

Date

\* Letter to be mailed \*

Construction  
Title  
Company  
Address  
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Address

Dear employer:

Re: **2017 Construction High Risk Strategy**

We are writing to let you know that your workplace may be inspected as part of our 2017 Construction High Risk Strategy. This means that a WorkSafeBC officer may visit your company to conduct an inspection of your workplace and safe work practices, in accordance with the *Workers Compensation Act* and the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation.

**How are employers chosen?**

Our High Risk Strategy identifies sectors and subsectors with a high risk of serious workplace injury and a significant contribution to the serious injury rate. Our goal is to apply resources and effort where they will be most effective, in order to reduce the industry's serious injury rate.

**What can you expect of the inspections?**

We are doing province-wide inspections to ensure consistency across regions. Inspections will focus on:

- safe ladder use
- erection and dismantling of scaffold systems
- requirements for engineered excavations
- the role and responsibilities of effective supervision

**Why is the focus on these four areas?**

We developed the Construction High Risk Strategy by examining claims data and identifying the work activities with the highest potential for causing serious injury. For instance, the claims data shows that:

- falls represent 24% of all injuries and 37% of all claims costs
- from 2013 to 2015, falls from ladders and scaffolds, staging, or platforms injured or killed 1,408 workers in the construction sector — more than one fall every day for three years

Looking beyond falls, we are also working proactively to prevent the occurrences of excavation collapses and underground utility strikes. As falls from elevated work areas and dangerous excavations are both high-risk work activities, it is imperative that these work tasks are effectively supervised. Therefore, we will be engaging supervisors on site to understand their responsibility and the role they play in identifying hazards and correcting unsafe conditions.

**Where can you find more information and resources?**

We encourage you to learn more about the 2017 Construction High Risk Strategy on our website at: [www.worksafebc.com/about-us/what-we-do/high-risk-strategies/construction](http://www.worksafebc.com/about-us/what-we-do/high-risk-strategies/construction).

If you have any questions about the 2017 Construction High Risk Strategy, please contact WorkSafeBC's Construction team at: [ILSconstruction@worksafebc.com](mailto:ILSconstruction@worksafebc.com).

Thank you for helping to ensure the safety and health of your workers.

Sincerely,



Al Johnson  
Vice President, Prevention Services