

WorkSafe

Tools for building safer workplaces | worksafemagazine.com | March / April 2019



**Constructing
a respectful
worksite** p7

**The risks of aging
equipment** p5

**Prototyping a new body
armour for arborists** p11

2019 Public Course Schedule Funded by WorkSafe BC	OHS Committee Part 1 Satisfies (OHSA 3.27) mandatory training	OHS Committee Part 2	Incident Investigations Assists with (OHSA 3.28) Participation in investigations	Committee Effectiveness Assists with (OHSA 3.26) Annual committee evaluation	Supervisor OHS Part 1	Supervisor OHS Part 2	Risk Assessments	Ergonomics	Prevention of Violence	Improving Return to Work Outcomes	Bullying & Harassment	Mental Health and the CSA Standard ^(Updated)	Mental Health First Aid (2 day course) ^{NEW!}
Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley													
New Westminster	7-May	3-Dec	8-May	9-May	10-Sep	22-May	23-May	24-May	3-May		23-May	22-May	Sep 17-18
			4-Dec	5-Dec		17-Dec	18-Dec	19-Dec			11-Dec	10-Dec	May 14-15
Vancouver	Scheduled monthly Check online schedule		3-Apr	19-Mar	14-Mar				1-May	6-Dec	13-Dec		Mar 20-21
			26-Jun	27-Jun	24-Oct								Oct 22-23
			6-Nov	8-Nov	14-Nov								Dec 17-18
Chilliwack	22-May	22-Oct											
Surrey / Langley	5-Jun	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	4-Oct	8-Oct	9-Oct	10-Oct	2-May	4-Oct			Apr 16-17
Abbotsford	16-Apr	24-Apr	17-Apr	25-Apr	26-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-May	15-Nov		13-Sep	29-May	28-May
	13-Nov		14-Nov		12-Sep								
Vancouver Island													
Nanaimo	14-May	29-Oct	15-May	16-May	14-Nov	30-Oct	31-Oct	5-Nov	14-Nov	19-Nov	4-Sep	14-Nov	13-Nov
	6-Nov		30-Oct	31-Oct									May 22-23
Campbell River	23-May	22-Oct	23-Oct	24-Oct									Nov 5-6
Port Hardy	22-May												
Port Alberni	25-Apr												
Courtenay	12-Sep												
Ucluelet	24-Apr												
Victoria / Colwood	27-Feb	4-Apr											
	30-Apr	27-Jun	1-May	2-May		7-May	8-May	9-May	20-Nov				May 7-8
	10-Sep	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	22-Nov	17-Sep	18-Sep	19-Sep		21-Nov	11-Dec	20-Nov	19-Nov
													Nov 13-14
North & Northwest													
Fort St. John	6-Mar	24-Sep	25-Sep	26-Sep	26-Sep						24-Sep		Sep 25-26
Mackenzie	14-May		15-May	16-May									
Terrace	18-Jun	10-Oct	19-Jun	20-Jun									Oct 8-9
Prince Rupert	2-Apr	3-Oct	3-Apr	4-Apr		3-Apr		4-Apr					
Kitimat	16-Apr	17-Sep	17-Apr	18-Sep	17-Sep	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	18-Sep		11-Oct	10-Oct	Apr 30-May 1
Prince George	24-Apr	28-May	29-May	30-May	26-Apr	29-May		30-May	25-Apr	10-Oct	28-May	19-Jun	18-Jun
	8-Oct		9-Oct	10-Oct									
Skidegate	12-Mar	1-Oct		13-Mar		12-Mar		13-Mar				14-Mar	
Stewart	9-Apr										10-Apr		
Smithers	17-Sep		18-Sep	19-Sep									
Burns Lake	24-Sep												
Houston	26-Sep												
Fort Nelson	16-Apr												
Dawson Creek	10-Sep												
Sunshine Coast													
Gibsons	10-Oct												
Powell River	7-May		8-May	9-May									
Interior													
100 Mile House	7-May		8-May	9-May									
Williams Lake	2-Apr		3-Apr	4-Apr									
Quesnel	30-Apr		1-May	2-May									
Kamloops	9-Apr	14-May	15-May	16-May	15-May								
	13-Sep	29-Oct	30-Oct	31-Oct	4-Dec	22-Oct	23-Oct	24-Oct	3-Dec	6-Dec	31-Oct	4-Dec	3-Dec
													May 28-29
Kootenays													
Castlegar	4-Jun	24-Sep	5-Jun	6-Jun	27-Sep	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	13-Jun	2-Oct		11-Jun	12-Jun
			25-Sep	26-Sep									
Cranbrook	22-May	13-Nov	23-May	24-May	26-Nov				27-Nov	15-Nov		19-Jun	18-Jun
			14-Nov	28-Nov									Apr 24-25
Fernie	10-Apr			11-Apr									
Sparwood	9-Apr												
Okanagan													
Penticton	24-Apr	11-Jun	25-Apr	26-Apr									
	17-Sep	19-Nov	18-Sep	19-Sep									
Princeton	19-Mar			20-Mar									
Salmon Arm	5-Sep												
Vernon	30-Apr	13-Jun	1-May	2-May									
	24-Sep	21-Nov	25-Sep	26-Sep									
Kelowna	18-Jun	25-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	26-Jun						26-Jun	25-Jun	Jun 25-26
	26-Nov	3-Dec	27-Nov	28-Nov	20-Nov	10-Dec	11-Dec	12-Dec	19-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov	10-Dec	Dec 3-4

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By Gord Woodward

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The Construction Workforce Equity Project is bringing industry members together to end bullying, harassment, and discrimination in B.C.'s construction industry.

By Gail Johnson

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After personal protective equipment saved Shawn Michaels from losing a leg, he was inspired to invent upper-body protection for arborists. Now, with funding from WorkSafeBC, he's ready to test his prototype.

By Sarah Ripplinger

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After an injury at home left a vice-president disconnected from work, the lightbulb went on. Return-to-work duties weren't just nice to have; they were the right thing to do.

By Kathy Eccles

Centre pullout

What's wrong with this photo?

Driving up injuries in an autobody shop.

What was wrong

Answer key and winner of the last "What's wrong with this photo?" contest.

Learning from loss

Over the last few years there has been several high profile incidents involving food truck explosions in Canada and the United States, including this last February when a food truck exploded in Eugene, Oregon (page 13). Thankfully nobody was injured, but the potential was catastrophic. Similar events in the past have caused loss of life. Incidents such as these, and many others, remind us why injury prevention and a commitment to health and safety at work must be at the core of how we approach business.

In this issue, we have stories from people who take this message to heart. Day of Mourning speaker Mike Shaw shares his story about becoming paralyzed from the neck down. While Mike survived the injury, his life was forever altered (page 19). Now, he dedicates his professional life to injury prevention. We also have two stories about close calls that inspired a renewed focus on health and safety. One is the story of a vice-president who was injured at home felling a tree. Today, he's inspired to be a champion of recovery-at-work programs (page 23). The other is a story of an arborist whose leg was saved by personal protective equipment. The close call inspired him to invent a new body armour for arborists (page 11).

This issue also contains a poster for the Day of Mourning on April 28. We hope you will pin it up in your workplace as a symbol of respect to those who have died and as a reminder of our collective responsibility to build healthy and safe workplaces. To attend a ceremony in your area, visit dayofmourning.bc.ca.



Terence Little
Editor-in-chief

WorkSafe

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WorkSafe Magazine is published by the WorkSafeBC (Workers' Compensation Board of B.C.) Communications department to educate workers and employers about injury and disease prevention, promote positive safety culture, and provide links to WorkSafeBC resources for safer workplaces.

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WorkSafe Magazine is published six times a year. The yearly issues are January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December. The magazine can be viewed online at worksafemagazine.com.

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WORKSAFE BC



Gord Woodward

Gord has worked with more than 1,500 small businesses and has experience working with federal and provincial agencies, non-profit organizations, and private sector firms. He interviews Trevor Williams in “Ask an officer.”



Gail Johnson

Gail’s guiding principle is “Make the world a better place in your own small way every day.” The industry members she interviews in our cover story share similar principles. She writes about preventing bullying and harassment in construction (page 7).



Sarah Ripplinger

Sarah has a passion for storytelling that turns heads, excites, and inspires — such as Shawn Michaels’ story of an injury turned into inspiration (page 11).



Kathy Eccles

Kathy is a writer and editor with several years of experience with return-to-work initiatives. She covers this topic in our “Safety spotlight” (page 23).

The risks of aging equipment



Trevor Williams

Occupational hygiene officer

Region: Surrey

Years on the job: 9

The equipment at your site may be working well now, but it could pose a risk of a serious incident as it ages. Decaying railroad ties, for example, were factors in a train derailment on Vancouver Island in which three people lost their lives in 2017. And a curling rink brine chiller operated beyond its intended life expectancy contributed to an ammonia leak in which three people lost their lives the same year. WorkSafeBC occupational hygiene officer Trevor Williams has answers to commonly asked questions about working with aging equipment and infrastructure and how to reduce the risk.

Q. My equipment is old but I haven’t had any major problems. If it ain’t broke, why should I fix it?

A. It’s not just about chronological age. It’s about understanding how equipment degrades over time and knowing what can happen to your equipment in various stages of its life cycle.

You have to understand what a failure can look like and the safety risks associated with it. How could your equipment fail? What could happen and how severe could the consequences be? Can you effectively control the hazard if the equipment were to fail?

As time passes, equipment becomes increasingly difficult to maintain in a safe operating condition. You should have provisions for its eventual decommissioning or replacement.

Q. We repair our equipment whenever there’s a problem with it. Is there anything else we need to do?

A. You’re using a corrective maintenance approach, waiting for something to go wrong. This might not be the best approach. As equipment starts to age, there is typically an uptick in the number of failures due to factors such as corrosion, erosion, deterioration of parts, etc. Some employers may run equipment until there is a minor failure or leak (referred to as a “leak-before-failure” assumption) and then repair or replace accordingly. This practice is only acceptable if there can be a reasonable assurance that this approach doesn’t result in a significant risk of harm. Unfortunately, there is a history of this maintenance strategy resulting in serious incidents.

Preferably, employers should follow a rigorous preventive maintenance program, where inspections, repairs, and replacements are scheduled at predetermined intervals. This approach includes knowledge of equipment life cycles, appropriate inspections, and replacement intervals.

Even better, employers can adopt a predictive-maintenance program, in which the condition of equipment is regularly assessed and the inspection, maintenance, and replacement schedule is revised based on these findings. This accounts for the potential of some equipment to degrade faster than expected due to unforeseen operational conditions or other factors.

Q. With a tight budget, how can we afford to replace aging equipment?

- A.** Safety and risk management has to be part of your decision making. There has to be long-term planning that includes major capital expenditures, and the safety factor has to be brought into the discussion. It's not just about maintaining your equipment in an operating state, it's also about maintaining it in a safe state. If you don't replace it when necessary, you could put workers at risk with a potential for catastrophic failure. You could also be looking at the cost of downtime and potentially jeopardize your entire business.

A maintenance plan that includes equipment end-of-life strategies can help your case when your organization has competing priorities for limited resources.

Q. What do we do if the parts we need are no longer available?

- A.** Any modifications to hazardous equipment should always be done in accordance with manufacturers' specifications, including selection of appropriate replacement parts. If this is not feasible, this is probably where a professional engineer needs to be consulted to help ensure appropriate and safe equipment modifications. This process often includes a "Management of Change" procedure, in which a

proposed change is first evaluated to identify the potential for new risks, and appropriate measures are implemented to control these risks in advance of the change. If you can't provide the assurance that the equipment can run safely, you shouldn't run it.

Q. What often gets overlooked when it comes to maintaining older equipment and infrastructure?

- A.** There are a lot of different regulations that could apply to different kinds of equipment, including the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation and other industry-specific and equipment-specific regulators. There are also recognized standards for operation and maintenance of some equipment that may be referenced by regulation or serve as a good practice guide. A professional engineer can help with this.

Sometimes, the simplest thing is to remember to follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment operation, inspection, and maintenance. And it's important to keep all documentation for hazardous equipment up to date. You may have made modifications to equipment to keep it running, so you need to keep track of changes you've made. Having everything in writing keeps that critical knowledge readily available, rather than in the heads of staff who may leave your company.

Looking for answers to your specific health and safety questions? Send them to us at worksafemagazine@worksafebc.com, and we'll consider them for our next "Ask an officer" feature. ☺

"Sometimes, the simplest thing is to remember to follow the manufacturer's instructions for equipment operation, inspection, and maintenance."

—Trevor Williams, occupational hygiene officer, WorkSafeBC

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A woman construction worker is the central figure, wearing a bright yellow hard hat with a logo, safety glasses, and a high-visibility yellow and grey safety vest over a black t-shirt. She is also wearing blue work gloves. She is focused on a task, holding a small green object in her right hand. To her left, a red A-frame ladder is partially visible. In the foreground, there's a workbench with various tools, including a green and black Makita cordless drill. A yellow wire basket filled with tools and materials sits on the right side of the workbench. The background shows an interior construction site with exposed ceiling structures and walls.

On the cover

Women make up just 4.7 percent of the construction workforce. A new initiative is trying to change that.

Preventing bullying and harassment in construction

By Gail Johnson

When it comes to safety in the construction industry, practices such as protecting workers from falls and wearing personal protective equipment may be the first things to come to mind. Treating people with respect, however, can be just as vital.

Bullying and harassment can affect everyone on a job site, not just those who are directly involved. Threatening, demeaning, or unwelcome behaviour can create stress and distractions that lead to incidents at work, and affect productivity, morale, and employee retention. Women and visible minorities in construction are especially vulnerable to behaviours that are intimidating, humiliating, insulting, or verbally aggressive.

Positive changes are happening, however, thanks in part to initiatives like the The Builders Code, an initiative of the Construction Workforce Equity Project.

The Code brings together partners such as the BC Construction Association (BCCA), Industry Training Authority (ITA), WorkSafeBC, Minerva, and LNG Canada, among others, and it got started in response to the staggeringly low rates of women in construction with the goal of turning those numbers around.

A significant skills shortage

Women make up just 4.7 percent of construction workers in B.C., according to the ITA. Two-thirds of the industry's workers are aged 45 and up. About 60 percent are white. Approximately 90 percent of business leaders are male and over 45.

"In construction, we're facing a significant skills shortage," says committee chair Lisa Stevens, chief operating officer of the BCCA. "The equity project is looking to bring more people into the trades. More women are coming into trades, but they aren't always staying. There are lots of reasons, but there is a higher incidence of women not staying in construction."

The partners of the Code see bullying and harassment as a key barrier to retention for all skilled workers in construction. If a crew has a single male member who's harassing a female worker, for instance, the other workers may be tangentially affected — they may feel unsure of what to say or do, lose confidence in

their team members and supervisors, or simply be distracted. Consequently, they're less safe and less productive, and they ultimately may seek work elsewhere.

"We want to put a focus on retention and productivity and safety," adds Stevens. "We're not here to lecture or wag a finger. Employers are ready, owners are ready, and people on the job sites are ready for positive change. It's the right time in our industry."

The ITA agrees that the timing is right for inclusion. The training authority works closely with post-secondary institutions, which are key partners in emphasizing the roles and responsibilities of employers and the rights of workers. They work not just to empower apprentices but also to raise awareness among supervisors and front line managers to take steps to stop or eliminate inappropriate behaviours in the workplace.

"We're very committed as an organization to advance a culture change in skilled trades, to create workplaces that are welcoming and inclusive for all," says Shelley Gray, interim chief executive officer of the ITA. "There are lots of barriers and potential biases that need to be broken."

Those biases include some outdated ideas that this is just the way things are.

"Some would say that bullying and harassment has been accepted as part of the job," says Shawn Mitton, WorkSafeBC manager, Prevention Field Services and manager of WorkSafeBC's bullying and harassment team. "But attitudes are changing."

"Employers are ready, owners are ready, and people on the job sites are ready for positive change. It's the right time in our industry."

—Lisa Stevens, chief operating officer,
BC Construction Association



Partners in the Builders Code stand with the Acceptable Worksite Pledge, which states that everyone has the right to be safe and protected at work.

‘Bullying is unacceptable’

Bullying and harassment gained formal recognition in the *Workers Compensation Act* in 2013. The regulations set out the general duties of employers, workers, and supervisors to clarify their obligations when it comes to preventing or minimizing workplace bullying, harassment, and discrimination.

In 2018, WorkSafeBC responded to over 4,800 inquiries and complaints directly related to bullying, harassment, and discriminatory action across all sectors.

WorkSafeBC has expanded its role in bullying and harassment with a dedicated team. With 14 occupational hygiene officers throughout the province, the team responds to workers who phone in with questions or concerns about bullying and harassment. The team assesses employer compliance with regulatory and policy requirements and, if a complaint has been filed, asks employers to investigate and take measures to meet their obligations. The officers also offer continuing education and consultation.

“Safety is more than making sure machinery is safe; it’s having workers feel they can go to work and be treated equitably and with respect,” says Mitton. “A lot of times, employers leave conduct or workplace behaviour to HR, when it’s everyone’s responsibility to treat each other with dignity.”

Setting a standard for respectful behaviour

The Builders Code sets out a baseline code of conduct for every construction worksite. The code defines an “Acceptable Worksite” as a safe worksite. It’s the starting point for ensuring a safe, welcoming, and productive environment for all workers — a worksite free of bullying, harassment, and discrimination, where everyone can perform to the full extent of their ability.

In a project-based industry where multiple teams come together often on ever-changing worksites, people need to know what’s expected at all times. Until now, however, there has been no consistent code of conduct when it comes to the culture of a jobsite. The way construction workers treat each other can vary

tremendously from one crew to the next and from one job to the next.

The Builders Code is one way to change that. The ultimate goal is for all construction projects in B.C. to adopt it, so that all construction workers on any project in our province understand the behaviour that is expected of them and why it matters.

“What’s unique about what we’re doing is that this is an employer-focused project,” says Stevens. “It’s focusing on giving the employers the tools and resources they need to drive this change from the top down. In order to facilitate change, we need to bring everyone on board.”

“It’s everyone’s responsibility to treat each other with dignity.”

—Shawn Mitton, manager, Prevention Field Services, WorkSafeBC


“The Code is setting a standard within a workplace of respect and equality and behaviour,” Mitton says. “It really helps the employer understand that it’s not just about training workers how to use the tools to build a building, but it’s setting a standard of conduct and treatment of each other.”

This in turn can improve worksite safety and the business’s bottom line.

“A respectful workplace makes a stronger workplace,” adds Mitton. “If everyone feels they have a voice and feels that they belong, that they’re in a place where they can grow, it’s a big win.”

For more information

To find out more about the Builders Code, visit builderscode.ca. If you want to lead a discussion on bullying and harassment at your workplace, check out [It’s Personal: Video Discussion Guide on Bullying and Harassment in Construction](#) on worksafebc.com. ☺



Bullying in construction

It’s not part of the job

Bullying and harassment can take many forms. Know what to look for.

- Verbal aggression or insults
- Harmful hazing or initiation practices
- Vandalizing personal belongings
- Spreading malicious rumours

Help prevent workplace bullying and harassment.

Find resources and view our video series at worksafebc.com/preventbullying.

WORK SAFE BC



Evelyn May, Shawn Michaels, and Dan Robinson from Kwantlen Polytechnic University unveil a new body armour prototype for arborists.

From chainsaws to sewing machines

By Sarah Ripplinger

A new body armour for arborists moves into the prototyping and testing phase with a WorkSafeBC Innovation at Work grant.

Shawn Michaels almost lost his leg to a chainsaw when he was 16 years old. It was his third day cutting down trees for a transmission line right-of-way — essentially, clearing the way for electric power lines. A co-worker's chainsaw flew back unexpectedly and ended up cutting into Michaels' left leg, leaving him with 18 stitches. Luckily, Michaels was wearing protective leg gear at the time of the accident, which prevented him from losing his limb.

"I realized how valuable chainsaw armour is," says the now 52-year-old.

Michaels' dream is to create similar protection for the upper body, which would add to an arborist's protective gear contingent of head, eye, hearing, hand, leg, and foot protection. It would also bring to market something that is virtually unavailable for purchase in North America.

Moving from concept to prototype

Michaels — who has worked with trees for most of his life and as an arborist for more than 20 years — started

developing his design in his garage. He then enrolled in the Wilson School of Design at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) to get help turning his concept into a reality. In 2018, his supervisor received a WorkSafeBC [Innovation at Work](#) grant, which is being used to support his research.

"Shawn is one of the few students who came to the program knowing exactly what he wanted to work on," says Dr. Dan Robinson, a kinesiologist, Canadian Certified Professional Ergonomist, and faculty member at the Wilson School of Design at KPU. He's the principal investigator of Michaels' research project.

Michaels' design — which looks like a high-tech safety jacket — uses similar technology to what is currently found in chainsaw leg protection. The jacket includes layers of chainsaw blade-stopping Kevlar yarns, a synthetic fibre that is five times stronger than steel.

The goal is to block kickback, says Robinson. "That's when the end of the chainsaw makes contact with wood and flings the saw back and upwards into the operator's body."

Blazing new trails for tree work

A multitude of factors go into creating technical apparel like Michaels'. Urban foresters need adequate

venting to release the heat they generate when climbing up and sawing trees, sometimes saddled with up to 70 pounds of gear.

Unlike tree fellers who cut down trees with both feet firmly on the ground, arborists can climb 50 feet into a tree using spikes and rope, or operate out of a cherry-picker bucket. They prune, trim, and cut down trees one section at a time, which changes their body position and grip when operating a chainsaw. They also need to be cautious of power lines, getting snagged on branches, urban traffic, and animals and insects living in the trees they work beside.

“Arborists in urban environments may need to operate a chainsaw with either hand and in awkward positions,” notes Robinson. “The more layers of protection we add, the more heat will get trapped in the garment and the more range of motion may be compromised, which is why testing is so important.”

Real-world testing

To ensure their prototype will adequately meet the needs of urban foresters, Michaels and Robinson are

working with an industry partner, the City of Vancouver’s Urban Forestry Department. The City’s team of almost 100 arborists will test the functionality of the garment — from range of motion to comfort — and provide Michaels and Robinson with feedback.

“Fundamentally, it’s important for researchers to connect with stakeholders who can put the results of their research to work in the real world,” says Lori Guiton, director of WorkSafeBC’s Policy, Regulation and Research Division. “In this case, the City of Vancouver employs urban arborists who could benefit from this innovation in protective apparel, making them safer at work.”

Part of the WorkSafeBC grant will be used toward lab testing, which will involve sawing several garments to see how well they would protect the wearer. It’s a significant but necessary investment to make the technical apparel market-ready.

“Modern chainsaws with carbide chains can cut through rocks,” notes Michaels. “We want the technology that is going into this jacket to set the bar high for this type of protective gear in North America.” ☺



Reduce workplace incidents
by inspecting and maintaining your
equipment at frequent intervals.

Find health and safety resources for steep slope harvesting
at worksafebc.com/forestry and search for “traction assist.”

WORK SAFE BC

Reduce the risk of propane explosions in food trucks

By Jesse Marchand

On February 24, a food truck exploded in Eugene, Oregon. Luckily no one was hurt in the blast, but the force of the explosion was enough to destroy the truck, shake the ground, and blow off the door of a nearby business. While such events are rare, they can be catastrophic. Food truck owners and operators should take steps to reduce the risk.

Food trucks generally use propane to fuel cooking and other equipment. Propane is a handy fuel source, but it can also be a danger if the fuel tank leaks and the propane builds up inside a truck and ignites.

As Darrin McCaskill, WorkSafeBC's director of programs, projects and initiatives, points out, "Not only are workers inside the trucks at risk, but because food trucks congregate in highly populated areas, such as events and festivals, the risk extends to the general public."

Not an isolated incident

There have been several high-profile incidents involving food truck explosions in North America. In 2014, a food truck in north Philadelphia exploded, killing the owner and her teenage daughter, severely burning three nearby minors, and injuring many others. In 2015, an explosion in Florida blew apart the vehicle, shattered the windows of neighbouring homes, and caused the ceilings of two nearby houses to collapse. In July and August of last year alone, there were at least five food truck fires and explosions in the United States and Canada.

To help prevent incidents in B.C., WorkSafeBC's Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) has conducted an in-depth assessment of this risk through research, inspections, and consultations with industry. It also developed a bulletin that provides practical details about on-site hazards and safe work practices for food trucks: "Reducing the risk of propane explosions in food trucks." So far, WorkSafeBC has engaged with more than 40 food truck employers, organizers of festivals

that feature food trucks, and a variety of municipalities and fire departments.

Rhonda Langlois, an occupational hygiene officer at WorkSafeBC who has been meeting with employers over the past year, says that the response so far has been positive.

“Food truck operators have been receptive to our concerns around the risk of fire safety and the safe handling of propane, and many felt the bulletin was useful to have on site, especially for new workers coming on board,” says Langlois. “They know there is risk involved in working around propane, but the bulletin provides owners and operators with concrete information on where to look for propane leaks and potential sources of ignition.”

Five things to consider for a safer food truck

The following five tips, adapted from the WorkSafeBC bulletin, offer a starting place for food truck owners and operators to improve their safety and take precautions to reduce the risk:

- 1 **Consider your layout.** How your food truck is designed affects your safety. Your layout should maximize ventilation, to ensure propane gas (which is heavier than air) doesn't accumulate. Store spare propane tanks securely outside the truck in an upright position. Exits should always be kept clear of obstructions that could hinder a quick escape in an emergency.
- 2 **Check your equipment.** Buying used equipment might be economical, but it's important to make sure it still meets manufacturers' specifications. Don't use expired propane tanks. Conduct inspections and perform maintenance on your equipment regularly and make sure you have a working and properly calibrated detector for flammable gas.
- 3 **Create and implement safe work procedures.** Take the time to develop and implement clear procedures for starting up and shutting down propane-fuelled equipment. You also need safe work procedures for the delivery, storage, and changing of propane tanks. Post signage warning not to smoke, have open flames, or operate power tools near propane tanks. And, never ever drive your truck while the propane is on or lit.


“The bulletin provides owners and operators with concrete information on where to look for propane leaks and potential sources of ignition.”

—Rhonda Langlois, occupational hygiene officer, WorkSafeBC

- 4 **Train and supervise your staff.** Once you have written these procedures, don't just leave them in your desk at home. Make sure your workers are trained in all safe work procedures. This includes having a Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and training workers in the safe handling of ignition sources and propane tanks. Give your workers the opportunity to speak up if they have questions or are having difficulty following the plan. Your safe work procedures only work if they are understood and followed.
- 5 **Have an emergency plan.** No one wants an emergency to happen, but if it does, you need to be prepared by developing, implementing, and testing an emergency plan. Your plan should include:
 - Emergency response and evacuation procedures. Take into account the evacuation route and crowd that may be nearby.
 - Emergency response equipment, such as a fire extinguisher that is visible, accessible, and in good working condition.
 - Site-specific emergency contact information. Don't rely on cellular service always being available. Consider having a satellite phone, and have instructions on where to go for help nearby.

For more information

This article outlines just some of the hazards and safe work practices to mitigate them. Search for the bulletin [Reducing the risk of propane explosions in food trucks](#) on worksafebc.com to find out more. ☺



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Road safety is smart business.

Truck drivers face hazards on the job every day, hazards that don't even involve driving.

Overexertion leading cause of injury in commercial trucking

By Susan Main

SafetyDriven and WorkSafeBC are sharing the message that injuries from overexertion, falls, slips and trips, and more are preventable.

When we think about the most common causes of truck drivers' injuries, we might think of motor vehicle crashes. But drivers are actually injured more often when their trucks are parked.

There were 10,436 claims for lost work-time between 2013 and 2017 in B.C.'s trucking and transport industry. The most common source of injury in this industry is overexertion, followed by motor vehicle incidents, falls, and struck-by incidents. On average, each injury resulted in 80 days of lost work, with an average claim cost of \$44,130. For a truck driver who relies on these work hours, an injury and time off work can be devastating.

Take enough time to load and unload

Sam Pattison, general manager of T & P Trucking, describes the challenge of being in a business that

promises quick service while also asking drivers to slow down and put safety first.

"As an employer, we want to maximize our efficiency but at the same time, we don't want to do that at the expense of safety," Pattison says. "We tell them to take their time when they're loading and unloading — to make sure they're not skipping any steps when it comes to safety protocols. We don't want them cutting corners and putting themselves in any risky situations."

Pattison points out that drivers visit many different locations in a day's work. Each one is part of a driver's workplace — even if it's a one-person operation or a rural location without signage. Says Pattison, "We remind them to keep our safety standards in mind wherever they are."

Stretching can reduce the risk

Darshan Gill, safety officer at Phoenix Truck and Crane, advises drivers to stretch for at least five minutes at the start of a shift — especially during the colder months of the year. This reduces risk of overexertion that can lead to musculoskeletal injury (MSI).

“In winter, the drivers are up before sunrise. It’s still below zero when they’re starting their first loads of the day. I remind them to warm up during pre-trip inspections when they’re already moving around,” Gill says. “And if they’ve been driving for three or four hours, they should stretch for a couple of minutes to get their backs moving from a stationary position before they start pushing and pulling on things. I remind them to move around and get more active when they’re walking toward where they’ll unstrap their load.”

During his new worker orientations, Gill gives out cards with a list of stretches that can be done in a truck cab. He gets them from SafetyDriven – Trucking Safety Council of BC, along with other helpful tools. Says Gill: “We didn’t have all these resources before. Being able to provide the exact exercises for drivers has helped a lot.”

Gill talks with drivers about the most common injuries he’s seen. Many involve tools such as straps, pry bars, and landing gear for securing loads. (See resources below for information on using these tools safely, with proper posture.) It takes a lot of physical force to crank landing gear and cinch straps; that’s why a good warm-up and proper technique is important, he says.

Three-point contact and proper footwear to avoid slips, trips, falls

Gill reminds drivers to wear non-slip footwear to avoid slips, trips, and falls, especially when the ground is icy. He also instructs them to avoid falls when entering and exiting their cabs by using the three-point contact method. Many of the drivers have been working for more than 30 years and have seen a lot of these common dangers.

“They all know someone who had to stop working because of a back injury from a slip and fall,” Gill says. “We’re dealing with drivers who are experienced. They’re masters of their craft. It’s not so much new training or anything groundbreaking. It’s just consistent reminders.”

More resources for truck drivers’ safety

Jacqueline Morrison, WorkSafeBC transportation industry specialist, agrees.

“They’re professional. They’ve done this work for a long time. This isn’t something they don’t know — but

it only takes one time to be seriously injured,” Morrison says, describing the rationale behind new resources from WorkSafeBC and SafetyDriven.

New videos from SafetyDriven and WorkSafeBC tell the stories of three truck drivers whose lives change after a workplace injury. Arvind, Donna, and Joe’s stories can be found at worksafebc.com/transportation. The page also offers new information sheets for reducing injury when using [pry bars](#), [landing gear](#), and [straps](#).

“Successful, smart transportation companies like T & P Trucking and Phoenix Truck and Crane get it,” says Mark Donnelly, executive director of SafetyDriven. “They understand that improving safety in their day-to-day operations benefits their people and also helps improve their bottom line. SafetyDriven is pleased to help by providing safety courses, training videos, tools, tips, and templates.”

Visit safetydriven.ca for a card of truck drivers’ stretches and much more. 🧘

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Mike Shaw had a life-altering injury that ended his career as a professional skier and coach. Today, he teaches athletes and youth how to trust their instincts.



From grief to gratitude

By Jackie Wong

Mike Shaw experienced a life-altering injury at work. His story is now inspiring young workers to trust their instincts and speak up about safety.

Mike Shaw dedicates his professional life to injury prevention, particularly among young people. He does it because he has first-hand knowledge of what it means to lose one's livelihood and identity through a life-altering injury. He also knows how to rebuild and thrive in the wake of it.

Shaw is a former professional skier, an accomplished motivational speaker, and coach. Today, he works with coaches to enhance performance and prevent injuries among athletes by improving their focus, awareness, and mindfulness through a company he co-founded called HeadStartPro Performance and Injury Prevention Training. He's also part of WorkSafeBC's speaking roster, speaking to every Grade 11 student in the Central Okanagan School District about preventing workplace injury by helping them learn to listen to their instincts and act upon them in ways that will keep them safe.

"If I can prevent one injury like mine from happening to someone else, then it's all worthwhile," he says.

It's an effort that could save lives. An average of 18 young workers are injured every day in B.C., and an average of 14 young workers sustain a serious injury every week. Almost 20 percent of workplace incidents among young workers occur during their first month on the job.

"All young-worker injuries and deaths are unacceptable," says Trudi Rondou, WorkSafeBC senior manager, Industry and Labour Services. "If you get a gut feeling that something isn't safe, listen to your instincts. It could save your life or the life of your co-worker."

'In an instant, my life had changed forever'

In his current work with coaches and in classrooms, Shaw provides tools for building mindfulness and awareness so people can become better attuned to their instincts. What he refers to as the "gut-sinking feeling" that signals a dangerous situation is not always

“The impact of my crash didn’t just affect the people who were there that day. It was a ripple effect well beyond what I had anticipated.”

—Mike Shaw, co-founder of HeadStartPro Performance and Injury Prevention Training

easy to identify, especially in situations and workplaces where one is walking the edge between danger and safety, an edge Shaw knows well from his former career as a freestyle skier and ski coach.

In December 2013 at the age of 27, Shaw was coaching his freestyle ski team to compete in a halfpipe competition in Summit County, Colorado. After a morning of training, Shaw and his athletes went to a terrain park to ski. “I was performing a routine trick, one of the same tricks that one of my athletes was working on, a 720,” he remembers. “Two full rotations. You take off forwards and land forwards. On landing, I landed in some really soft snow. It pitched me forward onto my face and neck, and my feet came up like a scorpion tail; all the pressure went to my neck, essentially. I felt a very brief but sharp pain.”

In that moment, Shaw says he knew his life had changed irrevocably.

“My goggles slid down over my mouth, I was breathing into them, and music was playing in one of my ears because I had one headphone in. I realized that in an instant, my life had changed forever. I was paralyzed from the neck down.”

Shaw was flown to a hospital in Denver, where he spent almost two weeks in the Intensive Care Unit. As soon as he was stabilized he flew to Vancouver, where he stayed a week at Vancouver General Hospital, then almost three months at GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre.

A complicated loss

Shaw’s expansive sense of gratitude underscores all aspects of his life today. While he can no longer fully feel his legs, he is able to ski again, which he now describes as “a very cerebral process.”

Gratitude, he says, has been central to how he has processed the many layers of grief he experienced through his spinal cord injury. It’s a complex kind of grief that may affect other injured workers, but which can be hard to put into words.

“I’ve grieved the loss of my identity. I’ve grieved the loss of my career,” he says. “I lost the ability to earn a living the way that I used to. I had to redefine all sorts of things in my life and career for that, and that was challenging.”

Through it all, he was terribly aware of the impact his injury had on the people in his life.

His parents, he recalls, were devastated by the incident and they supported him for years until he got back on his feet. “The impact of my crash didn’t just affect the people who were there that day. It was a ripple effect well beyond what I had anticipated,” he says. “These injuries are not just happening to the person on the inside — they happen to everyone else that’s near and affected. Family members and friends and relationships of all kinds are faced with the grief and the trauma.”

Those layered dimensions of grief, alongside his own experiences with losing loved ones, will inform Shaw’s contributions to the national Day of Mourning on April 28, where he will be speaking at one of the events in B.C.

Remembering lives lost at work

The Day of Mourning is an annual day to remember people who have lost their lives to work-related injury or occupational disease, and renew our collective commitment to building safe, healthy workplaces. WorkSafeBC, the BC Federation of Labour, the Vancouver District Labour Council, and the Business Council of British Columbia partner to support Day of Mourning events taking place across B.C.

The Day of Mourning is an important day for Shaw. To him, grief is a powerful reminder of the stuff at the heart of the best things in life. “Our pain and suffering is usually in direct proportion to the joy and love that we felt in our lives,” he says. “Life is arguably better if you have loved and lost than if you have never loved at all, and never have had that feeling. Grief is part of living a full life, because you’ll never live a full life without grief.”

If you don't open yourself up to love — loving the people in your life, and loving what you do with your time — “then that's a tragedy,” Shaw says. “That's a bigger tragedy, in my opinion, than the loss itself.” The experience of grief is a forever process, he adds, but the fact that we live with it is an opportunity for gratitude as well. “It just means that loss really mattered.”

It's with this spirit of gratitude and locating the light in dark places that Shaw moves through his days, connecting with young workers and sharing with them what's in his heart.

“It's hard to quantify how many students we will actually help, and how many workplace injuries we prevent,” he notes. “But even if it's one, it's worth it.”

For more information

Mike Shaw will be speaking at a Day of Mourning ceremony on April 28. See the full list of ceremonies and speakers at dayofmourning.bc.ca. You can also watch Mike Shaw's TedX talk, [Grief Happens](#), on YouTube. ☺



One year and five months after his injury, Mike Shaw participated in the Wings for Life World Run as an ambassador for spinal cord injury. Here he is at the 10-kilometre mark.



Safety on the agenda

Looking for health and safety inspiration this spring? Check out these conferences and events across British Columbia.

Day of Mourning

April 28, 2019

All over B.C.

dayofmourning.bc.ca

Interior Safety Conference

BC Forest Safety

May 2, 2019, Kamloops, B.C.

May 24, 2019, Prince George, B.C.

bcforestsafesafe.org

NAOSH Week

North American Occupational Safety and Health

May 5-11, 2019

All across Canada

naosh.org

Upper Island Safety Conference

Strathcona Regional District

May 27-29, 2019

Campbell River, B.C.

strathconagardens.com

Human Factors Approach to Safety and Incident Investigations

WorkSafeBC

June 5, 2019

Richmond, B.C.

worksafebc.com

(search "human factors approach") 📞

Please note: Information and links that appear in this section are provided as a resource. Listings do not necessarily constitute an endorsement from WorkSafeBC.



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After getting injured at home, First Transit's Bob Allen was inspired to create more recovery-at-work opportunities for First Transit workers.

'It happened in the blink of an eye'

By Kathy Eccles

When First Transit area vice-president Bob Allen was injured cutting down a tree at home, the life-threatening incident was a wake-up call — he was more committed than ever to helping injured workers recover at work.

On Family Day last year, Bob Allen planned to cut down a dead tree for firewood. A former logger, he had cut down thousands before. He hitched a winch line from the tree to an ATV his wife was operating. He made the undercut, adding tension to the line, and started the back cut. Unexpectedly hollow, the tree exploded, spun on its stump, and came right toward him. "It happened in the blink of an eye," he recalls.

"I tried to run and tripped on some blackberry vines. I still remember the sound, like a handful of chopsticks breaking." His injuries included a flail chest — his ribs were broken in multiple places. Surgeons bolted titanium plates to his ribs and he spent eight days in the hospital.

Allen was off work for a total of six weeks, but he felt the void of being disconnected from work almost immediately.

"Within a few days, I lost touch with my workplace. I stopped getting texts or emails and was out of the loop. Within a month, I was completely disconnected."

Personal injury leads to lightbulb moment

Allen is the area vice-president of First Transit Canada, which has around 1,000 B.C. employees. First Transit provides operations, administration, and maintenance services to BC Transit, handyDART, Greyhound, and school district buses.

When Allen returned to work, regional safety manager Kim Meadows noticed that he was no longer teasing her about safety. "He used to like to say — tongue in cheek — that safety is overrated. He doesn't joke about that anymore. Now he says, 'safety is everything.'"

Ray Zukanovic, key account performance consultant at WorkSafeBC, also saw a change in Allen. The two were in Victoria last year when BC Transit and union Unifor 333 presented a new recovery-at-work program, "Stay Onboard."

BC Transit's Stay Onboard program is a union-supported initiative covering both occupational and non-occupational injuries. The program provides direct

access to physiotherapy for assessment and treatment, in order to determine medically appropriate duties for workers after an injury. All injuries are treated with the same level of support and urgency.

The presentation, which happened just months after Allen's injury, hit home. At the time, Allen told Zukanovic, "Since my injury, I know I need to do more on recovery at work because it's the right thing to do. I get the importance of a connection to work and appropriate modified duties. If I didn't have my laptop, I'd go crazy."

A better job jar

Zukanovic first became involved with First Transit about four years ago. He works in WorkSafeBC's Strategic Engagements department, which works with employers to improve health and safety and injury-management culture, recover-at-work processes, and collaboration and communication with WorkSafeBC. "We approached First Transit because the company was struggling with returning occupationally injured workers in comparison to other large employers within the same industry," he says.

"We recognized there was a huge opportunity to improve the way the company provided modified duties." Zukanovic and return-to-work specialist nurse Rachelle Grace introduced best practices and training for supervisors.

First Transit's improved injury-management program has been in place for about 18 months. The program is intertwined with the company's prevention initiatives, including an ergonomics program to tackle musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs). The company also

continues to develop the program as needed. For example, Meadows worked with their union and Zukanovic and Grace on creating a job jar, which takes into account typical physical limits with common injuries and gives options for medically appropriate modified duties for specific jobs.

Allen adds, "There's nothing demeaning, so employees are not de-motivated. They're not counting paper clips."

The results of the program can be seen in the numbers. In 2014, First Transit's WorkSafeBC claims experience rating yielded a 38.9 percent surcharge. By 2017 it was down to 3.5 percent. By 2018, only 1.1 percent. In 2019, First Transit is in a 1.4 percent discount position. "It's the first discount in the history of the company," notes Meadows.

First Transit will continue to gain knowledge from work disability-prevention audits, which bring together senior vice-presidents from First Transit Canada operations from two locations with union members, to participate in the reviews.

In the meantime, Allen is happy to share what he learned from his near-death experience. "I came away with a whole new appreciation for having to always do a risk assessment before you start a job; it changed my attitude to safety completely."

For more information

WorkSafeBC has a number of resources to help employers create or improve a return-to-work or recovery-at-work program. Visit [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com) and search for "Recovery & Work" to learn more. 📞



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Construction

0805760 B.C. Ltd. / Haztec Environmental Consulting | \$2,500 | Vancouver | October 23, 2018

This firm had completed the hazardous materials report for a house that had undergone pre-demolition asbestos abatement. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that several potentially asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had not been sampled, including textured ceiling, ceiling tile, and the paper backing of the fibreglass insulation. In addition, the locations of the samples included in the report had not been properly labelled. The firm failed to collect representative samples of potentially hazardous materials and failed to include in its written report the location of each representative sample. Both of these were repeated violations.

0844181 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | November 2, 2018

This firm was working on the construction of a new house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers at the leading edge of the roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 5.5 m (18 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

0977749 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | October 24, 2018

This firm was working on the construction of a new house. WorkSafeBC observed four of the firm's workers on the second storey, working at a height of about 4.9 m (16 ft.) without the use of any form of fall protection. One of the workers was observed in an unguarded door opening. Guardrails were also lacking in other areas of the worksite. Furthermore, worker access to the second floor was via a ladder instead of a stairway as required. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to construct a stairway to each floor level before construction of the next floor began, and failed to ensure guardrails were installed for elevated work areas. These were all repeated violations.

0985115 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Penticton | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed four of this firm's workers performing framing work on the third floor of a residential building under construction. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems, the stairwells and perimeter of the floor lacked guardrails, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 6.4 m (21 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated violation, and failed to ensure floor openings and elevated work areas were guarded. These were both high-risk violations. In addition, the firm failed to construct a stairway to each floor level before construction of the next floor began, a repeated violation, and failed to ensure stairways had continuous handrails.

Administrative penalties are monetary fines imposed on employers for health and safety violations of the *Workers Compensation Act* and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. The penalties listed in this section are grouped by industry, in alphabetical order, starting with "Construction." They show the date the penalty was imposed and the location where the violation occurred (not necessarily the business location). The registered business name is given, as well as any "doing business as" (DBA) name.

The penalty amount is based on the nature of the violation, the employer's compliance history, and the employer's assessable payroll. Once a penalty is imposed, the employer has 45 days to appeal to the Review Division of WorkSafeBC. The Review Division may maintain, reduce, or withdraw the penalty; it may increase the penalty as well. Employers may then file an appeal within 30 days of the Review Division's decision to the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal, an independent appeal body.

The amounts shown here indicate the penalties imposed prior to appeal, and may not reflect the final penalty amount.

For more up-to-date penalty information, you can search our penalties database on our website at [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com). Find it easily by entering the word "penalties" into our search bar.

1063855 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Langley | January 15, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing trusses from the top plate of a wall of a house under construction. The workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

1066706 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | December 13, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing hangers on the roof trusses of a new two-storey house. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of up to 8.5 m (28 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

1115984 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Coquitlam | November 16, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a pre-1990 house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order after inspecting the site and observing breaches in the containment as well as uncontained dust and debris. WorkSafeBC conducted a follow-up inspection after the firm issued a clearance letter indicating asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. Firestop and remnants of drywall, both confirmed ACMs, remained in the house, along with visible dust and asbestos waste. The firm failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure and confirm in writing that identified hazardous materials were safely contained or removed.

1489681 Alberta Ltd. | \$2,500 | Pouce Coupe | November 16, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers on the roof of a shed. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of 3.9 m (12.75 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure fall protection was used was a high-risk violation.

636442 B.C. Ltd. / Perrier Roofing | \$2,844.40 | Sooke | November 29, 2018

This firm was roofing a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two of the firm's workers on the 8:12 sloped roof. The workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed them to a fall risk of up to 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to have a written fall protection plan in place as required. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Andrew Jesper Ottosen / Reliable Roofing | \$2,500 | Woss | November 20, 2018

This firm was re-roofing a single-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers removing old roofing material at the leading edge of the roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of 3.5 m (11.5 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure fall protection was used was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Anytime Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | October 25, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers, one of whom was a supervisor, applying shingles on the roof of a house under construction. Neither worker was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of greater than 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Bittu Framing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | December 10, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers installing joists near the leading edge of the second storey. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. The worker was exposed to a risk of falling about 4.6 m (15 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Blackhawk Contracting & Design Ltd. | \$5,892.34 | Okanagan Falls | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers on a scaffold on the deck of a house under construction. The worker was at a height of about 8.1 m (26.5 ft.) and neither the deck nor scaffold had guardrails. Two other workers were observed cutting beam materials on another deck at a height of about 5 m (16.5 ft.). This deck also lacked guardrails, as did an upper-level stairway opening where guardrails had been removed to install interior walls. No other forms of fall protection were in place for any of the workers. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure guards or guardrails were installed as required, a repeated violation, and that guardrails were replaced after they had been removed to accommodate work. Further, the firm failed to ensure a stairway had continuous handrails, also a repeated violation.

BSC Chengyi Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vancouver | November 19, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers working on the roof trusses. A third worker, a representative of the firm, was observed walking onto the roof joists. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 7.3 m (24 ft.). In addition, the stairway leading to the second floor lacked the required handrails. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to ensure stairways had continuous handrails. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all repeated violations.

Build Up Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Coquitlam | December 5, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, working on the construction of a new house. One worker was standing on a second-storey ledge at a height of about 4.3 m (14 ft.), and a second worker was standing on a temporary work platform at a height of about 7 m (23 ft.). Neither worker was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Chuan Qiang Shi / Abian Roofing | \$5,000 | Vancouver | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing shingles on the 4:12 sloped roof of a two-storey building under construction. One worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to an

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Penalties (continued)

appropriate anchor, and the other worker was not using a personal fall protection system. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Coast Mountain Roof Ltd. | \$16,118.64 | Vancouver | December 19, 2018

This firm was replacing the roof of a commercial building. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers performing torch-on work on the parapet wall on one corner of the roof. The worker was working without the benefit of a fall protection system, exposing the worker to a fall risk up to 9.1 m (30 ft.). The worker was also working in close proximity to a 12.5 kV overhead power line, and in the direct line of sight of a supervisor for the firm. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection and to ensure workers maintained the minimum approach distance from exposed electrical conductors. These were both high-risk violations. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

CSI Environmental Forensics Inc. | \$2,500 | Maple Ridge | December 14, 2018

This firm was performing pre-renovation asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined that no hazardous materials report had been prepared for the site. At the time of the inspection, three workers were removing interior drywall, textured ceiling, and vinyl flooring, all of which were assumed to be asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). WorkSafeBC determined the workers had not been using sufficient respiratory protection. The firm failed to ensure that, before starting work, a qualified person inspected the building to identify any hazardous materials, a repeated violation. Furthermore, the firm allowed work that would disturb asbestos-containing materials without taking the necessary precautions to protect workers, a high-risk violation.

D Dhaliwal Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vancouver | January 7, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed four of this firm's workers framing walls on the second level of a triplex under construction. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 3.7 m (12 ft.). WorkSafeBC also observed three unguarded stairwell openings and other floor openings on site. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure floor openings were covered or guarded. These were both repeated violations.

D & G Hazmat Services Ltd. | \$10,000 | North Vancouver | November 20, 2018

This firm had been contracted to conduct asbestos abatement at four commercial buildings. The firm issued a clearance letter for one of the buildings indicating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC determined that a number of identified ACMs remained in the building, including vinyl floor tile, drywall waste, window putty, and dust and debris. The firm failed to safely contain or remove identified hazardous materials. The firm also failed to have a qualified person ensure that the hazardous materials were safely contained or removed. Both of these were repeated and high-risk violations.

D & G Hazmat Services Ltd. | \$5,000 | Surrey | December 13, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the firm had issued a clearance letter and demolition had begun, and found asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) remaining in the house. These ACMs included drywall, drywall joint compound, textured coat material, and chimney mastic. The firm failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials and to ensure a qualified person had confirmed their safe containment or removal. These were both repeated and high-risk violations.

D L Demolition & Excavating Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | January 15, 2019

This firm was working to cap and connect a sewer under a municipal roadway and sidewalk. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order after observing two of the firm's workers in an unsupported excavation with a depth of about 4 m (13 ft.). The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, excavations were sloped, benched, shored, or supported as required. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Eagle Eavestroughing Ltd. | \$7,397.58 | Kelowna | December 12, 2018

This firm was hired to apply exterior finishings to a new two-storey residential complex. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers applying siding from a scaffold. Neither of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. The workers were exposed to a risk of falling 4.3 m (14 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure the use of fall protection was a repeated and high-risk violation.

EFE Hazmat Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | December 13, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a pre-1990 house. During an inspection, WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers exiting the containment. Neither of the workers was clean-shaven, as required for respirator use. WorkSafeBC also observed breaches in the containment and a lack of an effective air monitoring system. The firm failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). The firm also failed to provide the necessary information, instruction, training, and supervision to ensure the health and safety of its workers. These were both high-risk violations.

EFE Hazmat Ltd. | \$5,000 | Burnaby | December 19, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. When WorkSafeBC inspected the site, two of the firm's workers were inside the house removing furnace duct tape, a confirmed asbestos-containing material (ACM). No decontamination facility had been established, and the workers had facial hair that compromised the seal of their respirators. The firm failed to take necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Expert Hazmat Ltd. | \$2,500 | Burnaby | November 22, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers who had been working within the containment area. The workers were not clean-shaven. The firm failed to ensure workers who were required to wear respirators needing an effective seal with the face for proper functioning were clean-shaven where the respirators sealed with their faces. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Friends Concrete Ltd. | \$2,500 | Delta | December 18, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, standing on the top of formwork while placing and vibrating concrete in the construction of a new house. The workers were exposed to a risk of falling 3.3 m (10.75 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection and to provide suitable work platforms for the work. The firm also failed to provide the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure the health and safety of its workers. These were all repeated and high-risk violations.

Frontline Framing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Coquitlam | January 15, 2019

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers on top of an exterior wall. One of the workers was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline, and the other worker was not using a personal fall protection system. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 7.3 m (24 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Geoff D Pullen / Progressive Roofing Solutions | \$2,500 | Kamloops | December 5, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing shingles on the 5:12 sloped roof of a new two-storey house. The workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines or anchors, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of greater than 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Penalties (continued)

G S Framing Ltd. | \$5,533.44 | Surrey | November 2, 2018

This firm was working on the construction of a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers on the top plate of the second-floor wall. The worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of about 6.7 m (22 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, a repeated violation.

Ifat Hamid / IS Environmental | \$5,000 | Coquitlam | December 13, 2018

This firm had conducted pre-demolition asbestos abatement at a house and issued a clearance letter. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that drywall debris, identified in a pre-demolition hazardous material report as being asbestos-containing material (ACM), remained in the house. WorkSafeBC also observed other materials that had been potentially contaminated during drywall removal, including fibreglass insulation, carpet pieces, and floor underlay. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials, and failed to have a qualified person ensure, and confirm in writing, that the hazardous materials were safely contained or removed. These were both repeated violations.

J. Cote & Son Excavating Ltd. | \$21,566.82 | Campbell River | December 20, 2018


This firm was working on the installation of a sewer line. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers in an excavation which had near vertical sides and a depth of about 2 m (6.6 ft.). There was an excavation support cage on site but contrary to the specifications of a professional engineer, it was not installed in the excavation. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, the excavation was sloped, benched, shored, or supported as required. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Hayer Demolition Ltd. | \$5,348.22 | Richmond | November 8, 2018

This firm had performed post-abatement demolition of a house. A post-abatement inspection clearance letter had been provided to WorkSafeBC following an inspection of the site. Neither the contents of the letter, nor the identity and qualifications of the person purporting to have authored the letter, could be verified. WorkSafeBC issued an order requiring the production of documents and responses to questions about work done at the site, including who had been hired to perform the abatement work. The firm did not respond by the date indicated. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order, a repeated violation.

Hayer Demolition Ltd. | \$17,322.33 | Richmond | November 8, 2018

This firm was hired to abate asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) from a house and then demolish it. ACMs had been identified as being present in the house in a hazardous materials survey. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and determined that the identified ACMs had not been removed prior to demolition. The firm failed to ensure that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed before conducting work that would disturb those materials. This was a high-risk violation.

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Honghot Enterprises Inc. | \$5,000 | Richmond | November 2, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected a house slated for demolition where this firm was conducting asbestos abatement. Two of the firm's workers were removing vermiculite, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), from the attic ceiling. The attic soffit vents had not been sealed to create negative air containment, and no air monitoring system or adequate decontamination facility was in place as required. In addition, the firm's notice of project (NOP) did not include safe work procedures for containment and removal of the ACMs identified on site. The firm failed to ensure the procedures for control, handling, or use of asbestos provided workers with task-specific work direction, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the necessary information, instruction, training, and supervision to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

IG Roofing Ltd. | \$20,000 | Kelowna | December 12, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers applying roofing materials to a new two-storey house. Neither of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. One worker, a supervisor, was exposed to a risk of falling about 3.4 m (11 ft.). The other worker was exposed to risk of falling about 7 m (23 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure the use of fall protection was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Inayat Construction Ltd. | \$3,500 | Coquitlam | December 10, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed this firm's worker on the top plate of the second-storey wall of a house under construction. The worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline, and no other form of fall protection was in place. The worker was exposed to a risk of falling about 5.8 m (19 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure the use of fall protection was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Jack Reems / JR Renovations | \$2,500 | Penticton | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers sheathing the roof of a new two-storey house. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing them to a fall risk of about 6.4 m (21 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure fall protection was used was a repeated and high-risk violation. Furthermore, the firm failed to ensure work platform materials and installation met the required safety factors and load ratings. The firm also failed to construct a stairway to each floor level before construction of the next floor began.

Jesse Christopher Burkett / Arctic Seamless Gutters | \$2,500 | Terrace | November 29, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected a worksite where one of this firm's workers had fallen about 6.4 m (21 ft.) from a roof and sustained serious injuries. The worker had not been using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection had been in place. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

JH&RN Tip Top Painting Ltd. / Tip Top Painting | \$2,500 | Surrey | October 23, 2018

This firm was painting the exterior of a new three-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers on a ladder on the house's lower roof. One worker was on the ladder painting while the other worker was holding onto the ladder on the 4:12 sloped roof. A third worker, who was also a representative of the firm, was painting from another ladder set up in the laneway adjacent to the house. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to fall risks of 5.2 to 6.7 m (17 to 22 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated violation. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both high-risk violations.

Joseph A. Hooge / Purlin Construction | \$5,000 | Coquitlam | October 23, 2018

This firm was framing a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers standing on the top wall plate, installing fascia board at the unguarded edge of the 14:12 sloped roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a risk of falling about

Penalties (continued)

6.1 m (20 ft.). Furthermore, WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had not provided its workers with a written fall protection plan, did not have a level-one first aid attendant on site, and had erected and used unsafe wooden platforms on site. The firm's failure to ensure the use of fall protection was a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide the information, instruction, training, and supervision needed to ensure the health and safety of all workers at the workplace, a repeated violation.

Kennon Construction Ltd. | \$5,000 | Coquitlam | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing sheathing materials on the roof of a new two-storey house. Neither of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing them to fall risks of up to 9.8 m (32 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

KGH Contracting Ltd. | \$30,059.67 | Chilliwack | November 7, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers setting trusses on a barn under construction. The workers were not using personal fall protection equipment and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of greater than 4.1 m (13.5 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

KGH Contracting Ltd. | \$30,059.67 | Chilliwack | December 10, 2018

This firm supplied two of its workers to the prime contractor for a residential subdivision construction project. The workers were in site supervisory roles for the prime contractor at this multiple employer workplace. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed violations by contractors working at the site, and hazards that were not being addressed. One subcontracted worker was observed standing on a load of plywood set on a platform suspended by a forklift. Another worker was observed working at a height of greater than 4.9 m (16 ft.) without the use of fall protection. Additional hazards on site included debris that created tripping hazards, a non-compliant ramp, poor housekeeping at the site, and a scissor lift that lacked evidence of inspection and certification. This firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, and training necessary to ensure the health and safety of its workers in carrying out their work and the health and safety of other workers at the workplace. This was a high-risk violation.

Knoles & Ryan Developments Inc. / Servicemaster of Victoria Disaster Restoration | \$11,553.95 | Cowichan Station | December 6, 2018

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house. The firm was using an industrial vacuum to remove vermiculite insulation, an asbestos-containing material (ACM), from the attic. The firm had mounted the vacuum unit onto a trailer that was located outside the house, in the driveway. A hose was run into the house with an attachment used by a worker to vacuum up the vermiculite. Another worker was tasked with removing the collected vermiculite from the vacuum receptacle (at the trailer) to bag the ACMs for disposal. The firm did not implement the controls required in the work area where the trailer was located. The firm failed to maintain a sealed containment around the trailer with continuous ventilation under negative pressure, and failed to provide a three-stage worker decontamination system. The firm also failed to cover surfaces, such as the concrete driveway, with plastic sheets or similar materials to help control the spread of ACMs. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide task-specific work procedures that addressed hazards and controls in the work area where the trailer was located, a repeated violation. These were all high-risk violations.

LSB Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | November 16, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers framing joists near the leading edge of the second floor. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 4.6 m (15 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Maple Masonry Ltd. | \$2,500 | Prince George | September 4, 2018

This firm was building a concrete block structure as part of a commercial construction project. WorkSafeBC observed three of the firm's workers on top of a concrete block wall. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, which exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 3.3 m (10 ft. 8 in.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

Matt Cladd Industries Ltd. | \$2,500 | Pemberton | October 25, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers doing roofing work on the 4:12 sloped roof of a building. Neither of the workers was using a personal fall protection system, and no other form of fall protection was in place. They were exposed to a risk of falling about 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure the use of fall protection was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Min Environmental Services Ltd. / Hazardous Abatement | \$2,555.08 | Vancouver | October 22, 2018

This firm conducted asbestos abatement at a house scheduled for demolition. The firm had issued a clearance letter indicating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed plaster, drywall, and firestop materials still present in the building. These had all been previously identified as ACMs in a pre-demolition hazardous material survey report produced prior to the firm conducting its abatement work. The firm failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials, a repeated violation.

M K Construction Ltd. | \$10,000 | Coquitlam | December 18, 2019

This firm was working on the construction of a new house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers on a scaffold, and then on the top plate of a wall. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system, the scaffold lacked guardrails, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to fall risks of up to 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm's failure to ensure fall protection was used was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Norhaz Solutions Inc | \$6,761.74 | Kamloops | January 4, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite while asbestos abatement on a house was underway. A large number of bags of asbestos-containing material (ACM) had been allowed to accumulate on site, contrary to required safe work procedures. WorkSafeBC also observed one of the firm's workers dismantling piping from the 4:12 sloped roof without the use of a personal fall protection system. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a risk of falling more than 3.4 m (11 ft.). The firm's failure to promptly dispose of ACMs was a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure the use of fall protection, a high-risk violation.

Pacco Holdings Ltd. | \$2,500 | Kamloops | December 21, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected this worksite after a concrete formwork wall collapsed during installation, striking and seriously injuring one of the firm's workers. The wall had not been braced in accordance with safe work procedures, and the worker, who was standing on the other side of it, was in the direct line of sight of a supervisor for the firm. The firm failed to ensure that, during installation, partially assembled structures were supported as required, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure the health and safety of its workers, a repeated violation.

Paragon-BC Construction Limited | \$2,500 | Vancouver | December 4, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers standing and working from the roof trusses. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing them to a fall risk of 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Penalties (continued)

Prominent Coast Construction & Environmental Ltd. | \$1,250 | Coquitlam | January 2, 2019

This firm conducted a hazardous materials survey at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and found that asbestos abatement had already taken place, but that no sampling had taken place for window putty, a potential asbestos-containing material (ACM). Subsequent tests determined the presence of asbestos in window putty. The firm's failure to ensure a qualified professional collected representative samples of all potentially hazardous materials was a repeated violation.

Ray Michaud / All Purpose Roofing | \$2,500 | Osoyoos | December 11, 2018

This firm was re-roofing a two-storey house. During an inspection, WorkSafeBC determined that seven of this firm's workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were working on the roof without the use of fall protection. Workers were exposed to fall risks up to about 6.4 m (21 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm's supervisor did not ensure fall protection equipment was made available to workers. The firm also failed to ensure the use of fall protection, and to ensure that all of its workers received instruction on the fall protection system to be used and the workplace procedures to be followed when working in areas where a risk of falling existed. These were all high-risk violations.

RGD Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | November 16, 2018

This worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, on the 6:12 sloped roof installing trusses and plywood sheathing. One of the workers was wearing a harness, but was not connected to a lifeline; the other worker was not wearing a fall protection harness. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a risk of falling about 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Rock Steady Contracting Ltd. | \$2,500 | Ladysmith | November 27, 2018

This firm was removing insulation from a pre-1990 house. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had begun its work without first having a hazardous materials survey conducted. The insulation in the house contained vermiculite, a suspected asbestos-containing material (ACM). The firm failed to ensure a qualified person inspected the building to identify any hazardous materials. This was a high-risk violation.

Sangha Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vancouver | December 4, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed one of the firm's workers, a supervisor, nailing sheathing on the second-storey roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of about 7 m (23 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Scholars Edge Painting Corp | \$2,500 | Kamloops | October 31, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed three of this firm's workers, one of whom was a supervisor, stripping paint on the 6:12 sloped roof of a two-storey house. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of greater than 6.1 m (20 ft.). In addition, no hazardous materials survey had been obtained to determine if workers were at risk of exposure to lead in the paint. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order for all painting work at heights. The paint was later confirmed to contain lead. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, and failed to identify hazardous materials before work began. These were both high-risk violations.

SD Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | October 29, 2018

This firm was roofing a new two-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers applying shingles to various locations of the steep-sloped roof. Neither of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to fall risks of up to 5.2 m (17 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide the information, instruction,

training, and supervision needed to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Sky Blue Environmental Services Inc. | \$2,500 | Surrey | October 24, 2018

This firm was performing asbestos abatement tasks at a house. During one inspection, WorkSafeBC observed that the active worksite had a partial containment that was not intact or under negative pressure. After abatement work was completed, WorkSafeBC reviewed the firm's documentation and identified a lack of records indicating the firm's workers had been provided with training. In addition, air sampling results had not been provided to workers within 24 hours, and air monitoring had not been completed as required during the removal of the sheet vinyl flooring, a high-risk asbestos abatement work activity. The firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. This was a repeated violation.

Sulakhan Singh Boora | \$21,833 | Surrey | October 24, 2019

This firm was the owner of a pre-1990 house that had been demolished. The firm had hired workers to abate asbestos containing materials (ACMs) from the house prior to demolition. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had not ensured a suitable hazardous materials survey and clearance letter were available at its worksite and had not ensured that identified hazardous materials were safely removed and contained, and a clearance letter issued, before the house was demolished. These were high-risk violations.

Surface Exteriors Ltd. / Blackcomb Roofing | \$5,000 | Whistler | December 4, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers on the roof of a house under construction. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of greater than 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation

SVR Investments Inc. | \$1,250 | Squamish | October 11, 2018

This firm was the prime contractor for a building construction project. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed an enclosed stairway without a

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Penalties (continued)

continuous handrail, as well as a worker from a contracted firm working from a boom lift without the necessary personal protective equipment. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had not been effectively managing the health and safety of all workers at this multi-employer workplace. As prime contractor, the firm failed to establish and maintain a system to ensure regulatory compliance. The firm also failed to ensure that regular workplace inspections were conducted. These were both repeated violations.

Symphony Homes Limited | \$1,250 | West Vancouver @ December 4, 2018

This firm was constructing a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site, which included an excavation adjacent to a sidewalk and roadway. No current engineering documentation for the excavation was available. The firm failed to ensure excavation work adjacent to improvements was done in accordance with the written instructions of a qualified registered professional. This was a repeated violation.

TDM Excavating & Contracting Ltd. | \$3,288.61 | Surrey | January 2, 2019

This firm was building an excavation for the foundation of a new three-storey residential complex. The excavation was about 2.1 m (7 ft.) deep with near-vertical cuts, and located near an existing sidewalk being used by workers. During a WorkSafeBC inspection, the firm was unable to provide the required safe work procedures associated with working in and around the excavation. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm's failure to conduct excavation work adjacent to an existing structure in accordance with the written instructions of a qualified professional was a repeated violation. The firm also failed to provide the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure the health and safety of its workers.

Thunder Holdings Ltd. / Weatherby's Roofing and Sheet Metal | \$5,000 | Williams Lake | December 18, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers, a supervisor, on the 4:12 sloped veranda roof of a house. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of 3.3 m (10 ft. 10 in.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

TNT Roofing Services Ltd. | \$5,000 | Richmond | November 19, 2018

WorkSafeBC observed four of this firm's workers, including a representative of the firm, re-roofing a two-storey house. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, which exposed the workers to fall risks of up to 8.5 m (28 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Trendsetter Framing Limited | \$2,500 | Burnaby | November 9, 2018

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed eight workers, including a representative of the firm, installing guardrails on the second level of the house. None of the workers was using a



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OH&S Committee Part 1 satisfies 3.27 Minimum training
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personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Manufacturing

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. | \$122,059.97 | Fort St. John | November 7, 2018

This firm is the owner and prime contractor for multiple oil and gas sites. At one of its sites, work was being done to cement off the well bore and remove the equipment from an abandoned well. As fluid was removed from the well, hydrogen sulfide gas (H₂S) was released. A worker, working for a service rig contractor, was checking the rig tank and was exposed to the gas, sustaining injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm's exposure control plan was not up to date, and did not contain the specific work procedures necessary for the type of work being performed. The firm failed to ensure its exposure control plan incorporated written work procedures as required. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Oasis Windows (Canada) Inc. | \$5,913.04 | Surrey | December 12, 2018

A worker at this firm's window manufacturing facility was operating a pneumatic punch press. The worker was caught in the press and sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC's inspection determined that the press lacked safeguards, and a stop-use order was issued. The firm failed to ensure machinery was adequately safeguarded to prevent workers from accessing hazardous points of operation. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Primary Resources

0914942 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,858.68 | Pitt Meadows | November 6, 2018

WorkSafeBC conducted an inspection of this firm's worker transportation vehicle jointly with the provincial Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement Branch. The inspection identified several deficiencies, including a worn tire and burned-out marker lights. In addition, warning lights indicating problems with the engine and tire pressure were lit. The firm failed to ensure vehicles used to transport workers were maintained, a repeated violation.

Bonanza Creek Contracting Ltd. | \$2,500 | Bamfield | November 22, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's forestry worksite and determined that falling and bucking activities had occurred in an area made hazardous by a dangerous tree. The firm failed to ensure that falling, bucking, or limbing activities were not undertaken in an area made hazardous by a dangerous tree. This was a high-risk violation.

FMC Technologies Canada Ltd. | \$62,060.41 | Dawson Creek | November 5, 2018

This firm was contracted to provide testing services during flowback operations for two new wells at a gas well site. Workers were transferring gas and condensate to an open-top buffer tank. While checking a generator unit near the buffer tank, one of the firm's workers turned the generator's engine off but the engine continued to run. A flash fire erupted and the worker sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC's investigation determined that poor separation resulted in gas and condensate being moved to the buffer tank. The fire erupted when an ignition source at the generator contacted the hydrocarbon cloud from the buffer tank. The firm failed to ensure that machinery was certified and capable of performing safely, and failed to provide adequate personal gas monitors. The firm also failed to adequately analyze risks and implement safe work procedures for work activities involving the release of gas, a repeated violation, and failed to conduct air sampling to assess the risk of worker exposure. These were all high-risk violations. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Penalties (continued)

Jasvir Singh Bengag & Balbir Singh Bengag / B & J Bengag Orchards | \$2,138.36 | Cawston | December 14, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's orchard where 10 workers were harvesting cherries. No first aid supplies or designated first aid attendants were available on site. The firm failed to have first aid equipment and services in place as required. This was a repeated violation.

Khazan Labour Contractor Ltd. | \$19,891.72 | Pitt Meadows | December 3, 2018

WorkSafeBC conducted an inspection of this firm's worker transportation vehicle jointly with the provincial Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) branch. The inspection identified several deficiencies, including loose and incorrectly bolted tie rod sleeves and a broken cross-member. The firm failed to ensure vehicles used to transport workers were maintained safely, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Malaspina Enterprises Ltd. | \$4,500.05 | Lois Lake | November 20, 2018

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's forestry worksite and observed deficiencies in the firm's emergency transportation vehicle (ETV). The vehicle could not be started at the time of inspection. It lacked a two-way radio, and the injured worker compartment was not free of debris. In addition, no pre-shift inspection record or current emergency response plan was available. The firm failed to ensure its equipment for transporting injured workers met regulatory requirements, a repeated violation.

Trade

1062679 B.C. Ltd. / 108 Mile Esso | \$1,250 | 108 Mile Ranch | September 28, 2018

This employer operates a full-service gas station and convenience store. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined that the employer did not have a system in place to ensure payment was received before workers dispensed fuel. The employer failed to require gas station customers to prepay for fuel, a repeated violation.

Yen Bros. Food Service Ltd. | \$160,480.53 | Vancouver | November 28, 2018

This firm operates a food processing facility and warehouse distribution centre. WorkSafeBC conducted a series of inspections of the worksite and observed multiple health and safety violations. The firm failed to ensure machinery was equipped with adequate safeguards to prevent workers from accessing hazardous points of operation, a high-risk violation. It failed to ensure maintenance work was not done on machinery until it was locked out, a repeated and high-risk violation. It failed to ensure its lift truck operators received training in accordance with the required standard, a repeated violation. The firm also failed to establish safe work procedures to minimize the possibility of collision in hazardous work areas. In addition, the firm failed to establish a joint health and safety committee as required, a repeated violation, and failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. Also, the firm knowingly provided a WorkSafeBC officer with false information.

Service Sector

Brick Environmental Consulting Ltd. | \$2,500 | Burnaby | November 21, 2018

This firm had conducted interior demolition work to remove the drywall from the ceilings and walls of a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the work had been completed and observed that the electrical power meter was present and still on, and that low-voltage power lines were connected to the house. The firm failed to ensure that all utility services that may endanger its workers were disconnected before demolition work began, a high-risk violation. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Kick Hazmat Ltd. | \$2,500 | Burnaby | November 21, 2018

This firm conducted a hazardous materials survey at a pre-1990 house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site while asbestos abatement work was underway, and observed that vermiculite insulation was present in the house. Vermiculite had not been sampled and tested as part of the hazardous materials survey. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The vermiculite was later confirmed as an asbestos-containing material (ACM), along with cement board and thread sealants that had also not been sampled in the initial survey. The firm failed to ensure a qualified person collected representative samples of all potentially hazardous materials. This was a high-risk violation.

Northern Vac Services Ltd. | \$12,213.63 | Fort St. John | December 10, 2018

During an inspection of this firm's concrete shop, WorkSafeBC observed several pieces of machinery that lacked the required safeguards or where guarding had been removed. These included an unguarded water pump, a bench grinder with the protective hood removed, and a table saw with no guard for the blade. Workers also had not been fit-tested for half-mask respirators required to be worn while sweeping the shop. The firm's failure to ensure rotating and exposed machine parts were effectively guarded and that safeguards were not removed were both high-risk violations. In addition, the firm's failure to ensure grinding machines had adjustable work rests as required and that respirators were properly fit-tested were both repeat violations, based on violations occurring at the firm's other location.

Quadra Management Ltd. / Rogers Fishing Lodge | \$4,794.05 | Bones Bay | November 2, 2018

This employer operates a fishing lodge situated on a floating barge. WorkSafeBC inspected the lodge and observed three open hatches that provided access to confined spaces on the main barge. There was an electrical cord leading into one of the confined spaces and that was connected to a pump. A worker on-site had been instructed by the employer's principal to enter the confined space and install another pump. The worker refused to enter the confined space in the absence of adequate precautions. A gas monitor, fans and ducting, and rescue equipment were not available. Also, no hazard assessment or safe work procedures were available on site for confined space work. The employer failed to conduct a hazard assessment for each confined space, and failed to have written procedures specifying how confined space hazards would be eliminated or minimized. These were high-risk violations. In addition, the employer failed to develop and implement procedures for checking the well-being of workers working alone, a repeated violation.

Did you know?

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WORK SAFE BC

Injunctions

Injunctions are court orders from the Supreme Court of B.C. that require a person or business to comply with the *Workers Compensation Act*, occupational health and safety requirements, or a WorkSafeBC order. Injunctions may also restrain the person or company from carrying on work in their industry for an indefinite or limited period, or until the occurrence of a specified event.

WorkSafeBC may pursue an injunction when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person or company has not complied, or is not likely to comply, with the Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, or an order. WorkSafeBC may pursue an injunction in addition to other remedies under the Act, such as an administrative penalty.

The injunction summaries in this section are listed alphabetically by respondent. Each summary shows details from the court order, which may include the firm name, the name of the respondent(s), the industry to which the order relates, and the directions from the court.

To see up-to-date injunctions or to read these court orders in their entirety, visit worksafebc.com/injunctions.

H&I Environmental Groups Ltd. | November 7, 2018

On November 7, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that H&I Environmental Groups Ltd., a firm engaged in the asbestos abatement industry in British Columbia, and its principal, Iqbaljit Singh Sidhu, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of the *Workers Compensation Act* or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with the Act and Regulation in the future. This injunction will expire on November 19, 2020.

Michael David Williamson | December 5, 2018

On December 5, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Michael David Williamson, who is engaged in the asbestos abatement industry and the hazardous materials inspection industry in British Columbia, is restrained from carrying on in these industries until further order of the court.

Shangara Aujla | November 21, 2018

On November 21, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Shangara Aujla, also known as Sunny

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Aujla, a proprietor engaged in the asbestos abatement industry in British Columbia, is restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of the *Workers Compensation Act* or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and is required to comply with the Act and Regulation in the future.

SKS Roofing Ltd. | October 24, 2018

On October 24, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that SKS Roofing Ltd., a firm engaged in the roofing industry in British Columbia, and its principals, Harjinder Singh Waraich and Jasdeep Kaur Waraich, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of the *Workers Compensation Act* or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with the Act and Regulation in the future.

Stewart Arnold Newstead | November 30, 2018

On November 30, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Stewart Arnold Newstead, doing business as Armour Roofing, who is engaged in the roofing industry in British Columbia, is restrained from engaging in the roofing industry except with specific permission from the court.

Yongfeng Enterprises Inc. | December 7, 2018

On December 7, 2018, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Yongfeng Enterprises Inc., a firm engaged in the construction industry in British Columbia, and its principals, Feifei Ren and Shaoming “Bob” Wang, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of the *Workers Compensation Act* or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with the Act and Regulation in the future. Additionally, unless Yongfeng Enterprises Inc. and Feifei Ren follow a court-ordered payment plan, they will be restrained from practicing in the industry of general contracting, construction, and renovation work until the total amount currently owing to the Workers’ Compensation Board has been paid in full.



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