

# WorkSafe

Tools for building safer workplaces | [worksafemagazine.com](http://worksafemagazine.com) | July / August 2020



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# Healthy and safe workplaces contribute to a safe and healthy province

For workplace health and safety information, including COVID-19 prevention, visit [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com).

#LetsDoOurPartBC

**WORK SAFE BC**



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**On the front cover:** Trevor Anweiler and Sandra Allard from Bigfoot Crane Company places a tower section with COVID-19 protocols in place.

### Responding to a pandemic

When the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020, we knew that we would need to provide crucial support to B.C. employers and we hit the pause button on delivering *WorkSafe Magazine*. Instead, our communications team worked with public health agencies and stakeholders to produce real-time updates and resources housed on [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com).

At the same time, we were hearing inspiring stories from employers all over B.C. who were meeting the crisis head on and making health and safety their top priority — even if it meant temporarily closing their business to keep their workers safe. We are pleased to share these stories in our first issue back since the pandemic began.

In our cover story, we highlight employers who were able to stay open during the height of the pandemic by putting a COVID-19 safety plan in place (page 7). We also have a safety talk on setting up your home office if you are new to working at home (page 16) and we get to the bottom of what to expect from WorkSafeBC inspections (page 18). This issue also covers important information for fishermen about preventing capsizing (page 5) and tips on staying safe if you work on the side of the road (page 20).

*WorkSafe Magazine* is back to our usual publishing schedule, and you can expect two more issues out this fall and winter.



**Terence Little**  
Editor-in-chief

# WorkSafe

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**WORK SAFE BC**



### Gord Woodward

Gord has run his own communications and business-consulting firm for 24 years. He brings us “Ask an officer” (right) and the COVID-19 cover story (page 7).



### Marnie Douglas

Marnie is a Kelowna-based writer and communications professional who began her career in journalism. Her “Safety talk” covers ergonomics at home (page 16).



### Gillie Easdon

Gillie Easdon is a writer specializing in communications, blogs, websites, grant writing, articles, and creative work. She covers student videos on safety (page 22).



### Jesse Marchand

Jesse is the managing editor of *WorkSafe Magazine* and has been working in publishing and journalism for 18 years. She covers roadside workers (page 20).

# Reducing the risk of capsizing



### Jessie Kunce, CRSP, RSE Occupational safety officer

**Region:** Victoria

**Years on the job:** 8

Loss of vessel stability is one of the main hazards in commercial fishing. It increases the risk of capsizing and has led to many serious injuries and fatalities. WorkSafeBC recently published a new stability hazard alert for fishing vessel employers and crew. In this issue, occupational safety officer Jessie Kunce explains how to reduce the risk of capsizing.

## Q. What are the factors that can affect my boat's stability?

**A.** When I'm conducting an inspection, I always look at the freeboard (the distance from the waterline to the upper deck) for notable lists or excessive trim. Either of these are red flags that indicate there could be something wrong.

There are many factors that affect stability. Once I'm onboard, and have identified who's who on the boat, I usually start by asking these questions:

- How long have you been working on this boat in this fishery?
- Is she tender or stiff when fully loaded?
- Is everything on deck secure? This includes, gear, totes, extra fuel, excess fish, etc. Load shift alone can capsize a vessel.
- Has the vessel been modified?
- Is this the only fishery she partakes in?

The list goes on, but these are good questions that lead to more specific questions that help me identify potential hazards for the crew to address.

## Q. What often gets overlooked when it comes to vessel stability?

**A.** When fishing is good, it can be tempting to overload the boat — often referred to as deck loading. It can be really dangerous. Masters may do

it without really knowing how close they are to losing their righting-lever. It's a fine line some choose to dance on.

The state of the fish stocks, and other economic factors, have pushed fishermen toward converting vessels to fish more than one species. Many of these vessels are aging and some not so gracefully. As a result, you start to see weight creep as more and more fishing gear, spare parts, and stores from other fisheries accumulate on the boat. Even multiple layers of paint on the hull can start to add up to a lot of extra weight.

Equipment maintenance can sometimes also get overlooked. For example, a pump may not be working well and the engineer knows this but isn't given the time or resources needed to maintain it. It might not seem like a big deal at the time, but when you're at sea it can turn into a really big problem.

**Q. I'm an employer and a master runs my boat. What are our responsibilities for safety?**

- A.** Some vessels require a comprehensive stability book and full stability assessments from a naval architect, others do not. But all vessels require documentation describing the vessel's stability characteristics.

You need to ensure that any major modifications to the vessel don't adversely affect stability. You have an obligation to ensure the master is instructed, knowledgeable, and capable of operating your vessel for that fishery.

During inspections, I like to find out just how much the masters know about the limitations of their boat and crew. If they know their boat, they are more than happy to share the ins and outs of their ship.

**Q. What can I do as a crew member to stay safe?**

- A.** First, always wear your PFD (personal flotation

device) when on deck. Your master needs to train, instruct, and supervise you, so definitely ask questions. Point out things you don't understand and don't make assumptions about what's okay. Make sure you know the hazards on the boat. Pay attention to anything you think could be a problem and do not hesitate to alert the master. Remember that you have the right and responsibility to refuse unsafe work.

**Q. What are some safe work practices we can follow?**

- A.** Communication is so important on a boat. How well you work as a team makes all the difference. Make sure the crew knows the characteristics of vessel stability and where the hazard points are. All crew should be empowered to ask questions and report any safety concerns.

Make sure hatch covers are secured, and any downflooding points are closed up tight. Don't stow weights and stores up high as it raises the centre of gravity. Reduce the free surface effect by keeping scuppers clear.

Always record and report any modifications you make to your vessel; even if they seem minor, they add up.

**Q. Where can I find more information?**

- A.** You can download our hazard alert by searching [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com) for "fishing vessel stability bulletin." You can also search for "fish harvesting alert" to learn how modifying your vessel can affect its stability.

FishSafeBC also has free information at [fishsafebc.com](https://fishsafebc.com).

Looking for answers to your specific health and safety questions? Send them to us at [worksafemagazine@worksafebc.com](mailto:worksafemagazine@worksafebc.com), and we'll consider them for our next "Ask an officer" feature. <sup>(w)</sup>

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On the cover

Frequent handwashing is one of many controls implemented at the Molson Coors Fraser Valley Brewery. Molson is one of many employers that have been working hard to prevent B.C.'s workforce from contracting COVID-19.

# Putting the COVID-19 safety plan in place

By Gord Woodward

Staying in business has taken on a new meaning since the pandemic emergency measures started in March. Putting a COVID-19 safety plan in place has helped these businesses keep B.C.'s workers safe.

Many B.C. employers have helped “flatten the curve” during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their success has been in implementing a COVID-19 safety plan specific to their worksite — one that takes into account the existing Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, policy from the *Workers Compensation Act*, and directions from the provincial health officer and Ministry of Health.

To reduce the risk of disease, they've adapted work procedures and created new ones: A contractor uses QR codes to generate health questionnaires on smartphones, for example; a brewery sends workers home with care packages to protect their families and reduce the chance of exposure.

Many employers also teamed with workers, WorkSafeBC, and industry associations to develop new risk assessments. They emphasized physical distancing and sanitization procedures tweaked to each workplace's unique needs.

The key to making it all work is keeping conversations on health and safety open and collaborative, says WorkSafeBC occupational safety officer Dean Lailey,

based in Nelson. He's been working with business owners to discuss their plans for safe operation during COVID-19.

“Owners, prime contractors, and workers need to be flexible,” says Lailey. “Employers need to recognize the stress many workers are experiencing. Workers need to recognize that new procedures and controls may be implemented to ensure their safety. Everyone needs to work together to find workable solutions to what undoubtedly will be unique situations.”

Here's how six employers have stayed ahead of the curve by ensuring a healthy and safe workplace:

## Construction: Residential and commercial

### Report your health with a QR code and a smartphone

In Vancouver, Edmonton, and Calgary, General contractor Clark Builders reacted to COVID-19 as soon as the first cases were confirmed in Canada in early March. “We tried to jump ahead of the curve,” explains senior superintendent Wayne Macleod, based in Vancouver. “It's not hard to implement a plan. And once you've got it going, it takes care of itself.”

The early start paid off. “We haven't lost a sick day,” he says of the 40-person crew excavating and forming for a residential and commercial development in Maple Ridge.

To enter the site, workers scan a QR code with their smartphones to bring up a health questionnaire. If they list any symptoms, “an alert comes on my computer and we go out and check on our people.”

The team is also holding project orientation outdoors rather than in the site trailer and is monitoring physical distancing. Wash stations and washroom trailers with hot water allow for frequent hand washing.

Personal protective equipment is also abundant. “Everybody has to wear gloves, even myself — a rule that is part of our regular personal protective equipment process. And we supply the N95 mask to anyone who needs it,” Macleod says — including workers not on the Clark payroll. “We just want the work to continue and everyone to work safely.”

The company also equipped first aid attendants with full face shields.



Signage reminds customers to stay distant from one another at Otter Co-op.





A pre-lift meeting between WorkSafeBC, Clark Builders, Bigfoot Crane, and RKM Cranes shows social distancing in action.

High-contact items like tools and door knobs are disinfected four times a day. And COVID-19 signage includes pictograms to help overcome language barriers for workers who speak little English.

Macleod says he used WorkSafeBC as a resource when dealing with the changing dynamics of the pandemic. “I really appreciate the advice and openness,” he says.

Jacqueline Spain, a WorkSafeBC occupational safety officer, says it’s the commitment from senior management that particularly helped Clark build a comprehensive COVID-19 prevention program. “They all believe in what’s going on there and trying to provide a safe workplace so workers want to be there,” she says.

## Construction: Tower cranes

### When physical distancing isn’t possible

Like many employers in construction, Ryan Burton oversees more than one workplace. The managing director of Abbotsford-based Bigfoot Crane Company has 12 staff at the office and 18 who visit various jobsites to erect and dismantle tower cranes. So Bigfoot’s COVID-19 response has had to take into account very different scenarios.

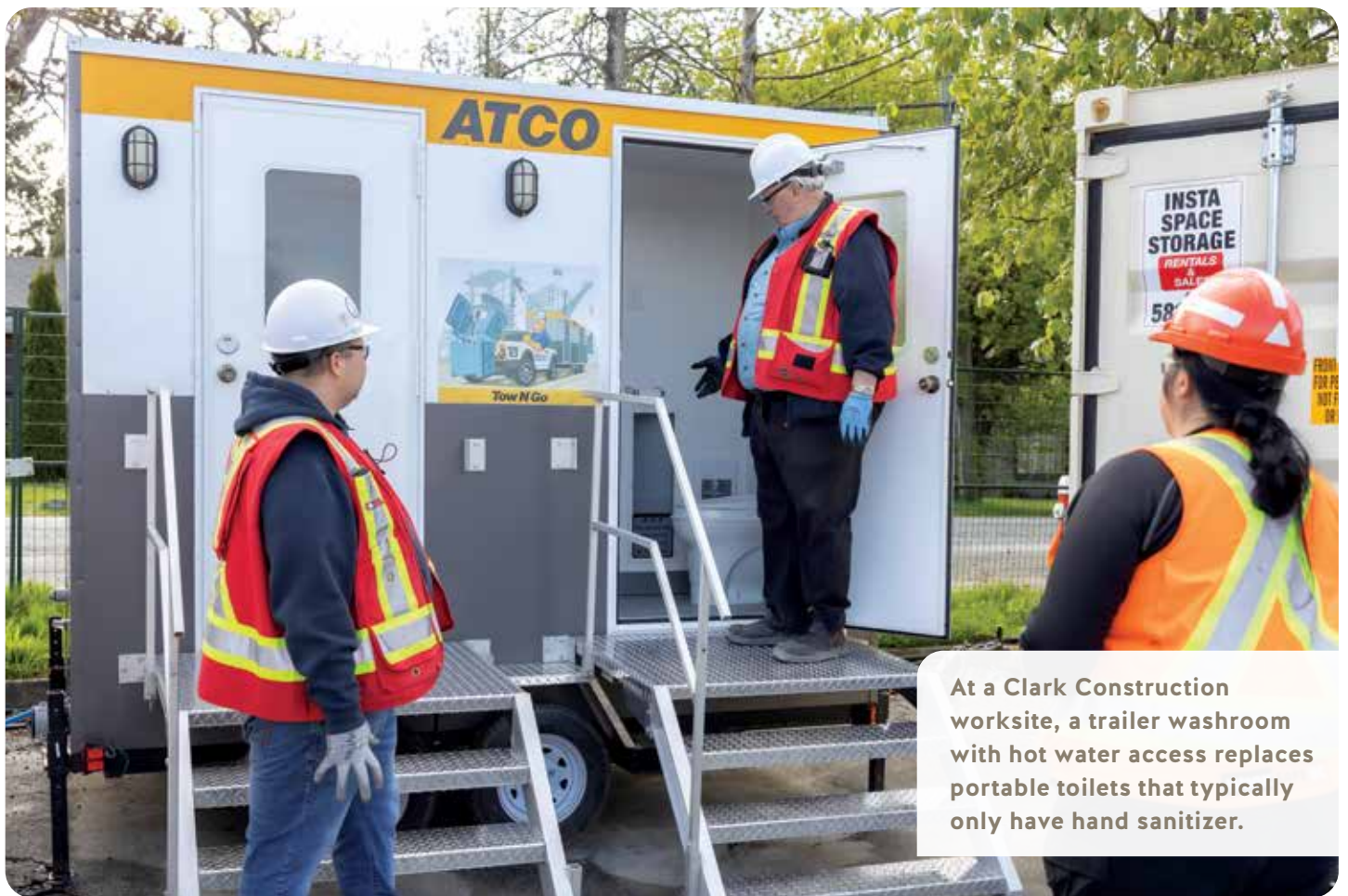
Reducing risk for office staff was straightforward. Right from the beginning, “anybody who absolutely didn’t have to be here worked from home,” says Burton. Anyone needing to visit — from customers to delivery trucks — has to call ahead and maintain physical distance. The Health Canada COVID-19 app, which includes a questionnaire for health screening, has been downloaded onto all company phones. Sanitizer and disinfectant are widely available.

Reducing risk for crane crews was trickier. “Our employees have to work in close quarters,” says Burton. “We couldn’t maintain physical distance while erecting or dismantling tower cranes.”

To solve the problem, he turned to the British Columbia Association for Crane Safety, which he chairs. The association worked with its members to develop COVID-19 guidelines.

One of the requirements calls for a construction site to be shut down before crane workers arrive. “That way we had no risk of any of the other trades contaminating our work area,” Burton says.

His crews wear N95 masks, gloves, and safety glasses. They use fresh coveralls each day, bagging the used



At a Clark Construction worksite, a trailer washroom with hot water access replaces portable toilets that typically only have hand sanitizer.

ones at the end of each shift for washing. Fresh washrooms are brought in specifically for the crane crew. And they sanitize their tools daily.

Bigfoot also saw a need for mental health assistance. Working during the pandemic can cause anxiety, he notes. “There’s a lot of reassuring, calming nerves, being supportive,” Burton says. “We have also arranged some counselling.”

“We pulled resources from WorkSafeBC and they’ve been supporting us on site, attending pre-job meetings. They’ve been explaining the risks.”

## Heavy construction

Planning proves value even before work starts

Preparing for COVID-19 helped Gord Zaitsoff land a contract. And a detailed health and safety plan for operations during the pandemic allowed him to finish the three-week project “right on schedule with no interruptions,” says Zaitsoff.

The owner of G. Zaitsoff Holdings Co. Ltd. in Castlegar was prime contractor for a drainage holding spill pond project that began in March. “I think one of the reasons I was able to secure the project was because I provided a detailed outline of how we were going to do the job, covering all the concerns about COVID-19,” he says.

With twelve crew and nine pieces of equipment on site, Zaitsoff had to carefully coordinate their movements. He contacted WorkSafeBC to review his plan. “They’re a great resource,” he says. “If you’re unsure of anything, just ask them questions.”

Zaitsoff emphasized the importance of physical distancing and sanitizing. “We covered that every single day for three weeks in our morning toolbox safety meetings,” he recalls.

To keep people at a safe distance, workers travelled to and from the worksite by themselves. Vehicles and heavy equipment were parked well apart. There was no sharing of the big machines either. “We made sure the operator was dedicated to one piece of equipment.”



**“Employers need to recognize the stress many workers are experiencing. Workers need to recognize that new procedures and controls may be implemented to ensure their safety. Everyone needs to work together to find workable solutions to what undoubtedly will be unique situations.”**

—Dean Lailey, occupational safety officer, WorkSafeBC

Eliminating a common lunchroom, staging area, and site trailer further reduced the risk of workers being too close together.

Sanitizer and wipes were placed in the heavy equipment. Tools were wiped down daily. So were the portable washrooms, including the door handles and slide lock. These measures will continue in future projects for Zaitsoff.

The key to the plan’s success? “Buy-in and input by all on site,” Zaitsoff says.

## **Forestry: Log harvesting and transport**

### **Travelling in separate vehicles reduces risk of exposure**

Maintaining physical distance on the job can be easier for some forestry operators because workers are usually spread out. Problems could crop up, though, when getting crews to the site in the first place.

“The biggest challenge is our transportation,” says Norm Powers, owner of Log Specific Contracting, a “stump to dump” firm based in Chemainus on Vancouver Island. Before COVID-19, crews travelled to and from work together. Now? “I have separate pickups,” he explains.

One person per vehicle is one option to reduce exposure to the virus, says Ron Judd, a supervisor with WorkSafeBC’s Prevention Services. When people have to travel in the same vehicle, employers are using other controls, such as putting plastic barriers up between passengers or “in a crew cab, they’ll have one person sit in the driver’s seat and one sit on the far side in the back,” he says.

Judd advises workers to take an added precaution when travelling in the same vehicle can’t be avoided:

“Always try to sit in the same seat and go in the same door so you’re not cross-contaminating.”

Even though many sites dedicate heavy equipment to one operator, there’s a risk of contamination there too. “Our biggest concern is the surfaces that we touch,” says Norm’s wife, Barb, who drafted the company’s COVID-19 safety plan by using WorkSafeBC’s website. Each machine and truck has a disinfectant spray bottle and shop towels “so everybody can wipe down their points of contact.”

For a wash station, Log Specific uses a five-pound water jug, a pump soap container, and paper towels. Hand washing instructions printed from the Centre for Disease Control website are attached to the jug. The company also provides gloves and cap shields, a new face shield that clips onto a hard hat or visor.

Norm Powers says he emphasizes COVID-19 protocols during safety meetings. “I still keep bringing up



**To enter a Clark Builders worksite, workers scan a QR code with their smartphones to bring up a health questionnaire. The focus is to get help for anyone with symptoms and encourage quarantine.**



reminders so that we're all on the same page. People's mindset and their attitude — that's a big challenge. You can't become complacent."

## Service: Real estate

### The safety net of Personal Optional Protection

When the provincial government designated real estate agents as an essential service during the COVID-19 pandemic, Langley real estate agent Pamela Omelianiec knew she needed a plan. Her work involves office staff, potential buyers, sellers, and home inspectors.

She prepared her company's COVID-19 safety plan — and found some additional protection.

To create her plan, Omelianiec accessed many of the resources outlined on [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com). While researching, she also discovered Personal Optional Protection, which provides workplace disability insurance for eligible self-employed people. "I'm thrilled with that," she says. "POP coverage gives me a little bit of peace of mind."

Her safety plan details how her Horn Real Estate team implements public health and WorkSafeBC protocols. Open houses were banned but personal interaction can't be, Omelianiec says. "This is a relationship business," she explains. It's also a regulated one. Real estate agents have to, for example, verify buyer ID

in person and submit a report to a regulatory body. And paperwork requires signatures. "I do have clients who are not comfortable with digital signing."

Her first step was to assemble a kit of personal protective equipment: gloves, surgical masks, and sanitizer. She uses them for client meetings and offers them to clients too.

Omelianiec screens anyone who wants to view a home. Pre-qualified buyers can do a tour but can't bring anyone with them. They travel in their own vehicle. They answer a health questionnaire and confirm how they are feeling before entering the home.

A sign at the entrance emphasizes physical distancing and asks customers to avoid using high-touch items such as doors and light switches. The real estate agent is available to open any doors and cupboards with sanitized hands or gloves. "We recommend that the buyers keep their hands in their pockets," she says. Washrooms are off-limits. Omelianiec sanitizes the door handle, house key, and lockbox when leaving.

For home inspections, owners are asked to provide unobstructed access to areas such as the electrical panel and attic. Inspectors fill out pre-screening forms and ideally work alone. When done, they also wipe door handles and light switches and properly dispose of gloves, masks, and wipes.

## Retail: Grocery

### New safe work procedures enhance plexiglass effectiveness

Like hand sanitizer and disinfectant, plexiglass has become a prominent tool in protecting retail workers at the checkout counter. As an engineering control, the transparent barriers help shield cashiers from the transmission of potential droplets exhaled by customers.

Otter Co-op took it a step further. The Langley-based retailer — it operates grocery, pharmacy, feed, and liquor stores as well as gas bars — also implemented new safe work procedures for cashiers at the stores selling non-food goods. As an administrative control, cashiers are able to scan products through the plexiglass while customers hold the items up. Workers don't touch any items.

"We limited the handling of the product, which we hope will help prevent the spread," explains Harj



Limiting the amount of customers who can be in the store, gives staff the space restock at Otter Co-op.

A barrier at Otter Co-op eliminates the need for product handling. Customers hold the products up to be scanned.



Sahota, director of safety and asset protection for Otter Co-op.

He followed WorkSafeBC protocols to craft Otter's COVID-19 safety plan. "Right at the beginning we completed a risk assessment using the hierarchy of controls," he says. He also reviewed the resource [Guidance to retail food and grocery stores](#) prepared by the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. "It was a great resource. It had a lot of crucial information."

Door handles, cash registers, computers, tables, and other high-touch areas are disinfected throughout the day. Staff sanitize the store frequently. Greeters at high-traffic stores, and announcements on public address systems, remind customers of COVID-19 safety protocols such as physical distancing and following floor arrows while moving through aisles.

Communication with staff is vital, Sahota says. Safety information is shared through the company website, newsletter, and email. Refresher training emphasizes cleaning, hand washing, and food preparation safety. Cleaning supplies are restocked frequently. And everyone on staff pitches in.

"At one point, our CEO even hand-delivered hand sanitizer and disinfectant on a Sunday because a location reached out to say they were running very low," Sahota says.

## Manufacturing: Brewery

Creating a cross-functional group to assess and manage risks

Fast action and constant communication kept two of three production lines running at Molson Coors Fraser Valley Brewery in Chilliwack during the worst of the COVID-19 outbreak in March and April. One line — beer kegs — shut down only because demand disappeared when pubs and bars closed.

"We kept up with our bottles and can lines," Hema Chidambaram, the company's environmental, health and safety manager, says proudly.

The brewery began implementing its COVID-19 continuity plan in early March. "Our number one priority was to look at areas where we could eliminate public gatherings," says Chidambaram. Public tours,



Anyone coming to the Molson Coors Fraser Valley Brewery — including employees — undergoes temperature screening and a health questionnaire before entering.

the gym, and the on-site pub were closed. All meetings were moved online.

“The next plan was to look through job categories to see if people could do their work from home.” As a result, 50 percent of the workforce was able to work remotely.

After implementing physical distancing, workers on site were given masks and face shields for any tasks that needed to be done in close proximity.

The company also sent their workers home with care packages containing sanitizer and masks. “We need to protect their family,” Chidambaram explains.

All departments had a hand in handling issues such as sourcing personal protective equipment, reviewing the protocols, and helping to approve the disinfectant sprays and hand sanitizers for production floors. “You don’t want to contaminate your beer with the disinfectant you’re using,” she points out.

Today, anyone coming to the plant — including employees — undergoes a temperature screening before entering. Temperature screenings are not a mandatory control, but Chidambaram notes that the tests have helped identify a few people who had mild symptoms and allowed them to go home and rest. Hand washing is emphasized. Separate washrooms are dedicated to truck drivers who make deliveries.

A COVID-19 committee meets daily online to share information. “It’s a cross-functional group, with employees, management, and people on the floor,” Chidambaram says.

So far, all the planning and implementation has been a success — the brewery had zero confirmed COVID-19 cases — because management and workers collaborated. “Think like an employer when writing your program. Think like a supervisor when implementing the program and think like an employee to know the difficulties and challenges they will face,” she advises. ☺

**“I think one of the reasons I was able to secure the project was because I provided a detailed outline of how we were going to do the job, covering all the concerns about COVID-19.”**

— Gord Zaitsoff, owner,  
G. Zaitsoff Holdings Co. Ltd





**BCCSA**  
BC Construction Safety Alliance

# Safety Training

*With so many course options, it's easy to choose what fits you best!*

## At-Cost Training

Training courses developed specifically for BCCSA's National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO™) or National Health & Safety Administrator (NHSA™) programs are listed below. Registration in the NCSO™ or NHSA™ program is not required.

- BC Construction Legislation & Administration
- WHMIS 2015 Train the Trainer

## Online Safety Training

**CSTS-09:** Construction Safety Training System  
**ESTS:** Electrical Safety Training System  
**RSTS:** Roadbuilder Safety Training System  
**HAT:** Hazard Awareness Training

## No-Cost Training

Courses listed below qualify for BCCSA's No Cost Training. If your employer belongs to construction sector 72, or has the classification unit (CU) number 704008, or CU 712033 then you are eligible for **FREE** training in BC for select courses!

- COR™ Internal Auditor Training
- Principles of Injury Management
- Principles of Health & Safety Management (**PHSM**)
- Train the Safety Trainer
- Leadership for Safety Excellence (**LSE™**)

*Making Safety Simpler*  
**604.636.3675 | [www.bccsa.ca](http://www.bccsa.ca)**




## Staying healthy and safe when working from home

Develop safe work practices, and ensure your workers know how to report work-related incidents or injuries.

Find resources at [worksafebc.com](http://worksafebc.com) and search “working from home.”

**WORK SAFE BC**



Frequent stretch breaks are just as important at home as in the office. Try the 20-20-20 rule. Take a 20-second stretch break every 20 minutes, and look 20 feet away.

# A happier home office

By Marnie Douglas

You can make working from home work for you with a few simple tips to reduce musculoskeletal injury (MSI).

Working from home. Telecommuting. Working remotely. It's what many companies are asking of their employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. So how can you make working from home work for you? Working from home can be safe, positive, and productive with a well-planned workspace.

"Many people started working from home very quickly and may not have had the opportunity to set up a proper ergonomic workstation," explains WorkSafeBC ergonomist Emma Christensen. "It's easy to sit at the dining room table but there can be physical discomfort if the workspace isn't set up properly."

Some relatively simple modifications can be made if you don't have the same adjustable equipment at home as in your workplace.

## Set it up correctly, stay organized, stay comfortable

Here are some tips to help you achieve correct posture and reduce the risk of injury while working from home.

### 1 Setting up

It's important to use equipment in a way that helps you work in a healthy and safe manner. Key is having the right chair height, as you will reduce the risk of injury if you maintain your body in a neutral position while sitting at a work surface.

The chair needs to be high enough so you are able to type and move with your wrists straight, shoulders relaxed. It should be stable with back support. Sit with your buttocks all the way back against the backrest, and your back should be nearly upright.

Back or lumbar support is also important. A rolled-up towel or a small cushion behind your lower back will help prevent slouching.

Sit with your knees and hips at the same height to avoid pressure on the back of your thighs. Consider using a raised footrest — a stool or box or even books will do — to support your feet. Make sure your footrest does not raise your knees higher than your hips.

Use an external keyboard and mouse and place them at the same height. Your elbows should be at the same height as the keyboard, with your elbows comfortably

at your side and not reaching forward. There should be no pressure from the edge of the desk.

Ideally, the monitor should be an arm's length away with the top line of text at eye level. Looking down or bending your neck for a short time is okay but remember to take regular stretch breaks. Looking slightly downward helps with eye strain.

## ② Staying organized

Having an organized work space is important. Excess clutter can be distracting and take away from productive work time. Make sure your work area is also free from tripping hazards such as electrical cords, loose carpeting, and other objects.

High-use items such as your keyboard and mouse should be reachable with your elbows at your side and not reaching forward. Items used less frequently (phone, pens) should be reachable with your arm extended while keeping your back on the backrest.

Use a phone headset or speaker phone for long or frequent telephone use. Avoid holding the phone with your shoulder as this can result in neck strain.

## ③ Working comfortably

Take note of your work habits and routines to make sure you are avoiding awkward postures and staying in one place for too long. Alternate tasks to change posture and use different muscle groups. Maintaining

a neutral position means you should be relaxed with your joints aligned (i.e., no twisting or awkward angles) to minimize stress on the body.

Remember to take regular breaks. If you have fewer interruptions at home, you may find yourself taking fewer breaks but it's important to find ways to break work into chunks.

So breaks are easier to remember, follow the 20-20-20 guideline — take a 20-second stretch break every 20 minutes, and look 20 feet away. This helps to lubricate your eyes and stretch your eye muscles.

Have a morning routine before settling at your desk (shower, get dressed, and eat breakfast) to help psychologically trigger your brain for work mode.

Just as important is having an end-of-day routine (change your clothes, take a walk, exercise) as this helps keep work and home life separated.

If you experience discomfort when working from home or need some extra help setting up your workspace, talk to your manager.

## To find out more

For more information on home offices, see [Working from home: A guide to keeping your workers healthy and safe](#) and [Setting up, organizing, and working comfortably in your home workspace](#) at [worksafebc.com/ergonomics](https://worksafebc.com/ergonomics) 📄



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Occupational safety officer Jacqueline Spain performs a worksite inspection where COVID-19 protocols are in place.

# Questions about WorkSafeBC inspections related to COVID-19?

By Barry Nakahara

Our local businesses are part of ensuring B.C. keeps the curve flattened when it comes to COVID-19. WorkSafeBC prevention officers are here to help workers stay protected from exposure.

WorkSafeBC inspections are an important part of ensuring health and safety in B.C. workplaces. During B.C.'s Restart Plan, officers may call or visit unannounced to evaluate how you're protecting your workers from the virus that causes COVID-19 in your workplace. Here's what to expect from an inspection during the pandemic.

## What can I expect during an inspection?

The officer will ask you about the process you used to develop your plan and will work with you to assess how effectively the plan controls COVID-19 risk. The officer will want to speak to your joint health and safety committee member or worker representative. You should be able to answer the following questions:

- How have you assessed the risk at your workplace?
- How have you implemented protocols to reduce the risk?
- What policies have you developed to address illness in the workplace?
- How are you communicating with and training your staff?
- What are you doing to monitor and update your health and safety plans?

## What documents will I need to show the officer?

Currently, inspections are focused on the [COVID-19 safety plan](#) all employers are required to develop. You should be prepared to show in your safety plan how you're addressing the risks of COVID-19. You are not required to use our safety plan, but if you use another document, officers will be reviewing it to ensure that it covers the same content as the template. You may also be asked to show other documents relating to managing workplace safety (e.g., training and orientation records).

## If I get a phone call from WorkSafeBC, does it mean that my business is being inspected?

Not necessarily. WorkSafeBC will be reaching out to employers for various reasons to support them throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. You may be contacted by WorkSafeBC regarding your insurance premiums or claims. An occupational health and safety consultant may also contact you to offer support, guidance, and resources in the development of your COVID-19 safety plan. If a prevention officer is conducting a health and safety inspection, they will inform you of this when they contact you.

## What happens after the inspection?

The officer will send you an inspection report with details about the inspection as well as additional information and resources that may be of value to the workplace. The officer will issue orders if they identify health and safety violations that require correction, as well as the steps you must take to correct them. The

officer will follow up with you as needed to ensure the necessary steps are taken to correct the issue. Orders are meant to be instructive and corrective in nature, and being issued an order will not impact your insurance premiums.

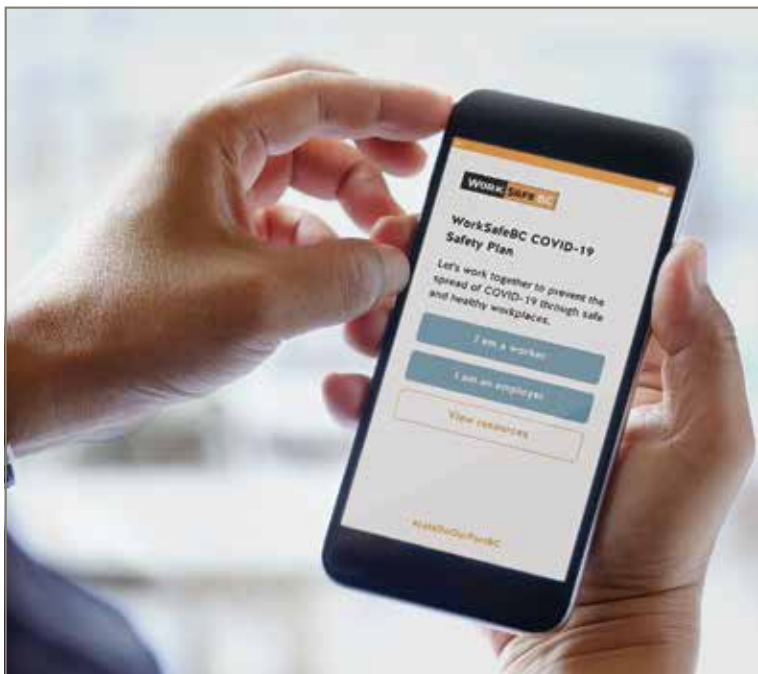
## How will the officer maintain safety during the visit?


Officers will follow specific protocols to protect you, your workers, and themselves. These include maintaining physical distance, frequent handwashing, minimizing touching of high-contact surfaces, and staying home when unwell.

## Where can I learn more?

Visit [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com) to find details about COVID-19 and returning to safe operation. If you need additional health and safety information, contact our Prevention Information Line at 1.888.621.SAFE (1.888.621.7233).

— Barry Nakahara is a senior manager, Prevention Field Services, at WorkSafeBC 📞





### New app for your COVID-19 Safety Plan

Develop your required COVID-19 Safety Plan directly on your mobile device with our new app for iOS and Android.

The app includes checklists and links to industry-specific protocols and resources that can help you keep workers healthy and safe. Visit [worksafebc.com/covid-19-app](https://www.worksafebc.com/covid-19-app).

**WORK SAFE BC**



Essential services such as Mitchell's Towing are out on the road in all kinds of conditions — from pandemics to heat waves.

# Reducing the risk in roadside work

By Jesse Marchand

Roadside work continues during the COVID-19 pandemic with many of these workers providing essential services. Keeping these essential workers safe requires a commitment from everyone.

Every day throughout the province, tens of thousands of British Columbians work alongside our roadways: first responders, road builders, landscapers, traffic control persons (TCPs), tow truck operators, telecommunications and utility workers, municipal workers, security guards, and more, all in close proximity to traffic.

Many of these roadside workers have been providing essential services during the COVID-19 outbreak and their work has been more important than ever.

For Mitchell Martin, owner and driver for Mitchell's Towing, getting people home safely is his highest priority — and that includes the customer, himself, and anyone else working for him.

“We render assistance for disabled motorists on the roadways,” says Martin. “Whether it’s one, two, three,

four o’clock in the morning, we’ll respond and we’ll do our best to take you to a safe area and remove you from the situation that you’re in.” But the work isn’t always easy.

“There are times for sure that I’ve been scared on the road. Vehicles are travelling way too fast, speeding by without any concern whatsoever.”

According to WorkSafeBC, 217 workers were injured or killed on the job between 2010 and 2019. Of those injuries, there are on average 1.3 fatalities a year. That means at least one person a year will never make it home from work due to an incident that should have been prevented.

For Martin, the cost of getting injured is too high. He runs the business with his wife and together they have three young boys.

“If I was injured on the job I think it would definitely impact our family a lot,” adds Martin. “Mentally, the toll would be overwhelming, I couldn’t imagine the anxiety and the extra pressure that it would place on the family.”



## Setting up a cone zone

For jobs like Martin's, the jobsite can be varied and the hazards numerous. From treacherous road conditions to heavy traffic, tow truck operators need to be prepared for whatever they might face when helping a stranded motorist. Other roadside workers, such as TCPs or road builders, must have a documented work zone layout for the worksite, but once on site the guidelines for setting up a cone zone are the same for both:

Before workers leave for the worksite:

- Ensure everyone is trained in safe work procedures.
- Ensure that everyone has the equipment they need to stay safe: From high-visibility vests to signs, cones, and barriers to raingear, sunglasses, or sunscreen.
- If the workers are using radios to communicate, make sure all are working, and test again at the worksite.

Once at the worksite:

- Ensure that a risk assessment and approved traffic control plan have been completed.

- Set up your cone zone signs and cones in the order that drivers will encounter them. Begin with the sign or device that's farthest away from your work area.
- Never turn your back to traffic while setting up.
- Once the cone zone is set up, travel through it to view it from a driver's perspective.
- Make sure the guidance is clear and easy to follow, and that workers are clearly visible.
- Check periodically to make sure the signs and devices are still in place.

To take the zone down:

- Take down the cone zone as soon as the roadside work is finished.
- Remove the devices in the opposite order of the set-up.
- Signs should be removed last.

For more info on setting up a roadside worksite, including work zone layouts, training, work procedures, and reporting incidents, see [conezonebc.com](http://conezonebc.com).

## Cone Zone campaign highlights need to keep roadside workers safe


The goal of the annual Cone Zone campaign is to raise awareness of the risks workers face in roadside work zones, and for employers, workers and drivers to each do their part to prevent deaths and injuries of roadside workers in B.C.


Created by the Work Zone Safety Alliance, the Justice Institute of British Columbia, and WorkSafeBC, the campaign — now in its 10th year — targets speeding and distracted drivers while providing resources for workers and employers who do roadside work.

This year, the Alliance has partnered with the British Columbia Construction Safety Association and the Automotive Retailers' Association to release two new videos featuring roadside workers and their families talking about the dangers of roadside work. The videos implore drivers to remember that every roadside worker has a story and life to go home to.

In the video "Christy's story," a traffic controller and one of her sons share a simple message. "I can get injured in a split second on the job," says Christy, who only uses her first name in the campaign. A mother of four, and a TCP for 15 years, she wants to ensure that drivers know there's a person behind the high-visibility vest. "We also have lives after this and we want to get home to those lives."

The driving force of the videos is that "drivers need to slow down when driving through a cone zone and pay attention to instructions from traffic control persons, temporary road signs, and traffic control devices," says Trina Pollard, manager, transportation and occupational road safety for OHS Consultation and Education Services, WorkSafeBC. "Stay focused on the road and leave the phone alone."

To check out the videos, go to [conezonebc.com](http://conezonebc.com). 

A photograph of four young men standing in a row against a vibrant, abstract background of colorful, overlapping circles and shapes. The man on the far left is wearing a denim jacket over a white t-shirt and glasses. The man next to him is wearing a white shirt and a red tie. The man in the center is wearing a white shirt and glasses. The man on the far right is wearing a pink t-shirt with a graphic and sunglasses.

Student film *Young Eddie* won the Actsafe Aspiring Filmmaker Award in the 15th annual student safety video contest.

# Students share their take on invisible injuries

By Gillie Easdon

The 15th annual WorkSafeBC student safety video contest wrapped with a new record — 75 submissions from schools across the province. We set a tight focus on two of this year's winning teams.

All over B.C., students in grades eight through twelve took on the challenge of creating a safety message centred on the theme: “Not all injuries are visible.” Broken into two categories — grades 8–10 and grades 11–12 — each of the two-minute safety videos competed for cash grand prizes from B.C. sponsors, plus a chance to win the Actsafe Aspiring Filmmaker Award. The four first-place winners received \$2,500 (with \$1,000 going to the school for championing the contest and \$1,500 going to the student teams).

With a record-breaking 75 submissions, it's the most attention the contest has ever received says Robin Schooley, a WorkSafeBC industry specialist for new and young workers. She believes that there were so many more submissions this year because “the theme resonated with youth. They talk a lot more in school about mental health and mental injury.”

## Hearing damage is irreversible

Drama teacher Marco Soriano, from Matthew McNair Secondary in Richmond, sponsored students Conor Madill and Mattias Fardy's collaboration on grades 11–12 prize-winner *Irreversible*. Soriano believes that educating youth about workplace safety is better received by a peer group than from adults. “It means more when the voice is coming from one of their own, when they share their perspective,” he says.

In *Irreversible*, a young man (Fardy) wants to save for a custom Les Paul electric guitar, so he takes a shop job. There is no dialogue, but a mix of music and the scraping sounds of drills and saws. As the money adds up, an ongoing alert tone increases in volume. The young man finally buys his guitar. The alert is the only sound as the shot tightens on the ear protection he never wore — he can't hear his brand-new guitar.

The video not only went viral at the school, but won third place in the National Focus on Safety youth video contest held by the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. The national contest has youth participants from all Canadian territories

and provinces. Asked how he felt about that, Madill admitted, “That’s huge — I can’t even think about that yet.”

No matter how he does in the national competition, Madil is expecting more film in his future. He’s been accepted into Langara College to continue with film in 2021.

For WorkSafeBC’s Robin Schooley, *Irreversible* emphasizes “the realization that what people do at work can affect them personally and affect the things they love and want to do.”

Schooley has been involved in the contest for 13 years. “The contest was promoted to nearly 600 schools this year. It’s getting much more diverse and keeps growing.” She credits the evolution and success of the contest to both the students’ technological skills as well as the dramatic advances in technology. In the early days, submissions were on VHS tapes.

## A spotlight on mental health

The film *Young Eddie* was the other winning film in the grades 11–12 category, from Brentwood College School in Mill Bay. Brainchild of Eamon Ryan, the film featured himself and Isaac Keen, Dylan Gauvin, and Edward “Eddie” Lalonde. It’s an upbeat music video, encouraging bosses to check in and believe their workers when it comes to anxiety and workloads. It also asks employers to “look further than the eyes,” as mental health concerns are not always visible.

“We wanted to have a fun day, fit the guidelines, and educate everybody. When it came to the theme, it’s

really broad and we wanted to try and cover as much as we could,” says Keen. Before this contest, Ryan admitted “I didn’t know much about safety in a workplace setting.” But now things have changed. “I’ve started to pay more attention to safety,” he says. He also believes his video can make a difference when it comes to other students understanding health and safety at work. “I think the video will have a positive subconscious effect (on other students).”

Brentwood’s director head and director of academics Cheryl Murtland helped the students submit the videos but doesn’t take any of the credit: “This was really all them. It was already complete when the students approached me to sponsor their entry.” Impressed by the fun treatment of the subject, she stated, “the message that they had and the way they presented it — it’s going to resonate more with youth than reading material or an adult talking about safety.”

*Young Eddie* also won the Actsafe Aspiring Filmmaker Award. This includes lunch with a prominent Canadian filmmaker, a behind-the-scenes tour of a local production, and a screening at a 2020 Directors Guild of Canada event. While some of these events have been delayed due to COVID-19, the intention is to still make them happen as soon as it’s safe to do so.

## For more information

The videos are available on YouTube, and can be found at [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com), by searching for the words “student safety video contest.” The theme for the 16th WorkSafeBC Student Safety Video Contest will launch in the fall. Watch [worksafebc.com](https://worksafebc.com) for details. ☺



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A joystick-based driving system has helped Piotr McKorczka gain independence for himself and his kids after he experienced a life-altering injury at work.

# The road to recovery

By Kristine Carrick

Piotr McKorczka experienced a life-altering injury at work. But new technology has helped get him back behind the wheel and able to spend more time helping his kids get to their after school activities.

On December 6, 1996, on the way back from a painting job in Whistler, the driver of Piotr McKorczka's vehicle lost control of the car and ended up going under a logging truck that was parked on the side of the road.

"The roof of our car collapsed and I hit my head on the top of the roof and compressed my spine," says McKorczka. He was left with complete paralysis — something it took him a long time to come to terms with.

"You kind of have that hope in the back of your mind that things could change," he says. "I was hoping things would get better but not much has changed since then when it comes to movement and my physical improvements."

## Regaining freedom

Years later, after his two children were born, the Vancouver resident needed care attendants or family members to drive when taking them anywhere in a car.

"There was always someone else there," he says. He had a wheelchair accessible van through WorkSafeBC, but he was always the passenger, never the driver.

That changed in 2019, when McKorczka and his WorkSafeBC case manager Claire Sanders began looking into options to get him behind the wheel again. Vancouver's GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre was able to connect him with Dean Robertson, a certified driver rehab specialist.

"As a certified driver rehab specialist, I work with people with disabilities and I either assess them for their driver fitness or for their vehicle needs." Robertson was the one to suggest using an emerging technology, the Joysteer Driving System. The technology is the only option that enables McKorczka to drive, and he's the first injured worker in B.C. to use it.

The Joysteer is a joystick that handles the acceleration, the brakes, and the steering in place of a traditional steering wheel and foot pedals. Robertson knew the technology existed, but would need to assess whether or not it would work for McKorczka.

"I not only did his driving evaluation to make sure that he was an appropriate candidate for the system, but

then I also became his driving instructor when I taught him how to drive using the Joysteer Driving System.”

To regain his driver's licence, McKorcza persevered through intensive cognitive and competency testing, including driving lessons using the joystick technology.

The whole process took about six months, says Robertson. They started with one aspect of the joystick at a time, starting with braking and moving their way up to operating all functions at once in all driving situations from parking lots and parallel parking, to highways and busy intersections.

Being behind the wheel for the first time since his injury was difficult, he says. But McKorcza was determined to keep going: “I needed to get this done for my kids.”

## Connecting with his kids

One of the things that has changed is the trip to and from school or summer activities with his kids. Instead of needing to coordinate attendants or call on family, McKorcza handles it by himself, thanks to his new van.

“Now I get that 15 to 20 minutes when we are one-on-one,” he says. “It was all new to me. I’m really enjoying that.” The single father loves being “Dad’s taxi” for his son, 14, and daughter, 11. He’s able to drive them to their many activities and cheer them on from the sidelines.

That freedom is life-changing, says McKorcza, 50. “The most important thing I wanted was to be independent. I don’t need to ask anyone for help to get in or out of [the van], or to use it.”

The van has given him more confidence and freedom in his personal life too. He’s more social thanks to the increased mobility, he says. “My thinking opened up. The car allows me to meet more people.” Those benefits are crucial for seriously injured workers. Post-injury independence and social connection have a positive impact on their physical, emotional, and mental health.

Sanders hopes the technology will help other injured workers as well. “I think it would be amazing for a lot of people to have the independence that Piotr now has to get back to driving and I think if the technology is now starting to catch up we’re going to see it much more.” ☺



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**Note:** Due to the urgent priorities surrounding health and safety during COVID-19, WorkSafe Magazine is only publishing three issues in 2020. As a result, this penalty listing contains a larger than usual amount of penalties. Penalties noted here were approved between Nov 15, 2019 and January 6, 2020.

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.

## Construction

### **0977749 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,000 | Surrey | October 11, 2019**

This firm was framing a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker standing on a wooden scaffold that lacked guardrails. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 4.6 m (15 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. 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.

### **0977749 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,500 | Surrey | October 11, 2019**

WorkSafeBC attended this firm’s worksite to follow-up on a stop-work order issued during a previous inspection. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had undertaken further construction while the stop-work order was in effect. In addition, work had been completed using a non-compliant scaffold that had a stop-use order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with WorkSafeBC orders.

### **1155382 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,000 | Lumby | November 1, 2019**

This firm was renovating its commercial building. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite to follow up on a stop-work order issued earlier and observed workers removing drywall debris from the building. The workers were not wearing protective clothing or using protective equipment. WorkSafeBC also determined that multiple bins of uncontained debris from the building had been removed from the worksite. A hazardous materials survey conducted later confirmed the presence of multiple asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in the building, including drywall joint compound, textured ceiling coat, and vinyl sheet flooring. The firm failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs. This was a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to safely contain or remove all hazardous materials.

### **1155382 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,000 | Lumby | November 1, 2019**

WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order for this firm’s worksite, a commercial building renovation, after determining that a complete hazardous materials survey had not been conducted. At follow-up inspections, WorkSafeBC



determined that further renovation work had taken place in violation of the order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order.

**11582577 Canada Ltd. | \$52,000 | Richmond | January 9, 2020**

This firm conducted asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and issued a stop-work order after observing multiple deficiencies in the firm's practices for handling and containing asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). The firm failed to provide and maintain a decontamination facility. The firm also failed to prevent the spread of asbestos dust and debris, including failure to cover work surfaces and to enclose or encapsulate all ACMs. In addition, the firm failed to have a qualified person ensure and confirm in writing that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all high-risk violations.

**1162216 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Chilliwack | January 6, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed a worker standing on a ladder-jack scaffold installing siding on a house. The worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline. A second worker was observed standing near the leading edge of a balcony and 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 3.5 m (11.5 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**1223327 B.C. Ltd. | \$2,500 | Alexandria | January 13, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed three of this firm's workers framing a building under construction. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 4.9 m (16 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**1433025 Alberta Ltd. / Dusano | \$5,267.74 | Coquitlam | November 19, 2019**

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker exit the front entrance of the house and bag asbestos waste. The worker was wearing street clothes and did not have respiratory protection. WorkSafeBC also observed evidence that drywall and texture coat, identified asbestos-containing materials (ACMs), had been disturbed in several areas inside the house. In addition, doors and windows were not sealed with poly sheeting, the decontamination facility was not sealed to the building, and there were several breaches in the containment. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs, and failed to adequately secure all windows, doors, and openings to prevent the spread of asbestos fibres, dust, and debris. In addition, the firm failed to ensure a qualified person inspected the building to identify hazardous materials before work began, and failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, both repeated violations. These were all high-risk violations.

**643977 B.C. Ltd. / Legend Construction | \$5,769.70 | Tsawwassen | December 11, 2019**

This firm was working on the construction of a townhouse development. While sheeting an upper deck, one of the firm's workers lifted a sheet of oriented strand board that was covering a stairway opening and fell 6 m (19.5 ft.) through the opening, sustaining serious injuries. WorkSafeBC investigated the incident and determined that the sheet covering the opening had been inadequately secured, no other guarding had been in place, and the worker had not been made aware of the fall risk. In addition, the firm had not inspected the workplace to identify hazards. The firm failed to conduct regular inspections of its workplaces at intervals that would prevent the development of unsafe working conditions. 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. In addition, the firm failed to ensure workers were trained in fall protection systems and procedures for areas where a risk of falling existed. All were high-risk violations.

### **A-1 Stucco Ltd. | \$5,000 | Surrey | January 2, 2020**

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers, including a representative of the firm, on a flat roof installing stucco. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a risk of falling of about 5.2 m (17 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Aaron Michael Gandy / Convoy Roofing | \$5,000 | Port Moody | December 17, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed four workers on the 5:12 sloped roof in the direct line of sight of a representative of the firm. One worker was not using a personal fall protection system, and the other three workers 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 7.3 m (24 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.

### **All Right Trucking-99 Ltd. | \$4,272.94 | Vancouver | November 22, 2019**

WorkSafeBC attended a residential construction site in response to a close-call incident. During work to demolish a house, this firm's excavator struck and damaged a gas line. The firm failed to ensure that, before excavating with mechanical equipment, it had accurately determined the location of all underground utilities. This was a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

### **AMA Environmental Ltd. | \$1,250 | Burnaby | November 28, 2019**

This firm conducted asbestos abatement and issued a clearance letter for a house scheduled for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that textured ceiling material, identified in the hazardous materials survey as an asbestos-containing material (ACM), was still present in the building. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to safely contain or remove all identified hazardous materials, and failed to have a qualified person ensure and confirm in writing that all identified hazardous materials had been safely contained or removed. These were both repeated violations.

### **AMK Environmental (2017) Ltd. | \$5,000 | Delta | November 26, 2019**

This firm was hired to conduct asbestos abatement activities at a house. The firm subcontracted the work to another firm, but provided all the equipment and supplies for the work and acted as the primary contact for the property owner. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the house had been demolished and a clearance letter had been issued. A subsequent hazardous material survey identified asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) still present on site, including textured coat, stucco, and transite pipe. The firm failed to ensure the health and safety of all workers present at a workplace where the firm's work was being carried out, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **AMS Environmental Ltd. | \$10,000.00 | Surrey / Delta | September 24, 2019**

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite after the firm stated cleanup work was complete. WorkSafeBC observed that not all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed, including insulation that had been contaminated with asbestos. At another worksite where the firm was performing asbestos abatement, WorkSafeBC observed a worker remove a window from the house and install poly sheeting over the opening. The worker was not using any form of personal protective equipment. In addition, window frames with mastic, an identified ACM, were lying on the ground and on the patio deck. The firm failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials. These were both repeated violations.

**Anthony Joseph Barry & Carrie Marie Barry / Tony's Roofing | \$5,511.02 | Kamloops | November 19, 2019**

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers on the 4:12 sloped roof of a house. The workers, who were in the direct line of sight of a supervisor, were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 3.2 m (10.5 ft.). WorkSafeBC also observed that two of the roof anchors were not installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The firm failed to ensure that each piece of equipment in the workplace was selected, used, and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Furthermore, the firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

**A Plus Concrete Pumping Ltd. | \$1,250 | Vancouver | December 24, 2019**

This firm was supplying concrete pumping services at a construction site. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-use order for the firm's concrete pump after observing multiple deficiencies. The firm failed to ensure outriggers were used according to the manufacturer's specifications, and failed to ensure the manual for the pump was readily accessible. The firm also failed to ensure that pump controls were clearly identified and maintained to allow safe operation. In addition, the firm failed to ensure the mast was inspected and certified as required. These were all repeated violations.

**ARW Development Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vancouver | December 30, 2019**

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and observed one worker at a height of greater than 4.9 m (16 ft.). The worker, who was working with a supervisor, was not 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 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.

**Assure Demolition Ltd. | \$5,000 | Delta | November 20, 2019**

This firm had conducted pre-demolition asbestos abatement on a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after it had been demolished and the firm had issued a clearance letter. WorkSafeBC observed that drywall debris, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), remained on site and issued a stop-work order. A subsequent hazardous material survey identified other ACMs still present on site, including textured coat, stucco, and transite pipe. The firm failed to safely contain or remove hazardous materials, and failed to ensure a qualified person confirmed that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed. These were both high-risk violations.

## Employers impacted by COVID-19

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**WORK SAFE BC**



### **Bestway Excavating & Demolition 2008 Ltd. | \$2,989.58 | Vancouver | January 24, 2020**

This firm was conducting excavation work for a house construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the excavation had collapsed causing wooden fencing, a section of concrete retaining wall, and temporary wooden shoring to fall into the excavated area. WorkSafeBC determined that the wooden shoring had been installed at one side of the excavation, which was 2.4 m (8 ft.) deep, without written instructions from a structural engineer. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure that, before workers entered an excavation, the sides of the excavation were supported as specified in writing by a professional engineer. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Blue Mountain Construction & Contracting Ltd. | \$6,510.04 | Vancouver | December 30, 2019**

This firm was excavating a drainage system at a house renovation site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker working inside the excavation within view of a representative of the firm. The unsupported excavation had a depth of 2.1 m (7 ft.) and vertical cut sides. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, the excavation was sloped, benched, shored, or otherwise supported as required. 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 and high-risk violations.

### **Blue Star Waterproofing Ltd. | \$5,000 | Maple Ridge | November 21, 2019**

This firm was roofing a new three-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed two workers installing flashing at the leading edge of the upper roof at a height of 9.1 m (30 ft.). A third worker, a representative of the firm, was installing tar paper at the leading edge of a lower roof at a height of 3.2 m (10.5 ft.). None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. 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.

### **BMB Roofing Ltd. | \$5,000 | Whistler | September 17, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a commercial building. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker crossing the ridge of the 7:12 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 fall risk of up to 27.4 m (90 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Brent Johnston Berry / Argonaut Contracting and Excavation | \$2,500 | Campbell River | January 6, 2020**

This firm was renovating a pre-1990 house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed potential asbestos-containing materials (ACMs), including drywall and drywall joint compound, that had been disturbed during renovation work. A hazardous materials survey had not been completed before workers undertook the renovation work. A survey conducted later confirmed drywall joint compound as an ACM. The firm failed to ensure that a qualified person inspected the building to identify hazardous materials before renovation work began. This was a high-risk violation.

### **Burrard Roofing & Drainage Inc. | \$4,778.36 | Vancouver | January 30, 2020**

This firm was putting up Christmas lights on a tree in front of a public building. Two workers were on the elevated work platform of a boom lift, attaching lights to the tree, when a string of lights contacted a high-voltage conductor. One of the workers sustained an electric shock and the contact also resulted in sparks, arcing, and small fires at the base of the tree. WorkSafeBC determined that the work had been done closer to the conductor than the allowable limit of approach. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure workers and equipment remained outside the minimum distance from exposed electrical equipment and conductors. This was a high-risk violation.

### **Cashel Holdings Ltd. / S.I.S. Exteriors / Vista Roofing | \$3,166.48 | Penticton | November 26, 2019**

One of this firm's workers was working alone on the roof of a new house. The worker fell about 4 m (13 ft.) and sustained fatal injuries. WorkSafeBC's investigation determined that no fall protection had been in place, and the

toe-hold boards were insufficient for work on the 9:12 sloped roof. In addition, the firm had not adequately implemented procedures that addressed worker safety while working alone, and had not provided effective supervision. The firm failed to ensure the health and safety of its workers. This was a high-risk violation.

**Cashel Holdings Ltd. / S.I.S. Exteriors / Vista Roofing | \$3,748.25 | Penticton | December 9, 2019**

This firm was roofing a single-storey commercial building. WorkSafeBC observed two workers, one of whom was a supervisor, working near the edge of the flat roof. 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 greater than 4.3 m (14 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 information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

**Circle Abatement Inc. | \$2,500 | Delta | October 17, 2019**

This firm was performing asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that soffit vents and roof vents had not been sealed. In addition, WorkSafeBC observed that the work procedures the firm had submitted with its notice of project (NOP) were insufficient to adequately protect workers from airborne asbestos fibres. For example, the procedures did not require workers who wore respirators to be clean-shaven. The firm failed to ensure that all openings were adequately secured to prevent the release of asbestos fibres into other work areas, a repeated violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with appropriate task-specific direction to address the hazards and controls for handling asbestos. These were both high-risk violations.

**Circle Abatement Inc. | \$1,250 | Vancouver | January 24, 2020**

This firm had conducted asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the firm indicated it had removed all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) and observed identified ACMs still in place, including chimney flashing mastic and vermiculite insulation. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. This firm failed to safely contain or remove all identified hazardous materials, a repeated violation.

**Coalminer Ventures Inc. / Jones Coating | \$2,308.56 | Errington | November 19, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite and observed deficiencies in the ventilation system for a paint spray booth in use. WorkSafeBC issued an order for the firm to install a ventilation system according to established engineering principles. After multiple follow-up communications the firm had not fully installed a compliant ventilation system. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order, a repeated violation.

**Dahlen Ventures Inc. / Siding Vancouver | \$12,075.58 | West Vancouver | October 28, 2019**

This firm was replacing the siding on a house. A worker was installing building wrap to the exterior of the house from a work platform and fell about 5.2 m (17 ft.), sustaining serious injuries. WorkSafeBC investigated the incident and determined that the worker had not been using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection had been in place. In addition, the work platform had been improvised from equipment not intended for this use, and did not have a safe means for workers to access it. Furthermore, the firm had not provided its workers with fall protection training or instructions on the fall protection system to be used. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, and failed to provide safe access to a work platform. 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 high-risk violations.

**Division 2 Environmental Ltd. | \$14,999.35 | Port Coquitlam | December 17, 2019**

This firm was hired to remove vermiculite, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), from three brick walls in a building. The firm also conducted additional work beyond the original scope of the project, such as removing a transite pipe, an identified ACM, and drilling holes into another wall that were left unsealed and exposed. Workers from another firm later reported vermiculite seeping out from one of the openings. WorkSafeBC inspected the

worksite and identified a number of safety deficiencies related to the firm's practices for ACM removal and control. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to renovation work beginning, a qualified person inspected the building to identify any hazardous materials. In addition, the firm failed to ensure that all ACMs in the workplace were controlled by removal, enclosure, or encapsulation, and failed to ensure that procedures for the control of asbestos provided workers with task-specific work direction. These were all repeated and high-risk violations.

**D.M.S. Environmental Ltd. | \$2,500 | Juan de Fuca | October 2, 2019**

This firm was conducting pre-renovation asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the firm had completed its abatement work and observed drywall debris, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), still present throughout the building. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to safely contain or remove all hazardous materials. The firm also failed to conduct daily sampling for airborne asbestos fibres during its abatement work, and failed to conduct clearance air sampling prior to dismantling a containment. These were all high-risk violations.

**Domingo Somera / Aeri.J Roofing | \$1,250 | Richmond | November 20, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined that a written fall protection plan had not been completed for the site as required for work done at heights of greater than 7.6 m (25 ft.). In addition, some of the fall protection equipment workers had been using was damaged. The firm failed to have a written fall protection plan for the workplace, and failed to ensure equipment used in a fall protection system was maintained in good working order. These were both repeated violations.

**Don Saywell Developments Ltd. | \$2,500 | Nanaimo | January 24, 2020**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite and observed a worker at the edge of the third-level 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 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.

**Eagle Eavestroughing Ltd. | \$17,635.74 | Kelowna | November 8, 2019**

This firm was working on the construction of a new apartment building. WorkSafeBC observed two workers leaning over the leading edge of the first-floor deck, installing eavestroughing. 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 about 3.4 m (11 ft.). This firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Eknoor Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Delta | November 20, 2019**

This firm was framing a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker standing on the floor joists of the second level. 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 3.4 m (11 ft.). In addition, WorkSafeBC observed that protective insulated sheathing on a circular saw's extension cords and power cord were damaged and had been repaired with electrical tape, contrary to the manufacturer's instructions. During a follow-up inspection, WorkSafeBC observed two workers and a representative of the firm on the second floor without the use of fall protection. The firm failed to ensure that tools in the workplace were capable of safely performing their functions and were operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. This was a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure that fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to provide a stairway to each floor level before construction of the next floor starts. These were both repeated violations. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.



**Eleven Eleven Homes Inc. / NJB Contracting | \$2,500 | Mission | December 23, 2019**

This firm was framing a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed three workers sheeting floor joists near the leading edge of the second floor. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems 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 issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Emil Anderson Construction (EAC) Inc. | \$153,661.91 | Kelowna | January 8, 2020**

This firm was installing new buried water mains when its excavator contacted an energized high-voltage conductor overhead. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined the excavator's boom was within reach of the conductor and was positioned so that it was able to make contact. Further inspection identified that workers had not been properly trained in the hazards of this workplace or in safe work procedures when working around high-voltage power lines. The firm failed to ensure work procedures complied with regulatory requirements. The firm also failed to ensure adequate clearance distance was maintained between moving equipment and conductors. These were both high-risk violations. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

**Emil Anderson Construction (EAC) Inc. | \$153,661.91 | Kelowna | January 10, 2020**

This firm was installing new buried water mains at a new housing subdivision. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and observed two workers inside an unsupported excavation with vertical cut sides and a depth of over 1.2 m (4 ft.). No written instructions by a qualified registered professional were available on site. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, excavations were sloped, benched, or supported as required. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Galaxy Abatement Inc. | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | December 17, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's asbestos abatement worksite. During its inspection, WorkSafeBC determined that four of the firm's workers, including one worker who had previously been observed at the worksite, were in a cube van parked nearby. While the WorkSafeBC officer was speaking with the workers, the van drove away, despite the officer's request that the workers remain to continue the conversation. The firm is being penalized for hindering or obstructing a WorkSafeBC officer in the performance of functions or duties under the *Workers Compensation Act*.

**Green Clover Asbestos Services Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | December 2, 2019**

This firm had conducted asbestos abatement at a pre-1990 house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the firm had issued a clearance letter and the house had been demolished. No documentation was available to indicate that the firm had conducted air sampling during or after the abatement of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). The firm failed to sample for airborne asbestos fibres during ACM removal and cleanup to ensure workers were adequately protected. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Greenside Environmental and Demolition Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | January 6, 2020**

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement activities at a house that was partially demolished. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and issued a stop-work order when it observed work that had disturbed asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) was performed without taking precautions to protect workers. The firm failed to regularly inspect and monitor its ventilation system to ensure effectiveness and to ensure work surfaces were covered to prevent the spread of ACMs, both high-risk violations. The firm failed to take necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs and prevent the spread of asbestos dust and debris to other work areas, including ensuring that all openings were adequately secured to prevent the release of asbestos fibres into other work areas. These were high risk and repeated violations. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, a repeated violation.

### **Four Star Electric Ltd. | \$4,491.83 | Squamish | December 24, 2019**

This firm was an electrical contractor at a commercial building construction site. WorkSafeBC attended the site and determined that a representative of the firm had cut off a lock being used for lockout by another electrical firm. The firm did not take steps to ensure a personal lock was only removed by the worker who installed it, or refer the matter to the supervisor or manager in charge who could be responsible for its removal. The firm also failed to ensure the health and safety of all workers at the workplace.

### **Halton Recycling Ltd. / Emterra Environmental | \$99,273.21 | Chilliwack | November 25, 2019**

WorkSafeBC conducted an investigation of this firm's garbage collection operation following an incident where a worker was injured. After placing recycling materials into the rear of a garbage truck, a worker tried to get up onto the platform as the truck was driving away. The worker fell and sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC's investigation determined that the firm did not adequately train and supervise workers, nor did it have an adequate system in place to ensure workers understood and complied with the firm's safe work procedures. The firm failed to ensure that workers did not board mobile equipment while it was in motion, except in an emergency. It also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, a repeated violation. These were both high-risk violations.

### **Happy Demo Ltd. | \$2,500 | Delta | November 20, 2019**

This firm had conducted a hazardous materials survey at a house that was subsequently demolished. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined that potentially asbestos-containing materials (ACMs), some of which remained on site, had not been sampled or tested prior to the demolition. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure a qualified person collected representative samples of all potentially hazardous materials. This was a high-risk violation.

### **Happy Demo Ltd. | \$1,250 | Surrey | November 20, 2019**

This firm was conducting asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and issued an order to the firm to provide its workers with written safe work procedures in their language. After several follow-up communications, the firm had not complied with the order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order.

### **Happy Demo Ltd. | \$13,500 | Surrey | December 2, 2019**

This firm had conducted pre-demolition asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the demolition had been completed, and determined that the firm had not safely disposed of all the asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) from the house. The firm failed to safely contain or remove all hazardous materials, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Happy Demo Ltd. | \$5,000 | Surrey | December 2, 2019**

This firm had conducted pre-demolition asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the demolition had been completed and observed inconsistencies in the firm's documentation for its disposal of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). When questioned about these inconsistencies, the firm was unable to provide additional information. The firm is being penalized for refusing to provide a WorkSafeBC officer with information as required.

### **Hayer Demolition Ltd. | \$8,307.08 | Delta | November 20, 2019**

This firm's worksite was the demolition of a house that had undergone asbestos abatement. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that workers had completed demolition and hauled away most of the materials. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order after observing multiple pieces of drywall, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), still on site. The firm failed to ensure that demolition work did not take place before all hazardous materials had been safely contained or removed. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Honghot Enterprises Inc. | \$20,000 | Burnaby | November 27, 2019**

This firm's worksite was a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the firm had issued a clearance letter indicating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order after observing that bell and spigot joints and drywall taping compound, both identified as ACMs in the hazardous materials assessment report, remained in the building. The firm failed to safely contain or remove all hazardous materials, and failed to have a qualified person ensure and confirm in writing that all hazardous materials were safely contained or removed. These were both repeated and high-risk violations.

**iHome100 Roofing & Renovation Inc. | \$2,500 | Richmond | November 20, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a two-storey house. During an inspection, WorkSafeBC observed three workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, on the roof wearing fall protection harnesses but not connected to lifelines. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of more 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.

**Iman Construction Ltd. | \$5,182.86 | Maple Ridge | November 20, 2019**

This firm was conducting formwork and framing activities at a new house construction site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker standing on the top plate of a wall form. 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 3.4 m (11 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Infinite Supplier Incorporated | \$1,250 | Surrey | September 18, 2019**

This firm conducted a pre-demolition asbestos abatement at a house and issued a clearance letter indicating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed drywall joint compound, an identified ACM that had not been removed or contained. Fibreglass insulation, which had been



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potentially contaminated during the abatement process, also remained in the building and had not been safely contained. 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 hazardous materials were safely contained or removed.

**IR Inspect Ltd. | \$5,000 | Abbotsford | December 23, 2019**

This firm was performing asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers exit the work area with respirators and other equipment that had not been effectively decontaminated. WorkSafeBC also observed dust and debris near the decontamination facility, as well as breaches in the poly containment on the windows and unsealed soffit venting. Inside the house, there was evidence that plaster material, an identified asbestos-containing material (ACM), had been disturbed. In addition, WorkSafeBC determined that the workers had not been recently fit tested for respirators, and had not been made aware of the firm's safe work procedures for removal of ACMs. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs. 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 and high-risk violations.

**Jag Roofing Ltd. | \$10,000 | Coquitlam | December 3, 2019**

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers standing on the 12:12 sloped roof 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. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of about 7.6 m (25 ft.). In addition, the worker's harness and that of another worker were damaged to the point of being ineffective. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure its fall protection equipment was sufficient to support fall arrest forces. These were both repeated violations.

**JN Framing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | January 6, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed two workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, sheeting roof trusses on a house under construction. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 8.2 m (27 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.

**John Walter Fleming / John's Eavestrough Service | \$3,250 | Kelowna | November 29, 2019**

This firm was pressure washing an apartment building. WorkSafeBC observed two workers on the 5:12 sloped roof. 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 about 7.3 m (24 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to initiate and maintain a health and safety program as required. These were both repeated violations.

**Kalan Constructions Ltd. | \$2,500 | Maple Ridge | November 19, 2019**

This firm's worksite was a three-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers installing the rain screen at the leading edge of the third-floor patio and roof area. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of 6.1 m (20 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Kevin James Fleming / Extreme Exteriors | \$2,500 | Cranbrook | December 17, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a public building. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a representative of the firm and two other workers working near the leading edge of the flat roof. All three were wearing fall protection harnesses

but were not attached to lifelines. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 8.5 m (28 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.

**Kingsman Excavating Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vancouver | November 20, 2019**

This firm had demolished a pre-1990 residential garage. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and observed potential asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in the debris, including drywall and concrete. WorkSafeBC determined that no hazardous materials survey had been conducted for the worksite. The firm failed to ensure that a qualified person inspected the building to identify hazardous materials before demolition work began. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**KRM Contracting 2000 Corporation | \$9,121.32 | Kamloops | January 27, 2020**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's demolition worksite and observed two workers shovelling debris inside a room that had been partially demolished. One side of the room's flat roof was unsupported while another side was partially supported by a cinder block wall that was bulging near the roof line. WorkSafeBC determined that the debris the workers were shovelling had been contaminated with asbestos, and observed that the materials were not being wetted to suppress the generation of airborne dust. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure that each structure in a workplace was capable of withstanding any stresses imposed on it. The firm also failed to ensure that asbestos-containing material (ACM) being disturbed was effectively wetted before and during the work. These were both high-risk violations.

**Little Rock Drilling & Blasting Ltd. | \$53,326.40 | Colwood | October 11, 2019**

This firm was conducting blasting operations to prepare a site for a residential housing development. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite in response to a blasting incident in which fly material was propelled outside the blast area, landing on a roadway and in the yards of occupied houses. WorkSafeBC determined that the bore size, depth, and drill patterns for the operation had been determined by a worker who did not have a valid blaster's certificate. Also, neither written work procedures nor a documented blast design were available at the worksite at the time of the incident. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure that only a holder of a valid blaster's certificate conducted or directed a blasting operation. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the instruction and training necessary to ensure their health and safety, and to ensure the health and safety of all workers at the worksite. These were all high-risk violations.

**Michael Sjouwerman / Cleland Roofing and Repairs | \$2,500 | Trail | November 18, 2019**

This firm was resurfacing the roof of a house. WorkSafeBC observed two workers on the sloped roof. The workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines, which exposed them to fall risks of up to 5.5 m (18 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**M & M Resources Inc. | \$75,367 | Wonowon | January 17, 2020**

This firm was felling and bunching trees as part of a pipeline right-of-way clearing. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that a tree being felled was within two tree-lengths of the road and no system of traffic control had been established. The firm failed to ensure effective traffic control was used to stop or control approaching traffic when a tree being felled could create a hazard to road users. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Modern Touch Construction Ltd. | \$5,061.54 | Surrey | December 17, 2019**

This firm's worksite was a house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker sitting on the top plate of a first-floor exterior wall. 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 failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Mohammad Javid Hosseinzadeh / Galaxy Roofing | \$2,500 | Prince George | January 31, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed three of this firm's workers on the roof of a house. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing them to a fall risk of about 5.5 m (18 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

**N D Homes Ltd. | \$2,994.21 | Maple Ridge | November 26, 2019**

This firm was the prime contractor at a residential construction worksite. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker from a subcontracted firm inside an excavation, installing drain tile. The unsupported excavation had vertical cut sides and depths of 1.8 m (6 ft.) and greater. No written instructions from a qualified professional had been obtained, and WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order for work in and adjacent to the excavation. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, excavations were sloped, benched, shored, or supported as required.

**New World Framing Ltd. | \$2,500 | North Vancouver | December 3, 2019**

This firm's worksite was a house under construction. WorkSafeBC observed three workers standing on the second-floor exterior walls, installing trusses. The workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, were not using personal fall protection systems. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of 7.3 m (24 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**PD Moore Homes Inc. | \$5,000 | Vancouver | November 13, 2019**

This firm was the prime contractor at a house renovation site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after a gas line had been struck and ruptured. WorkSafeBC observed a subcontractor's worker in an unsupported, vertically cut excavation. No clearance document had been issued by a qualified registered professional indicating the excavation was safe for worker entry. WorkSafeBC also observed that the vertical supports for the temporary wooden scaffold constructed around the house had been undermined by the excavation. As prime contractor of a multiple-employer workplace, the firm failed to ensure that health and safety activities at the workplace were coordinated, and to do everything reasonable to establish and maintain a system to ensure regulatory compliance. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Pleasant Valley Construction Ltd. | \$5,271.14 | Westwold | December 2, 2019**

WorkSafeBC attended this firm's worksite, a barn under construction, in response to an incident. Three workers had been installing the 4:12 sloped roof. One of the workers slipped and fell about 7.3 m (24 ft.) to the ground, sustaining serious injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the injured worker had not been using a personal fall protection system at the time of the incident, and no other form of fall protection had been in place. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

**Proud Build Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Langley | December 18, 2019**

This firm's worksite was three-storey residential complex under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed three workers, including a supervisor, near the leading edge of the third floor. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated 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 high-risk violations.

**PR Peter Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey / Chilliwack | December 17, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers on the 6:12 sloped roof. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of greater than 3 m (10 ft.). WorkSafeBC inspected another of the firm's worksites and observed five workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, on the 6:12 sloped roof of a two-storey house. Two of the workers were not using any components of a personal fall protection system, and the other three workers 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 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Rajinder Sahota / R.S. Concrete | \$2,500 | Vancouver | January 7, 2020**

This firm was providing concrete placing services for a residential construction site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker walking along the top plate of a wall form. 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 m (13 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure that suitable ladders, scaffolds, or work platforms were provided for work above a floor, a repeated violation.

**Ric's Plumbing Inc. | \$2,500 | Victoria | November 22, 2019**

This firm had been hired to repair a blocked sanitation line, which involved digging an excavation. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a representative of the firm in the unsupported excavation that was about 2.4 m (8 ft.) deep with near-vertical sides. WorkSafeBC determined that the excavation had not been assessed by a qualified professional. The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, excavations were sloped, benched, or otherwise supported as specified in writing by a professional engineer. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Roza Contracting Inc. | \$2,500 | Victoria | December 16, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's construction worksite and observed two workers installing siding on a second-floor balcony. The workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. The workers were exposed to a fall risk of about 4.3 m (14 ft.). The firm failed to ensure that 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.

**Sea to Sky Siding & Gutter Ltd. | \$2,500 | Mission | October 17, 2019**

WorkSafeBC observed three of this firm's workers installing gutters on the roof of a new 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 fall risks of up to 7.3 m (24 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Sendero Canyon Homes Ltd. | \$2,014.19 | Penticton | November 26, 2019**

This firm was the prime contractor at a residential subdivision construction project. A worker from a subcontracted firm was working without any fall protection in place on the roof of one of the houses under construction. The worker, who was working alone, fell about 4 m (13 ft.) and sustained fatal injuries. WorkSafeBC's investigation determined that the firm had not effectively implemented its policies and procedures for working alone, including the requirement for subcontractors to submit working alone plans. In addition, the worksite had not been supervised at the time of the incident. As prime contractor, the firm failed to do everything reasonably practicable to establish and maintain a system of regulatory compliance. This was a repeated violation.

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### **Skylight Stucco Services Ltd. | \$2,500 | Langley | December 17, 2019**

This firm's worksite was a house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker performing stucco-related work at the leading edge of a skirt roof. The worker, who was in the direct line of sight of a representative of the firm, was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. The worker was exposed to a fall risk of greater than 4 m (13 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.

### **Stan E Pottie / DJ Excavation | \$1,250 | Port Alberni | December 23, 2019**

This firm's worksite was the demolition of a building that had been damaged in a fire. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and issued a stop-work order after observing that workers were engaged in manual demolition work without any controls in place to protect them from the asbestos and lead identified in an earlier hazardous materials survey. During a follow-up inspection, WorkSafeBC observed that additional work had taken place in violation of the order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order.

### **Step Energy Services Ltd. | \$165,327.64 | Fort St. John | November 7, 2019**

This firm provided a sand storage and delivery system for an oil and gas fracturing operation. A worker was function-testing the metering gate on a sand storage trailer, and was clearing debris from the gate when it closed unexpectedly. The worker sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm's training materials did not adequately address certain topics, such as the use of temporary safeguards for this work process or in what sequence to perform function-testing of equipment. In addition, WorkSafeBC determined that the worker had not been trained in lockout procedures for the sand delivery system. The firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. This was a high-risk violation.

### **Sunrise Roofing Ltd. | \$5,000 | Abbotsford | January 6, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed two workers on a 4:12 sloped roof portion of a five-storey housing project. Both 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 about 15.5 m (51 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used. 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 high-risk and repeated violations.

### **Surface Exteriors Ltd. / Blackcomb Roofing | \$10,842.24 | Squamish | December 24, 2019**

This firm was re-roofing a residential building. WorkSafeBC observed four workers on a roof with slopes of 5:12 and greater. 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 the workers to fall risks of up to 4.9 m (16 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Syncra Construction Corp. | \$14,949.51 | Squamish | December 24, 2019**

This firm was the prime contractor at a construction site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed deficiencies in health and safety practices, including a lack of fall protection and properly constructed guardrails, hazardous areas that were not adequately delineated, improper ladder use, and a lack of guarding on rebar. The firm failed to conduct regular inspections of its worksite to prevent the development of unsafe working conditions. As prime contractor, the firm also failed to establish and maintain a system of regulatory compliance. These were both repeated violations.

### **Taymec Management Services Inc. | \$13,672.44 | Colwood | October 8, 2019**

This firm was providing concrete formwork services at a commercial construction site. WorkSafeBC attended the site in response to an incident. A worker had been working from suspended slab formwork and fell about 5.5 m (18 ft.), sustaining injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the lifeline and anchor connected to the worker's personal fall

protection harness had not been set up to effectively arrest or restrain a fall. The firm failed to ensure an adequate system of fall protection was used. 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 high-risk violations.

**Timothy Arthur Jonathan Funk / Funk's Construction | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | December 10, 2019**

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers near the peak of a 5:12 sloped roof of a building under construction. 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 up to 9.8 m (32 ft.). A second worker, a representative of the firm, was in a boom-mounted elevating work platform without the use of a fall arrest system. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, and failed to ensure a personal fall arrest system was used by a worker on an elevating work platform. These were both high-risk violations. In addition, the firm failed to have a fall protection plan in place as required for work at heights greater than 7.6 m (25 ft.).

**Top Rated Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Burnaby | January 7, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed four workers, two of whom were representatives of the firm, re-roofing a two-storey house. None of the workers, who were within view of both representatives, was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of up to 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. Both were repeated violations.

**Tri-Amm Developments Corporation | \$2,577.40 | Kamloops | January 13, 2020**

WorkSafeBC observed two workers at the leading edge of a residential building under construction. Neither worker was using a personal fall protection system. No other form of fall protection was in place, which exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 13.7 m (45 ft.). WorkSafeBC also determined that no written fall protection plan was available for the site. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to have a written fall protection plan as required, a repeated and 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.

**Ultra Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Pemberton | November 27, 2019**

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, exposing them to a fall risk of 7 m (23 ft.). WorkSafeBC also observed deficiencies related to unguarded openings and safe access to upper floors. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure that openings had coverings or guardrails as required, and that stairways had continuous handrails. These were all repeated violations. Finally, the firm failed to ensure that suitable ladders, scaffolds, or work platforms were provided for work above a floor.

**West Coast Hazmat Limited | \$2,500 | Gabriola Island | January 28, 2020**

This firm was hired to conduct hazardous materials surveys at two houses. WorkSafeBC identified several deficiencies with the surveys, including materials and areas that had been insufficiently sampled or not sampled at all. The firm failed to collect representative samples of potentially hazardous material, a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Westshore Industries Ltd. | \$5,769.08 | Surrey | January 6, 2020**

This firm was framing a three-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker near the top plate of the exterior wall. 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 6.7 m (22 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.



### **Wilcon Construction Inc. / JT Wilson Ventures | \$2,500 | Kelowna | November 14, 2019**

This firm was working on the construction of a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker standing near the leading edge of the roof. The worker, a representative of the firm, was not using a personal fall protection system. Another worker was using personal fall protection equipment but the lifeline was wrapped around a roof truss instead of to an anchor. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Woodwork Enterprises Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | December 2, 2019**

This firm was framing a new three-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and observed one worker installing trusses above the second floor at a height of 3.4 m (11 ft.) or greater. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system, no other form of fall protection was in place, and at least one guardrail was missing from the work area. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure elevated work areas had guardrails as required. These were both repeated violations.

## Manufacturing

### **Imperial Shake Co. Ltd. | \$15,453.71 | Maple Ridge | October 23, 2019**

WorkSafeBC conducted a follow-up inspection at this firm's worksite after an incident where a worker sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had paid the injured worker in an effort to stop the worker from reporting the incident and filing a claim for compensation. The firm is being penalized for attempting to dissuade a worker from reporting an injury to WorkSafeBC.

### **Kelt Exploration (LNG) Ltd. | \$14,418.57 | Wonowon | January 17, 2020**

This firm is the prime contractor at a natural gas site. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker from another firm loading sour-produced water into a truck. The worker was not wearing a respirator and no rescue attendant was designated as required for this work process, which involves a risk of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) release. As prime contractor at a multiple-employer workplace, the firm failed to do everything practicable to establish and maintain a system of regulatory compliance. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

### **Optimil Machinery Inc. | \$91,855.10 | Delta | November 7, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's manufacturing worksite in response to an incident where a worker came into contact with the rotating spindle of a milling machine and was seriously injured. WorkSafeBC's investigation determined that the firm had disabled the interlock on the door of the operator's cabinet of the horizontal milling machine. The interlock pin's point of attachment to the door had been removed, allowing the machine to run with the front door open. WorkSafeBC also determined that it was common practice at this worksite to operate the machine with the interlock disabled. The firm is being penalized for intentionally removing a safeguard provided to protect workers, a high-risk violation. The firm is also being penalized for failing to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

### **Partap Forest Products Ltd. | \$12,040.37 | Maple Ridge | October 17, 2019**

This firm operates a lumber mill. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and observed missing or ineffective safeguards on several pieces of the firm's equipment. The firm failed to ensure gear and chain sprockets were completely enclosed, and failed to ensure the nip points on belt conveyors were guarded to prevent contact by workers. The firm also failed to ensure that safeguards were capable of effectively performing their intended functions. These were all repeated violations.

### **Petronas Energy Canada Ltd. | \$161,312.52 | Pink Mountain | November 1, 2019**

Workers at this firm's natural gas compressor station were pressure washing and vacuuming hydrocarbon-based waste fluids from a large storage tank when an explosion occurred within the tank. The tank's roof was torn off

and two of the workers were thrown from the tank's opening. The two workers sustained serious injuries. WorkSafeBC investigated the incident and identified deficiencies related to de-energization, confined spaces, hazard assessment, and overall health and safety management. The firm failed to ensure energy sources were isolated and controlled to prevent injury, and failed to conduct a hazard assessment for work activity inside a confined space. As prime contractor, the firm failed to coordinate health and safety activities, a repeated violation based on a similar violation at another of the firm's locations, and failed to ensure the health and safety of all workers at its worksite. In addition, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety and the health and safety of other workers at the worksite, also a repeated violation based on a similar violation at another of the firm's locations. These were all high-risk violations.

**Saputo Foods Limited & 8504865 Canada Inc. / Dairyland Fluid Division | \$366,906.40 | Burnaby | December 30, 2019**

This firm's worksite is a dairy production facility. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and determined that pipe insulation material had been removed in a machine room without the necessary precautions to protect workers from the risk of exposure to asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order for the machine room. The firm failed to ensure friable ACMs were removed, enclosed, or encapsulated to prevent the release of airborne asbestos fibres. The firm also failed to ensure the health and safety of all workers at its worksite. These were both repeated violations. In addition, the firm failed to ensure a qualified person conducted a hazardous materials inspection before the pipe insulation was removed. These were all high-risk violations.

**West Fraser Mills Ltd. | \$150,983.96 | Quesnel | November 1, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected a debarker building and a plywood plant at this firm's manufacturing facility. Accumulations of combustible dust were observed in multiple locations, including near potential ignition sources such as lighting, electrical motors, and rotating machinery parts. The firm failed to remove hazardous accumulations of combustible dust, a high-risk violation.

## Primary Resources

**Day and Night Labour Supply Ltd. | \$3,445.23 | Surrey | November 20, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worker transportation vehicle in collaboration with the provincial Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) and Employment Standards branches. The inspection identified deficiencies with the vehicle, including a damaged brake hose. This deficiency had been identified in a previous inspection and the firm had been directed by CVSE to not transport workers in the vehicle until the brake line had been repaired. The repair had not been made, and WorkSafeBC issued a stop-use order for the vehicle. The firm failed to ensure that vehicles used to transport workers were maintained in a safe manner. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

**Sun City Cherries Ltd. | \$8,474.21 | Kelowna | January 20, 2020**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite in response to an incident. While harvesting cherries, one of this firm's workers fell from an orchard ladder and was seriously injured. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm lacked fundamental elements of a health and safety program, including providing adequate orientations and training to workers and ensuring workers were properly supervised. In addition, no first aid attendants had been available at the time of the incident, and the firm did not investigate the incident as required. The firm failed to establish and maintain an occupational health and safety program, and failed to provide the required first aid attendants and services. The firm also failed to conduct an investigation of an incident that resulted in an injury to a worker. These were all repeated violations. In addition, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

## Public Sector

### **Metro Vancouver Regional District | \$637,415.60 | Vancouver | December 5, 2019**

This employer had installed siphon gates inside a sewer line, a confined space. WorkSafeBC determined that the work had been done without obtaining the required WorkSafeBC approval of proposed alternative measures of control or isolation of adjacent piping, and without following safe work procedures for confined space entry. In addition, the risks associated with harmful substances such as hydrogen sulfide gas (H<sub>2</sub>S) had not been adequately controlled. The employer failed to conduct a hazard assessment that considered the conditions of the confined space, and to develop written procedures to eliminate or minimize those hazards. The employer also failed to develop, review, and update as required a confined space entry permit that identified the confined space and work activities, required precautions, and time of expiration. The employer failed to maintain pre-entry test records showing the date and time of the test and the conditions found, and failed to control harmful substances in piping adjacent to a confined space. In addition, the employer failed to ensure workers were trained in the hazards of the confined space, and that they were informed of and instructed in any alternative measures to control harmful substances. Furthermore, the employer failed to have an adequately trained supervisor for confined space entry work who ensured precautions were followed. Finally, the employer failed overall to ensure the health and safety of its workers. These were all high-risk violations.

### **Provincial Government | \$5,574.53 | Loon Lake | November 12, 2019**

This employer's workers were installing a remote weather station. One of the workers was operating an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) across a 21 percent side slope. The ATV became unstable and rolled over, seriously injuring the worker. WorkSafeBC attended the site and observed multiple deficiencies in the employer's safety and first aid procedures. The employer failed to ensure ATVs were operated according to instructions, and failed to ensure they were not operated on slopes exceeding 5 percent. The employer also failed to provide its workers with the training and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, and failed to train each ATV operator in the safe operation of the vehicle. These were all high-risk violations. In addition, the employer failed to conduct a first aid assessment for the workplace, provide first aid attendants and services as required, and keep up-to-date written first aid procedures.

## Service Sector

### **A Plus Enterprises Ltd. | \$4,591.99 | Kamloops | December 9, 2019**

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers cleaning gutters on the edge of a townhouse 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 4.9 m (16 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.

### **Benchmark Camp and Catering Ltd. | \$2,248.64 | Prince George | December 17, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's workplace and determined that it did not have adequate procedures for reporting and investigating incidents of workplace bullying and harassment. The firm was ordered to update its policies and procedures accordingly. After repeated follow-up communications, the firm had not complied with the order. The firm was issued a penalty for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order within a reasonable time.

### **Iron Bay Holdings Ltd. / Shack Shine | \$5,000 | Coquitlam | January 2, 2020**

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers removing moss from a multi-tiered roof. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to fall risks of up to 6.6 m (21.75 ft.). The firm failed to ensure the use of fall protection, a repeated and high-risk violation.



**Poets Cove Resort & Spa Ltd. | \$6,023.30 |  
South Pender Island | December 19, 2019**

This firm operates a resort. Ozone, a toxic process gas, is used as the primary disinfectant for the facility's water treatment system. WorkSafeBC conducted an inspection and determined that workers were permitted to enter the facility's ozone enclosure without respiratory protection while the ozone levels were higher than the limit allowable in the firm's exposure control plan. In addition, the enclosure's ozone sensor had not been calibrated in more than a year, and monthly testing records for the sensor were unavailable. The firm failed to provide a safe means to check and test conditions inside an enclosure before worker entry, and failed to ensure monitoring systems were calibrated at least annually. These were both repeated violations.

**Richard Dallibar | Beaver Tree Services | \$2,500 |  
Grand Forks | January 13, 2020**

This firm was hired to prune a tree on a residential property. A new worker, who had been hired to assist a principal of the firm, was helping with the pruning activities. The worker sustained serious injuries after being struck by a falling branch. WorkSafeBC investigated the incident and determined insufficient orientation and training had been provided to the worker. The firm failed to provide, before a worker begins in a workplace, new worker orientation and training for the work being carried out. 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 high-risk violations.

**TNAI Engineering Ltd. | \$8,270 | Richmond |  
November 22, 2019**

WorkSafeBC inspected a multi-storey concrete tower under construction, and observed non-typical reshoring for a suspended slab on the fourth level. Multiple frames were out of plumb. A stop-work order was issued. WorkSafeBC determined that this firm had issued a formwork plan for the fifth-level suspended slab without issuing the fourth-level reshore plan. The firm failed to ensure its erection drawings and supplementary instructions contained all information necessary to accurately and safely assemble concrete formwork, falsework, and reshoring to the design requirements. This was a repeated violation.



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### Trade

**Dollar Tree Stores Canada, Inc. | \$111,877.16 | Fort St. John | January 13, 2020**

WorkSafeBC inspected this retail location and observed several safety deficiencies, including obstruction of the emergency exit and electrical panels by merchandise, cardboard boxes stacked in an unstable condition and close to a potential ignition source (a gas-fired ceiling heater), and a lack of a first aid attendant on site. The firm failed to ensure emergency exit routes were designed to provide quick and unimpeded exit. The firm also failed to ensure material and equipment was securely stacked or stored in a secure manner. These were both high-risk violations. Furthermore, the firm failed to keep passageways and electrical equipment clear of obstructions, to allow authorized persons ready access to all parts requiring attention, and refrain from using these spaces for storage. Finally, the firm failed to provide adequate first aid attendants and services for responding to injured workers. These were all repeated violations.

### Transportation & Warehousing

**TCE Trading (Canada) Inc. | \$11,316.09 | Richmond | November 28, 2019**

WorkSafeBC investigated an incident at this firm's warehouse. Two workers were standing on the deck of a truck and unloading stone slabs from a rack while a third worker was operating a forklift on the ground. One of the slabs shifted, causing several slabs to fall. Both workers were pushed off the truck and slabs landed on them, causing serious injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the brackets on the rack were rusted, and were not designed to support the weight of the stone slabs. In addition, all three workers had not been trained in safe work procedures or forklift operation, and no supervision had been in place at the time of the incident. The firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. This was a high-risk violation.



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# 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](https://worksafebc.com/injunctions).

## AMS Environmental Ltd. | March 10, 2020

On March 10, 2020, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that AMS Environmental Ltd., a firm engaged in the asbestos abatement industry in British Columbia, and its principal, Amarjeet Singh Sandhu, are restrained from contravening or continuing to contravene Part 3, Divisions 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 15, of the *Workers Compensation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 492, and Parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 20 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. AMS Environmental Ltd. and Amarjeet Singh Sandhu are also required to comply with the same sections of the Act and Regulation in future.

## Blue Mountain Construction and Contracting Ltd. | December 4, 2019

On December 4, 2019, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Blue Mountain Construction and Contracting Ltd., a firm engaged in building demolition (where the scope of work includes excavation and general construction) in British Columbia, and its principal, Gursev Nijjar, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of Part 3 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 492, and all of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, until further order of the Court. They are also required to comply with Part 3 of the Act and all of the Regulation until further order of the Court.

## SB Roofing Ltd. | March 13, 2020

On March 13, 2020, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that SB Roofing Ltd., a firm engaged in the roofing industry in British Columbia, and its principal, Sukhminder Singh Brar, are restrained from contravening or continuing to contravene Part 3, Divisions 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 15, of the *Workers Compensation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 492, and Parts 2, 3, 4, 11, 13, and 20 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. SB Roofing Ltd. and Sukhminder Singh Brar are also required to comply with the same sections of the Act and Regulation in future.

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