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For Immediate Release  
May 8, 2006

## **A. POTVIN CONSTRUCTION LTD. FINED \$50,000 FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATION**

L'ORIGINAL, Ont. –A. Potvin Construction Ltd., a Clarence-Rockland, Ontario based construction company, was fined \$50,000 on May 4, 2006 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in injuries to the fingers of a young worker.

On February 23, 2005, a 23-year-old worker was operating a power saw to cut treated wood at an industrial establishment in the City of Clarence-Rockland in Eastern Ontario. The worker reached around the blade of the saw to grab the wood coming out behind the saw. The blade kicked back, coming into contact with the worker's left hand. The worker suffered a partial amputation of the small finger, and cuts to the index, middle and ring fingers.

A Ministry of Labour investigation determined that the saw did not have a guard, as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

A. Potvin Construction Ltd. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure that the measures and procedures prescribed by section 24 of the Regulations for Industrial Establishments were carried out in the workplace. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(c) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Claudette Holmes of the Ontario Court of Justice in L'Original. In addition, the court 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.

-30-

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Court Information at a Glance

**Location:** Ontario Court of Justice  
36 Court St.  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Judge:** Justice of the Peace Claudette Holmes

**Date / Time:** May 4, 2006, 9 a.m.

**Defendant:** A. Potvin Construction Ltd.

**Matter:** Occupational Health & Safety

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