

## Report for the Labour-Management Network

### November 2024

#### Monthly Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
Sept. 1 – Sept. 30, 2024	0	30	30
Sept. 1 – Sept. 30, 2023	2	43	45

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

Reporting Months	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2024	13	280	293
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2023	11	253	264

*Helping you achieve compliance on construction projects and window cleaning operations*

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[Access to and egress from a work area](#)

[Excavations](#)

[Fall protection and roofing  
re-shoring](#)

[Equipment](#)

[Electrical hazards](#)

[Hygiene](#)

[Forms, formwork, falsework, and](#)

[Housekeeping, fire protection, public way protection, traffic control, and hot tar or bitumen tankers or kettles](#)

[Asbestos on construction projects](#)

[Diving operations](#)

[Window cleaning operations](#)

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**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.

## **Section 2 – What's New**

### **Coming soon: Employer portal in the Prevention Certification Management System**

This month, the ministry is adding a new employer portal to its certification management system (CMS). Employers will be able to access and manage their employees' training records in a centralized location, simplifying compliance tracking and ensuring that certifications for working at heights and joint health and safety committee members are up-to-date. Employers will also be able to submit applications for the Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers (SOSE) Program.

CMS users can continue to register for courses, update profile information, verify training records, find information about mandatory training and use the eligibility checker to access their training records and determine their eligibility for courses.

[Log in to the CMS or create an account](#)

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### **SOSE Program continues to show impressive growth**

Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer has recognized another 20 employers through the Supporting Ontario's Safe Employers (SOSE) program.

This program recognizes leadership in occupational health and safety and includes an array of businesses from all sectors and sizes. Of the now 50 recognized employers, 17 are small businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Since the program's inception, total incentives awarded to SOSE-recognized employers through the WSIB's Ontario Safe Employers rebate program have reached \$2.1 million

[Find a recognized employer](#) | [Request a SOSE application](#)

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For the latest what's **new** – MLITSD articles, see: [What's New!](#)

Section 3 – Court Bulletins

## **Two Windsor Companies Fined \$130,000 in Total After Worker Injury**

**Convicted:**

- Fortis Construction Group Inc., 3070 Jefferson Blvd, Windsor, Ontario, a general contracting company
- Vito Masonry Ltd., 501 Estate Pk., Windsor, Ontario, a masonry and bricklaying contractor

**Location of Workplace:** Eastview Horizon Elementary School, 3070 Stillmeadow Road, Windsor, Ontario

**Description of Offence:** Two workers were injured when a section of an unbraced masonry block wall collapsed.

- Fortis Construction Group Inc. failed, as a constructor, to ensure that the wall was adequately braced as required by [section 31\(1\)\(b\)](#) of Regulation 213/91, a violation of [section 23\(1\)\(b\)](#) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
- Vito Masonry Ltd. failed, as an employer, to ensure that the wall was adequately braced as required by [section 31\(1\)\(b\)](#) of Regulation 213/91, a violation of [section 25\(1\)\(b\)](#) of the Act.

**Date of Offence:** November 11, 2021

**Date of Conviction:**

- November 6, 2023 (Fortis Construction Group Inc.)
- February 8, 2024 (Vito Masonry Ltd.)

**Penalty Imposed:** Following guilty pleas in Provincial Offences Court, Windsor:

- Fortis Construction Group Inc. was fined \$85,000 by Justice of the Peace Susan Hoffman on November 6, 2023.
- Vito Masonry Ltd. was fined \$45,000 by Justice of the Peace Susan Whelan on May 10, 2024.

- The courts also imposed 25 per cent victim fine surcharges as required by the *Provincial Offences Act*. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.
- Crown Counsel for both was Neil Dietrich.

**Background:**

- In November 2021, Fortis Construction Group Inc. (Fortis) was the constructor of a new school in Windsor. Fortis had hired Vito Masonry Ltd. (Vito) to complete masonry work, including building block walls.
- On November 9, a freestanding interior masonry block wall, 54 feet long and 13.5 feet tall, was completed. The wall was not braced by either Fortis or Vito workers.
- On November 11, workers from both companies were on the second floor of the building. The weather that morning was unremarkable.
- In the early afternoon, the weather changed, with wind speed reaching over 32 km/h. During that time, a section of the unbraced masonry block wall collapsed, injuring two workers.
- An investigation by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development found that the masonry block wall was inadequately braced.

Court Bulletins can be found here: <https://news.ontario.ca/en>

***Considerations from a Root Cause point of view:***

If you recall from the report in July, there was an incident where, from a root cause analysis point of view, questions and considerations were raised with regard to proper planning and coordination between organizations that may have been contributing factors leading to the incident.

Although the context and scope of work may be different, this month's case is another good example of how planning, coordination, or lack thereof may ultimately have contributed to the lead up and actual incident itself.

It also highlights the importance of recognizing when conditions have changed, and the need to reassess protective measures that are in place to ensure they are still capable of withstanding and protecting against the newly introduced hazards (in this case the change in weather).

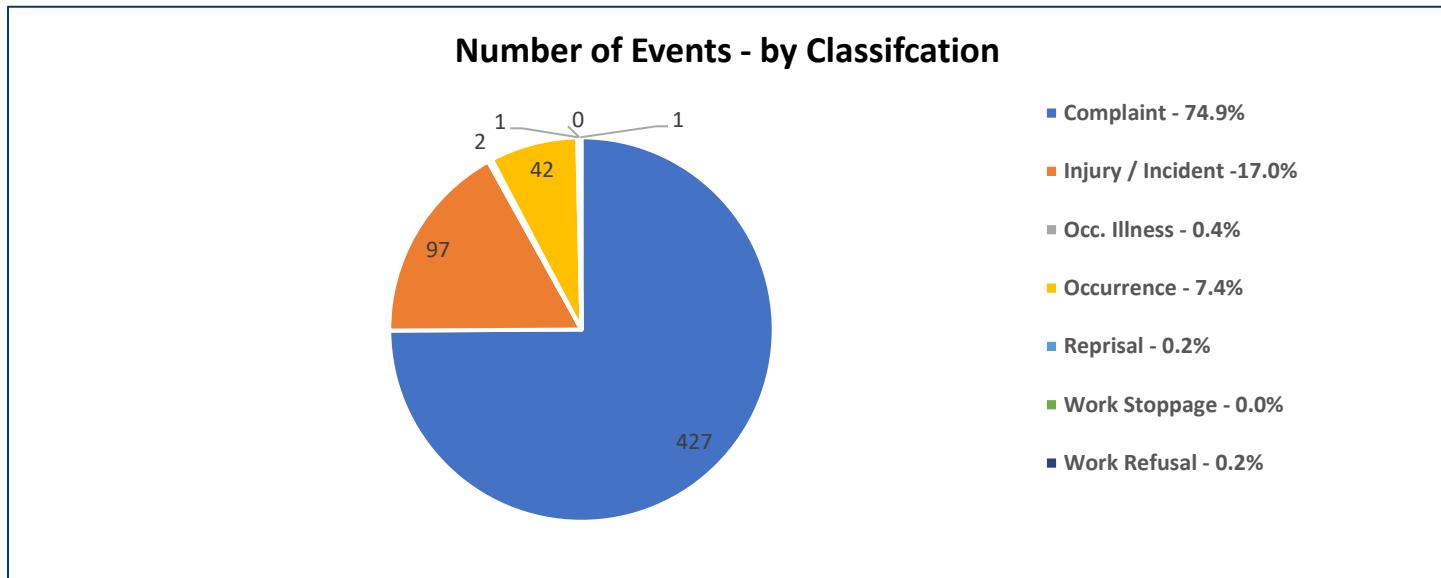
- 1) Was the bracing of the wall included in the project safety plan?
  - a) Was a work plan or safety plan discussed prior to the work commencing?

- b) Was it just assumed that all workers knew the how to do the work so no discussions took place?
- 2) Were the requirements and expectations for bracing clearly communicated to all workplace parties?
  - a) Were assumptions made that led to expectations and requirements not being discussed or made clear?
  - b) Was there a lack of coordination for which organization had oversight for bracing the wall; and verifying that it had been completed?
  - c) Was there a lack of resources or planning to ensure bracing was available?
- 3) Was the bracing of the wall not understood as a requirement of the regulations?
- 4) Why was the work not stopped when the weather became 'unremarkable'?
  - a) Did either organization stop to re-assess the new hazards introduced?
  - b) Were existing protective measures already in place re-assessed to determine if they would still be adequate given the changes in site conditions?

*NOTE: The intent of these considerations is solely for discussion purposes from a root cause point of view. Charges will always be against the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its respective Regulations. These considerations are merely to discuss potential contributing factors that may have led to the incident. This is not an exhaustive list.*

## Section 4 – Enforcement Trends – September 2024

MLITSD Construction Inspectors conducted **1,837** field visits during the months of September 2024; of which **570** were in response to an event. The breakdown of events is as follows:



Of the 1,837 combined proactive and reactive field visits that were conducted, **1,481 (80.6%)** accounted for 6 sectors. The breakdown of field visits to the top 6 sectors are below:

SECTOR DESCRIPTION	Total Field Visits (FV)	Total Orders & Req's.	Stop Work Orders	Time Unknown Orders
Single Family Housing	587	2,062	218	350
Commercial Building Construction	293	654	53	69
Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	266	673	71	125
Residential Building Construction	176	534	62	102
Institutional Building Construction	83	122	11	11
Industrial Building Construction	76	103	6	6

### Stop Work and Time Unknown Orders – Top 5 under O.Reg. 213/91 – September 2024

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Section	Requirements	# of Stop Work Orders	# of Time Unknown Orders	Remarks
1 26.3	Guardrail	101	128	In August 2024, <b>476</b> Stop Work Orders were issued with <b>748</b> Time Unknown Orders (TMU) accompanying orders.
2 26.1	Fall Protection	71	76	
3 75/77	Stairs	90	94	Top 5 SWO orders accounted for <b>80.3%</b>
4 135	Scaffold Platform or Other Work Platform	81	113	Top 5 TMU orders accounted for <b>65.4%</b>
5 128	Scaffold	39	78	<i>A stop work order is issued where imminent danger is observed at the time of inspection requiring the work to be stopped until the appropriate remedial action can be taken to make the situation safe for workers to work.</i>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>382</b>	<b>489</b>	

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## Section 5 – Critical Injuries & Fatalities

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2024 September	2024 January 1 – September 30
Critical	30	280

Injury Type	2023 August	2023 January 1 – August 31
Critical	43	280

*NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, 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, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. 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.*

### September 2024

September 2024 CRITICAL	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL
Falls from Heights	3		2	1																			6	
Falls From Equipment	1		1	1																			3	
Falls from Ladders	1		2																				3	
Same level slips and trips	1	2	2							1													6	
Struck by equipment		1		1																			0	
Struck by material		1	1					3															5	
collapse of structure																							0	
Electrical Contact																							0	
Excavation Collapse																							0	
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.	1		2	1				1															5	
<b>TOTAL</b>																							30	

### Year to Date 2024

Year to Date 2024 CRITICAL	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL	
Falls from Heights	19		10	8		1	2																40		
Falls From Equipment	3		3	4				2														1	14		
Falls From Ladders	13	3	10	6				6	1														39		
Same level slips and trips	8	2	15	12	2			6	2	1					2	1	1				1	1	54		
Struck by equipment	7	4	2	7	7		4			1				1	2	1					1	1	38		
Struck by material	6	1	11	9	4	1	6	1	2			1	1	1							1		45		
collapse of structure	4																						4		
Electrical Contact										1													1		
Excavation Collapse								1															1		
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.	10	2	8	5	4	2	5	5	1								1				1		44		
<b>TOTAL</b>		70	12	59	51	17	5	31	8	5	2	0	1	4	4	4	0	0	0	1	2	4	0	0	280

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**September 2024**

	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Details (As reported to MLITSD)</b>	<b>Reported Cause</b>
1	Sept.1, 2024	Caledon	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker fell approx. 15ft while caulking on a flat roof, result in paralysis from the waist down.	Fall – From Height
2	Sept. 3, 2024	Kingston	Commercial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker sustained broken bone in left foot when a load of glass fell from the forks of a forklift and struck his foot.	Struck by - Material
3	Sept. 3, 2024	Toronto	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker sustained broken wrist and elbow after falling from a ladder.	Fall – From Ladder
4	Sept. 3, 2024	Windsor	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Roofer	Worker sustained multiple injuries to the head and arms after falling from a roof.	Fall – From Height
5	Sept. 4, 2024	Hamilton	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Sheet Metal Worker	Worker suffered a loss of consciousness while applying sheet metal.	LOC

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
6	Sept. 4, 2024	Windsor	Industrial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker sustained a broken right arm after jumping through a doorframe and falling to the ground.	Fall – Same Level
7	Sept. 4, 2024	Ottawa	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker sustained life threatening injuries after being trapped between the guardrails on an EWP and the wall.	Struck by - Equipment
8	Sept. 5, 2024	Oshawa	Commercial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker sustained a broken left arm after being struck by a roll of carboard while on his break.	Struck by - Material
9	Sept. 5, 2024	Windsor	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Carpenter	Worker sustained broken right leg after falling approx. 20ft from scaffold.	Fall – From Equipment
10	Sept. 6, 2024	London	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker was impaled by exposed rebar and sustained head	Fall – From Ladder

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					injuries after falling from a ladder.	
11	Sept. 8, 2024	Scarborough	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker sustained broken leg while descending the roof and fell from the ladder.	Fall – From Ladder
12	Sept. 10, 2024	Ottawa	Railway	Operator	Worker was walking backwards when he tripped and fell, resulting in a fractured hand.	Fall – Same Level
13	Sept. 11, 2024	Etobicoke	Industrial Building Construction	Roofer	Worker sustained life threatening injuries after falling approx. 50ft through steel roof.	Fall – From Height
14	Sept. 11, 2024	Oakville	Institutional Building Construction	Labourer	Worker's foot became trapped in the trailer he was loading, causing him to fall, resulting in a broken leg.	Fall – Same Level
15	Sept. 11, 2024	Bowmanville	Industrial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker fell from flatbed trailer, resulting in a fractured elbow.	Fall – From Equipment

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	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Details (As reported to MLITSD)</b>	<b>Reported Cause</b>
16	Sept. 12, 2024	Richmond Hill	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker sustained life threatening injuries after falling approx. 20ft from a roof.	Fall – From Height
17	Sept. 12, 2024	Roblin	Industrial Building Construction	Carpenter	Worker sustained lacerations and a fractured wrist after making contact with a power tool.	Struck by - Equipment
18	Sept. 13, 2024	Windsor	Industrial Building Construction	Drywaller	Worker lost consciousness while taping.	LOC
19	Sept. 13, 2024	Vaughn	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Drywaller	Worker sustained life threatening injuries to his back, chest and ribs after large piece of drywall fell on him from a height of approx. 25ft.	Struck by - Material
20	Sept. 13, 2024	North York	Commercial Building Construction	Mason	Worker lost consciousness after falling from a scaffold and hitting his head.	LOC

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
21	Sept. 13, 2024	Etobicoke	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker fell approx. 25ft through a skylight, resulting in loss of consciousness, head injuries and loss of blood.	Fall – From Height
22	Sept. 13, 2024	Toronto	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Drywaller	Worker sustained fractures to both arms after tripping over a trailing cable on a swing stage.	Fall – Same Level
23	Sept. 16, 2024	Midland	Institutional Building Construction	Form Worker	Worker suffered a broken ankle when a pallet of material fell on his foot.	Struck by - Material
24	Sept. 17, 2024	Bradford	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Framer	Worker fell approx. 20ft while setting trusses, suffering two broken legs and feet.	Fall – From Height
25	Sept. 17, 2024	Gravenhurst	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Landscaper	Worker lost consciousness and sustained life-threatening head injuries after falling on granite steps.	Fall – Same Level

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
26	Sept. 19, 2024	Oakville	Industrial Building Construction	Signaller	Worker sustained a fractured wrist when she ran to avoid falling material and tripping as she did.	Fall – Same Level
27	Sept. 25, 2024	Ottawa	Commercial Building Construction	Drywaller	Worker suffered a fractured foot when sheets of drywall fell from the shopping cart he was using to transport the drywall and made contact with his foot.	Struck by - Material
28	Sept. 26, 2024	Mississauga	Single Family Housing	Carpenter	Worker sustained significant loss of blood after cutting himself on power saw.	NEC - Construction
29	Sept. 27, 2024	East Gwillimbury	Single Family Housing	Siding Installer	Worker fell from EWP while installing siding, resulting in a broken left arm.	Fall – From Equipment
30	Sept. 27, 2024	Toronto	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Labourer	Worker suffered a loss of consciousness	LOC

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					after cutting himself with a utility knife.	

**Fatality Summary – September 2024**

Injury Type	2024	2024
	September	January 1 – September 30
Fatal	0	13

Injury Type	2023	2023
	August	January 1 – August 31
Fatal		

**Fatalities – Year to Date 2024**

Year to Date 2024 FATALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	Total
Falls from Heights	2				3			1															6	
Falls From Equipment																							0	
Falls from Ladders																							0	
Same level slips and trips																							0	
Struck by equipment					2	1																	3	
Struck by material																							0	
collapse of structure																							0	
Electrical Contact																		1					1	
Excavation Collapse						1	1																2	
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.								1															1	
TOTAL	2	0	0	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	13	

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	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Details (As reported to MLITSD)</b>	<b>Reported Cause</b>
1	February 12, 2024	Ottawa	Industrial Building Construction	Welder	Worker succumbed to fatal injuries as a result of 5 story fall from mast climber	Fall – From Height
2	March 17, 2024	Toronto	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker succumbed to fatal injuries on April 18, 2024 as a result of a fall from heights	Fall – From Height
3	March 27, 2024	Waterloo	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker fell on March 27 <sup>th</sup> , succumbing to his injuries on April 4 <sup>th</sup> .	Fall – From Height
4	May 7, 2024	Whitby	Industrial Building Construction	Steamroll Operator	Worker was crushed by the steamroller when it rolled off a steep slope	Struck by - Equipment
5	May 9, 2024	Watford	Industrial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker was crushed by an excavator when it reversed over him	Struck by - Equipment

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
6	May 29, 2024	Pickering	Window Cleaning Services	Window Cleaner	Worker was cleaning windows with a broom when it made contact with an energized powerline	Electrical Contact
7	July 25, 2024	Brantford	Industrial Building Construction	Roofer	Worker succumbed to head injuries after falling through an opening in the roof	Fall – From Height
8	July 30, 2024	King City	Highway and Road Construction	Pipefitter	Worker became trapped in an trench when it flooded with water	Collapse - Trench
9	August 1, 2024	Petrolia	NEC - Construction	Landscaper	Worker collapsed on site from suspected heat illness, going into cardiac arrest in transport to the hospital.	Occ. Illness
10	August 6, 2024	Brantford	Commercial Building Construction	Electrician	Worker sustained fatal injuries while	Fall – From Height

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					installing conduit in an electrical room.	
11	August 13, 2024	Etobicoke	Single Family Housing	Waterproofing	Worker sustained fatal injuries after becoming trapped in a collapsed trench.	Trenching
12	August 20, 2024	King City	Highway and Road Construction	Operator	Worker was struck by a passing vehicle while attempting to enter his truck	Stuck by - Vehicle
13	August 24, 2024	North York	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker fell while reaching for a dropped item, leading to fatal injuries.	Fall – From Height

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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 (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECC
NEC – Diving (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	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
Shaft Construction	SHAF
Shipbuilding & Repair	SHIP
Subway	SUBW
Telephone	TELE
Trenching	TREN
Tunnel	TUNN
Well Drilling	WELL
Window Cleaning Services	WIND

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