

Report for the Labour-Management Network, April 2021

Reporting Month Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
February 1 - 28, 2021	1	21	22

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
February 1 - 28, 2020	2	16	18

Fatality & Critical Injury Year-to-Date Overview – Construction

Injury Type	2021 January 1 – February 28	2020 January 1 – February 28
Fatal	3	4
Critical	48	38

Disclaimer: This information has been prepared to assist workplace parties in understanding their rights and duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations. This information does not constitute legal advice. To determine your rights and duties under the OHSA, please contact your legal counsel or refer to the legislation.

Senior Manager's Comment

With the progress of vaccinations, there is a strong desire to return to a "normal" way of life. There is light at the end of the tunnel, but we are not safe yet and we cannot become complacent. Hospitals are reaching critical capacity and it is all our responsibility to ensure we are following public health's COVID-19 precautions.

It is critical that we continue to ensure that every one of us are following the precautions recommended by public health. That means not coming to work when you have COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, actively screening workers before entering the project, ensuring physical distancing at all times, wearing source control masking or PPE when required, cleaning high touch surfaces regularly, ensuring proper hand hygiene and actively addressing non-compliance when you see it.

Please stay vigilant and continue to work with your staff to ensure we continue to produce while staying safe.

Sincerely,

Brian Barron

Senior Manager

Construction Health and Safety Program

Occupational Health and Safety Branch

Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Section 2 – What's New

[Working at heights refresher training deadline](#)

Do you work at heights on construction sites? Take your refresher training before it expires. A one-year extension was granted last year due to COVID-19. The extension expires soon.

[Read more](#)

[Ontario protecting people who work at heights](#)

Ontario has released a consultation to review working at heights training standards. The goal is to prevent falls and improve the safety of people who work at heights. Employers, workers and other stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the consultation.

[Read more](#)

[Ontario businesses making workplaces safer](#)

The Ontario government is seeing a greater number of small businesses complying with COVID-19 safety requirements. During follow-up visits for educational workplace safety campaigns, provincial offences officers found that approximately 73 per cent of businesses are implementing public health measures and compliance increased by 20 per cent.

[Read more](#)

For more what's **new** – Ministry of Labour articles, see: [What's New!](#)

Section 3 – Court Bulletins

Death of Worker Results in Trial, Fine of \$210,000 for Chelmsford Construction Company

Convicted: R.M. Bélanger Limited, 100 Radisson Avenue, Chelmsford, Ontario, a company that provides institutional, commercial and industrial construction services.

Location of Worksite: The parking lot of a golf course near Sudbury, Ontario.

Description of Offence: A worker was killed when a wooden telephone pole rolled while it was being loaded with a forklift onto a trailer.

Date of Offence: September 17, 2018.

Date of Conviction: October 1, 2020, followed by sentencing on February 26, 2021 in Sudbury.

Penalty Imposed:

- Following a trial, R.M. Bélanger Limited was fined \$210,000 in provincial offences court in Sudbury by Justice of the Peace Kathleen M. Bryant; Crown Counsel Wes Wilson.
- The court also imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge as required by the **Provincial Offences Act**. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

Background:

- In September of 2018 R.M. Bélanger Limited was using the parking lot of a golf course in Sudbury to store a number of wooden telephone poles. On

September 17 of that year, a worker was dispatched with a truck and flatbed trailer to pick up a pole for use on a Bélanger construction site.

- At the golf course, a Bélanger worker, who was also a supervisor, was working on the site. When the Bélanger truck pulled into the parking lot, that worker offered to load the required pole for the driver.
- Using a machine equipped with a fork attachment, the worker picked up a pole and approached the flatbed trailer. The forks were not spread apart as far as possible, creating instability with the pole as the loader moved. The pole was not secured in any way to the forks.
- The truck driver was on the flatbed trailer and had placed a long piece of lumber on the trailer to act as a stopper for the pole. The driver was standing on the other side of the lumber from the side of the trailer approached by the loader.
- The operator of the loader tilted the forks forward, dropping the pole onto the flatbed. The pole rolled toward the piece of lumber. The pole had a warp in it, and rolled over the piece of lumber.
- The driver, standing on the trailer, tried to jump over the rolling pole but was hit by the pole and was knocked off the trailer. The pole rolled off the trailer, inflicting fatal injuries.
- As a consequence of the trial, R.M. Bélanger Limited was found guilty on October 1, 2020 of two offences: failing to use a safe procedure for loading a pole onto a flatbed trailer; and failing to ensure that no worker was in an endangered position during the loading of a pole onto a flatbed trailer. These were both contrary to section 25(2)(h) of the **Ontario Health and Safety Act**.

Section 4 – Critical Injuries

Critical Injuries

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2021 February 1 - 28	2021 January 1 – February 28
Critical	21	48

Injury Type	2020 February 1 - 28	2020 January 1 – February 28
Critical	16	38

NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development. Official statistics will be issued quarterly by the Program Analysis, Evaluation and Outcomes Unit of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development.

REPORTING MONTH: February 1 - 28, 2021 (21)

***** One-Third (7) of all critical injuries this month were caused by falls due to icy conditions at projects *****

***** Three critical injuries this month were caused by falls from the rungs of ladders *****

Monthly Summary Report: Critical

NOTE: Data are subject to change due to updates in the enforcement database. Only events reported to the ministry are included here. Except for fatalities, event categories in the ministry's data set are based on what was assigned at the time of the initial report to the ministry. The reported event category may not represent what occurred at the workplace.

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SECTOR	REPORTED CAUSE	FALL	STRUCK BY	ELECTRICAL CONTACT	EXCAVATION COLLAPSE	OTHER	MONTH	YEAR
RESS		5	1				6	13
INST		1	1				2	4
RESM		3	1				4	10
INDU		5	0				5	8
ROAD		1	0				1	1
EXCA		0	0				0	0
COMM		1	0				1	5
MINP		0	0				0	0
NECC		0	0				0	1
RAIL		0	0				0	0
POWP		0	0				0	1
GRAD		0	0				0	0
SHIP		0	0				0	0
SHAF		0	0				0	0
CAIS		0	0				0	0
GAS		0	0				0	0
ETTL		1	0				1	2
HYDR		0	0				0	0
PAVE		0	0				0	0
SEWW		0	0				0	1
BRID		0	0				0	0
TUNN		0	0				0	1
WIND		0	0				0	0
TELE	1	0				1	1	
MONTH		18	3	0	0	0	21	48
YEAR		40	6	0	0	2		

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Critical Injuries: Totals: February 1 - 28, 2021 (21)

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
1	3-Feb-21	Richmond Hill	RESM			Worker struck by wall form suffered critical injuries	STRUCK BY
2	5-Feb-21	Ottawa	COMM			Worker suffered fractured wrist after fall from 3' platform	FALL
3	5-Feb-21	Toronto	RESM			Worker slipped on icy surface and fractured leg	FALL
4	8-Feb-21	Barrhaven	RESS			Worker suffered multiple fractures after slip from ladder rung	FALL
5	9-Feb-21	Port Colborne	RESS			Worker suffered loss of consciousness after fall from ladder	FALL
6	9-Feb-21	Ottawa	RESS			Worker suffered compound fracture	STRUCK BY

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
						to leg after being struck by Bobcat	
7	10-Feb-21	Hamilton	ROAD			Worker slipped on icy surface and suffered loss of consciousness	FALL
8	10-Feb-21	Toronto	RESM			Worker fractured foot after exiting Bobcat and rolling ankle	FALL
9	11-Feb-21	Welland	RESS			Worker suffered loss of consciousness after falling through hole in the work surface	FALL
10	11-Feb-21	Thunder Bay	ETTL			Worker fractured ankle after slip at project site	FALL
11	11-Feb-21	Hamilton	INDU			Worker fractured knee after slip on icy surface	FALL

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
12	11-Feb-21	Ottawa	INST			Worker suffered multiple fractures after hand was caught in rotating drill on drill rig	STRUCK BY
13	12-Feb-21	Toronto	RESM			Worker suffered loss of consciousness after fall from ladder	FALL
14	12-Feb-21	Pattsville	INDU			Worker fractured arm and shoulder after fall from roof	FALL
15	16-Feb-21	Toronto	INST			Worker fractured wrist after slipping on icy surface	FALL
16	16-Feb-21	Lakeshore	RESS			Worker slipped in icy/snowy conditions causing fracture to ankle	FALL

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
17	18-Feb-21	Wasaga Beach	INDU			Worker tripped on equipment and materials causing fracture to wrist	FALL
18	18-Feb-21	Ottawa	INDU			Worker slipped on icy surface and suffered fracture to ankle	FALL
19	24-Feb-21	St. Thomas	RESS			Worker fractured ankle after slip and fall on site	FALL
20	26-Feb-21	Kitchener	TELE			Worker fractured fibula after fall from machinery	FALL
21	26-Feb-21	Hamilton	INDU			Icy conditions lead to slip by worker. Fractured fibula is result	FALL

Section 5 – Fatal Injuries

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Fatal Injuries

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2021 February 1 - 28	2021 January 1 – December 31
Fatal	1	3

Injury Type	2020 February 1 - 28	2020 January 1 – December 31
Fatal	2	4

Monthly Summary Report – Fatal February 1 - 28, 2020 – (1)

Total Year-to-Date Fatal Injuries: January 1 – December 31, 2021 (3)

PROJECT SECTOR	REPORTED CAUSE	FALL	STRUCK BY	ELECTRICAL CONTACT	EXCAVATION COLLAPSE	OTHER	MONTH	YEAR	
RESS	REPORTED CAUSE		1				1	1	
COMM									
EXCA									
INDU									
RESM									
HYDR									
SEWW									
TUNN				1				1	1
INST									
MONTH				2				2	2
YEAR			2						

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All new entries (current month and reconciled data) appear in **bold**.

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Project Sector	Employer Sector (NAICS)	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)
1	21-Jan-21	Mississauga	TUNN	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (237990)	Labourer	31	A worker sustained fatal injuries when struck by equipment in a shaft/tunnel
2	25-Jan-21	Ottawa	RESS	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors (238110)	Concrete Formworks	55	Worker was fatality injured when struck by a concrete wall collapse.
3	24-Feb-21	Sudbury	ROAD	Construction, Transportation, Mining and Forestry Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing (532410)	Mobile Crane Operator	29	Mobile crane overturned while driving on project road, resulting in fatal injuries to one worker

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NOTE: Some detail will inevitably be missing from the PLMHSC Report. The document is intended to provide an initial overview, not a comprehensive report. Annual data reporting approved by the Director should be used by stakeholders if they wish to see all data available to the Ministry related to an event.

SECTOR DESCRIPTION	SHORT DESC
Asbestos Removal - Type 1	ASB1
Asbestos Removal - Type 2	ASB2
Asbestos Removal - Type 3	ASB3
Bridge Construction	BRID
Cable	CABL
Caisson	CAIS
Cofferdam	COFF
Commercial Building Construction	COMM
Diving Construction	DCON
Diving Environmental	DENV
Diving Industrial	DIND
Diving Mining	DMIN
Electrical Towers & Transmission Lines	ETTL
Excavation	EXCA
Gas Service Connection	GAS
Excavation - Grading	GRAD
Hydro	HYDR
Industrial Building Construction	INDU
Institutional Building Construction	INST
Marine Construction	MARE
Mining Plant Construction	MINP
Moving of a Building/Structure	MOVE
NEC - Construction	NECC
NEC - Diving	NECD
Asphalt Paving	PAVE
Pipeline	PIPE
Hydroelectric Power Plants & Rel	POWP
Railway	RAIL
Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	RESM
Single Family Housing	RESS
Highway & Road Construction	ROAD
Sewer/Watermain Construction	SEWW

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Shaft Construction	SHAF
Shipbuilding & Repair	SHIP
Subway	SUBW
Telephone	TELE
Trenching	TREN
Tunnel	TUNN
Well Drilling	WELL
Window Cleaning Services	WIND