



Prevention Initiative: Slips, trips and falls

Winter-related slips, trips and falls have a significant impact on Alberta workplaces and workers each year. Encouraging employers, supervisors and workers to be extra vigilant could be the key to reducing these incidents.

The Alberta [OHS Prevention Initiative](#) has developed targeted resources to help raise awareness of winter slips, trips and falls. The new resources are available on the [OHS Resource Portal](#) and come in two formats:

- **Bulletins** – A summary of slip, trip or fall hazards and suggested controls.
- **MicroLearnings** – Single-focused one-pagers to provide quick hits of information. These resources can be used to enhance your organization's safety communications.

47

Average work days lost from falling in icy conditions claims

Top 3 occupations with claims



Data Source: Workers' Compensation Board claims database, 2015-2019, as of November 27, 2020

Visit the [OHS Resource Portal](#)

Employment Standards changes - November 1

Under the *Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act* several Employment Standards provisions changed on November 1, 2020. These include:

- payment of earnings
- statements of earnings
- deductions
- averaging arrangements
- average daily wage
- youth employment
- administrative penalties

Watch the [Employment Standards updates webinar](#) to learn more about these changes.

Employment standards

2021 Certificate of Recognition program update

To help Alberta employers maintain their Certificate of Recognition (COR) and auditors to maintain their auditor certification status during the pandemic, the following measures will be implemented for 2021:

- On-site interviews and observations will not be required during the pandemic. However, if the auditor and employer agree that these processes can be conducted safely in person, they may proceed. All applicable public health directives and guidelines must be followed.
- Remote interviews can be conducted using web-based platforms (Teams, Skype, WebEx, etc.), by telephone, and/or in some cases questionnaires (as allowed by the COR Standards).
- Documentation-only certification/recertification audits conducted by external auditors will be eligible for one-year CORs.
- Documentation and remote interview certification/recertification audits conducted by external auditors will be eligible for three-year CORs.
- Documentation-only maintenance audits conducted by the employer's internal auditor or an external auditor will be eligible to maintain COR.
- The auditor certification requirement for completed audits will continue with one completed audit over the three-year auditor certification period, as introduced earlier in the pandemic response.
- Auditor qualification audits must include documentation and interviews (conducted remotely). Observations are not required.
- Certifying Partners (CPs) may use their own staff auditors to conduct certification and maintenance audits to assist employers who are struggling financially during the pandemic.

- The Alberta Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) has confirmed Partnerships in Injury Reduction (PIR) refund eligibility for the 2021 COR auditing plan.

These measures will be in effect from January 1 to December 31, 2021.

For additional information please contact your CP

2019 annual PSI statistics

Potentially serious incident (PSI) reports for 2019 are now available.

A PSI is any event where a reasonable and informed person would determine that under slightly different circumstances, there would be a high likelihood for a serious injury to a person.

The OHS Surveillance team reports on data trends from PSIs collected through the Online Incident Reporting service. Information from the PSI data is used to identify trends that can be used to support programs, resource development, potential research and policy changes.

Read the 2019 annual PSI statistics reported by the North American Industry Classification System ([NAICS](#)) and [WCB](#) industry sectors.

PSI reports by industry sector

Recent OHS incidents

Below are summaries of selected work-related serious injuries and incidents reported to Alberta OHS. Each incident resulted in a worker being admitted to hospital. Use these incidents as a way to start health and safety conversations in your workplace.

As these incidents are still under investigation, no additional information can be shared.

Slip and fall incidents

A worker was climbing off a street sweeper when the worker slipped and fell injuring their knee. *Construction and construction trades.*

A worker stepped over a large object on the ground and stepped onto an ice patch, falling and breaking their arm. *Construction and construction trades.*

A worker was walking through a parking lot when they slipped on ice and fell injuring their leg. *Municipal government, education and health services.*

Quick links

Contact OHS

1-866-415-8690 (toll-free)
780-415 -8690 (Edmonton)
TTY: 1-800-232-7215
TTY: 780-427-9999 (Edmonton)

Report a serious incident

Online incident reporting
Potentially serious, mine or mine site incidents

File a complaint

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