

**Ministry of Labour,
Training and Skills
Development**

Prevention Council

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**Ministère du Travail,
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Prevention Council Statement - Falls Awareness Week

Falls continue to be one of the top causes of injury, disability and death in Ontario workplaces.

The Prevention Council is pleased to support **Falls Awareness Week**, an annual social awareness campaign focused on preventing falls in the workplace. For this year's week-long campaign, September 14th-18th, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has collaborated with the Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) to provide key fall-prevention resources for Ontario's construction sector, where falls are consistently the leading cause of worker death and injury.

Falls Awareness Week is an opportunity to bring attention to the severity of falls at work and encourages participants to talk about how to control and address falls hazards in the workplace. Any workplace can participate in falls awareness week by stopping work for 15–30 minutes any time during the work day, from the 14th – 18th of September, to hold a safety talk about preventing falls in the workplace.

IHSA has developed a **free, downloadable Fall Prevention Toolkit** to support participation in Falls Awareness Week from construction workplaces. The toolkit includes a how-to-guide to set up a safety talk, how to make sure the safety talk is a success and also includes valuable resources on fall prevention in construction. IHSA has also developed free, on-demand webinars on fall prevention related topics including: fall prevention and working at heights (WAH) in residential construction, safe ladder use, trip hazards on job sites and temporary stairs. All of these materials are available on the IHSA [Falls Awareness Week](#) page.

The ministry has also developed a [downloadable Promoter and Supporter Toolkit](#) to help organizations build social media content to support Falls Awareness Week. The kit also contains two-pages of falls statistics in construction that can be used to talk about the importance of fall prevention in construction workplaces.

More information about Falls Awareness Week and how you can participate can be found on the ministry's [falls topic page](#).

We encourage all workplaces to participate in this important campaign and thank you for your ongoing support in supporting in keep Ontario's workers safe.

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National Health and Safety Representative, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

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