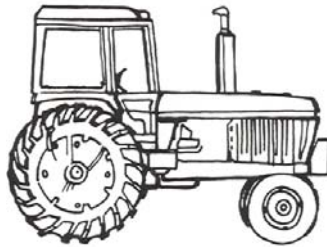


## Occupational Health and Safety Act



### Requirement to Report an Incident on a Farming Operation

As of June 30, 2006, the Occupational Health and Safety Act will apply, with certain limitations and exceptions, to all farming operations that have paid workers.

The Act requires employers to notify certain people whenever a workplace injury, illness, or fatality occurs. This document describes those requirements, as they apply to farming operations.

#### 1) Where there is a Critical Injury or Death

- If a person, whether a worker or not (this includes, for example, supervisors, employers, workers, unpaid family members, and visitors), has been critically injured (see definition below) or killed at the workplace, the employer must **immediately** notify an inspector at the nearest Ministry of Labour office, and the joint health and safety committee or health and safety representative (if any). This notice must be by direct means, such as by telephone, telegram or facsimile.

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A “critical injury” is an injury of a serious nature that,

- (a) places life in jeopardy,
- (b) produces unconsciousness,
- (c) results in substantial loss of blood
- (d) involves the fracture of a leg or arm but not a finger or toe,
- (e) involves the amputation of a leg, arm, hand or foot but not a finger or toe,
- (f) consists of burns to a major portion of the body, or
- (g) causes the loss of sight in an eye. [Regulation 834]

Within 48 hours, the employer must also notify, in writing, a Regional Director of the Ministry of Labour, giving the circumstances of the occurrence. [Section 51(1)]

Please see the attached sheet for a list of Ministry of Labour offices.

## **2) Where there is an Injury that is not a Critical Injury**

- If an accident, explosion or fire occurs and a worker is disabled or requires medical attention, the employer must notify the joint health and safety committee or health and safety representative (if any) in writing within four days of the incident. If required by an inspector, this written notice must also be given to a Regional Director of the Ministry of Labour. [Section 52(1)]

## **3) Where there is an Occupational Illness**

- If an employer is told that a worker has an occupational illness or that a claim for an occupational illness has been filed with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, the employer must notify a Regional Director of the Ministry of Labour, and the joint health and safety committee or health and safety representative (if any) within four days. The notice must be in writing. This duty to notify applies not only with respect to current workers, but also with respect to former ones. [Section 52(3)]
- An “occupational illness” is defined as a condition that results from exposure in a workplace to a physical, chemical or biological agent to the extent that the normal physiological mechanisms are affected and the health of the worker is impaired. It includes an occupational disease for which a worker is entitled to benefits under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997.

## **Ministry of Labour – Occupational Health and Safety Contact Information**

Many of the 1- 800 or toll-free numbers listed below are accessible **only** within the area code of the relevant office.

### **CENTRAL REGION**

Central Region includes Toronto and the following counties: Dufferin, Durham, Peel, Simcoe and York Counties.

#### **Central Occupational Health and Safety Duty Desk**

416-314-5421 / 1- 800-991-7454  
Fax: 416-235-3972

### **EASTERN REGION**

Eastern Region includes the following counties: Frontenac, Haliburton, Hastings, Lanark, Leeds & Grenville, Lennox & Addington, Muskoka, Northumberland, Ottawa-Carleton, Peterborough, Prescott & Russell, Prince Edward, Renfrew, Stormont Dundas & Glengarry and Victoria.

#### **Ottawa**

1111 Prince of Wales Drive  
Suite 200  
Ottawa K2C 3T2  
613-228-8050 / 1- 800-267-1916  
Fax: 613-727-2900

#### **Kingston**

51 Heakes Lane  
Beechgrove Complex  
Kingston K7M 9B1  
613-545-0989 / 1- 800-267-0915  
Fax: 613-545-9831

#### **Peterborough**

300 Water St N  
3<sup>rd</sup> Fl South Tower  
Peterborough K9J 8M5  
705-755-4700 / 1- 800-461-1425  
Fax: 705-755-4724

### **NORTHERN REGION**

Northern Region includes the following counties: Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Rainy River, Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Timiskaming

#### **Sudbury**

159 Cedar St, Ste 301  
Sudbury P3E 6A5  
705-564-7400 / 1- 800-461-6325  
Fax 705-564-7435

#### **North Bay**

447 McKeown Ave  
North Bay P1B 9S9  
1- 800-461-6325  
Fax: 705-497-6850

#### **Sault Ste. Marie**

70 Foster Dr, Ste 480  
Sault Ste Marie P6A 6V4  
705-945-6600 / 1- 800-461-7268  
Fax 705-949-9796

#### **Thunder Bay**

435 James St S, Ste 222  
Thunder Bay P7E 6S7  
807-475-1691 / 1- 800-465-5016  
Fax 807-475-1646

#### **Timmins**

(mailing address)  
P.O. Bag 3050  
South Porcupine ON P0N 1H0  
(office address)  
Ontario Government Complex  
D Wing Highway 101 East  
Porcupine ON P0N 1C0  
705-235-1900 / 1- 800-461-9847  
Fax: 705-235-1925

## **WESTERN REGION**

Western Region includes the following counties: Brant, Bruce, Elgin, Essex, Grey, Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth, Huron, Kent, Lambton, Middlesex, Niagara, Oxford, Perth, Waterloo and Wellington

### **Western OHS Call Centre**

905-577-9774 / 1- 877-202-0008

Fax: 905-577-1316

## **NOTES:**

- For more contact information, or if you're not sure what region you're in, please consult the Blue Pages of your local telephone book under "Employment", "Health and Safety" or "Labour", or check our list of Regional Offices (under "Contact Us") on the Ministry's website: <http://www.labour.gov.on.ca>

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**For more information on farming operations health and safety, please contact the following:**

### **Farm Safety Association Inc.**

101 – 75 Farquhar St Guelph N1H 3N4

519-823-5600 / 1- 800-361-8855

Web: [www.farmsafety.ca](http://www.farmsafety.ca)

### **For more information on the Occupational Health and Safety Act:**

- contact the Ministry of Labour toll free information line at 1-800-268-8013,
- visit the Ministry of Labour's website at [www.labour.gov.on.ca](http://www.labour.gov.on.ca).

