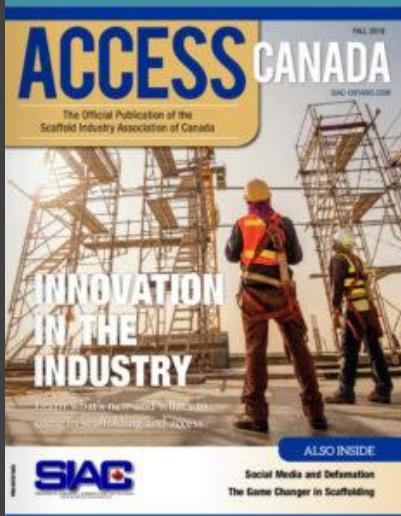
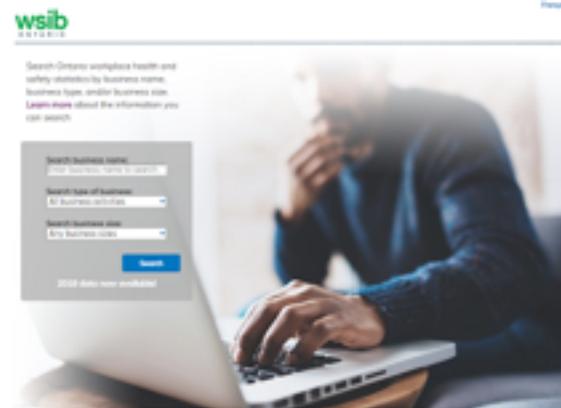


to-work stats, premium rates and much more. Since Sept 16, 2019, there have been 7500 unique users, 250 per day. Phase 3 of the implementation of Compass will include scenario tools to determine impacts on rates. [Click here to learn more.](#)

### WSIB Rate Framework Model

The WSIB indicated that any businesses looking to attend a free webinar on the new rate framework changes which took effect in January may visit [WSIB.ca/rateframework](http://WSIB.ca/rateframework).

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 January 15th meeting minutes [HERE.](#)



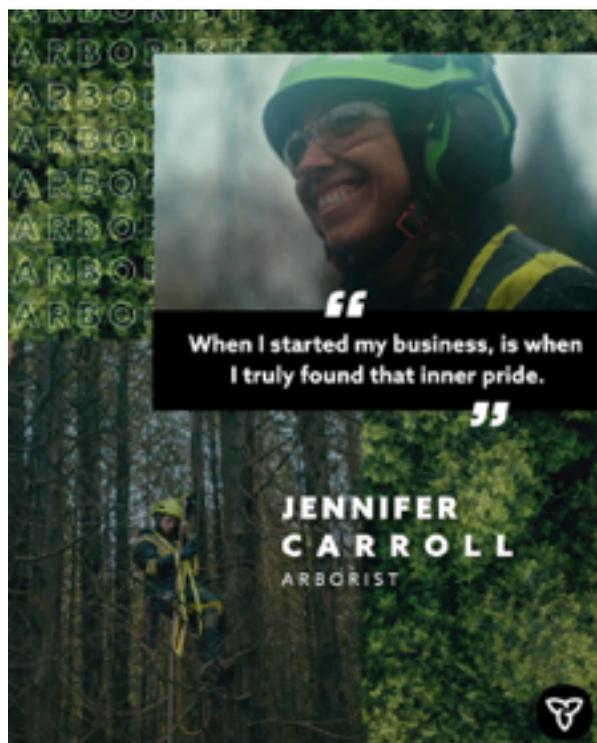
## Feature Your Company & Projects in SIAC's Magazine

*Would you like your company and/or projects to be highlighted to over 1,000 companies and decision-makers across Canada?*

SIAC's quarterly **Access Canada** magazine is an essential resource for members to learn about the latest developments pertaining to scaffolding and access. The magazine features in-depth and informative updates on regulatory and legislative changes, safety training, new building techniques, and recent innovative projects.

Contact [info@siac-ontario.ca](mailto:info@siac-ontario.ca) to be featured in Access Canada or inquire about advertising opportunities.

## Province Launches Marketing Campaign for Skilled Trades



The provincial government has recently launched a marketing campaign, 'Find a Career You Wouldn't Trade' to highlight good-quality, well-paying and flexible careers in the skilled trades and make the trades more attractive to young people and their parents.

Not only have they created advertisements which will can be seen at your local Tim Hortons, movie theatre, or digitally, the province has also developed an Online Trades Hub which offers resources for employers or those interested in entering the trades. [If you are interested in learning more or creating a posting for apprentices, please click here.](#)

The government is also investing approximately \$75 million in three programs to expose high school students to the trades: \$12.7 million in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, \$42 million in the Specialist High Skills major program and \$20.8 million in a pre-apprenticeship program.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

## Scaffold and Access Committee Making Strides

The Scaffold and Access Equipment Sector Committee, a partnership between SIAC and the IHSA, met a few weeks ago and discussed several top-of-mind issues for our members. The new committee has given SIAC a foot in the door on decision-making and allows us to better advocate for members' interests.

The committee meets quarterly and has representation from management, labour, and the Ministry of Labour itself. If you have an issue you would like to bring up to the Committee, please email [info@siac-ontario.com](mailto:info@siac-ontario.com).

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