

MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign

Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

Presented by: Andrew Bryce

Provincial Specialist Mining Health and Safety Program



FAIR, SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACES DIVISION



Our Vision

We envision an Ontario that is the most attractive place to work in the world because every employee is treated fairly and comes home safely.

Our Mission

We set, communicate and enforce legislation to help make Ontario workplaces fair, safe and healthy. Through our professionalism, innovation and collaboration, we earn and maintain the public trust.

Disclaimer

- This presentation is intended to assist the workplace parties in understanding their obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations. It is not intended to replace the OHSA or the regulations, and reference should always be made to the official versions of the legislation.
- This presentation does not constitute legal advice. It is the responsibility of the workplace parties to ensure compliance with the law. Anyone requiring assistance with respect to the interpretation of the legislation and its potential application in specific circumstances should contact their legal counsel.
- Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD) inspectors will apply and enforce the OHSA and its regulations based on the facts as they may find them in the workplace. This presentation does not affect their enforcement discretion in any way.

MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign - Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

From **April 1, 2026** to **March 31, 2027**, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development (MLITSD) will be conducting an education, outreach, and enforcement campaign to focus on energy isolation: Lock out tag out in mines and mining plants.

Partners for this campaign include:

- [Workplace Safety North](#) (WSN)
- [Infrastructure Health and Safety Association](#) (IHSA)



MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign - Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

Rationale for campaign

- Non-compliance with lockout/tagout procedures has contributed to recent fatalities and severe critical injuries in the Ontario mining sector.
- Locking and tagging energized equipment in Ontario mines is essential to prevent the accidental release of hazardous energy during maintenance or repair and to prevent injuries.
- Under Ontario's Mining Regulation [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#) proper lockout/tagout strengthens communication, supports safe work practices, and helps maintain a strong safety culture to protect the health and safety of workers.

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Campaign focus [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#): Key elements (ss. 158)

- Applies to all work on electrical equipment/conductors.
- Employer must have a written lockout/tagout (LOTO) program to protect workers.
- Before work begins, workers must test/verify: isolation of all hazardous electrical sources, isolating devices engaged, and stored electrical energy discharged.
- Energy-isolating devices must be locked and tagged before work starts.
- Locks may be omitted only in limited, specific situations (device design creates a hazard, or certain <150 V-to-ground devices lack locking means).
- Tags must be secure and informative (reason, name, date), non-conductive, and installed so they can't become energized or be inadvertently removed.

MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign - Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

Campaign focus [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#): Key elements (ss. 159)

- **Energized work is not permitted:** No repairs or alterations shall be carried out on any live equipment except where complete disconnection of the equipment is not feasible. Examples of tasks that are not feasible when electrical equipment has been completely disconnected are troubleshooting of control circuits, testing, and diagnostics. It is intended that persons performing maintenance, adjustment, servicing, or examination of energized electrical equipment adhere to all applicable safe work practices around the energized electrical equipment.

Such as:

- Ontario Electrical Safety Code 29th edition 2024
- CSA Z462:24 Workplace Electrical Safety
- CSA M421:23 Use of Electricity in Mines

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Campaign focus [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#): Key elements (ss. 159) Cont'd

- **Use a plan and PPE:** Follow written energized-work procedures, wear appropriate protective equipment, and apply all required precautions.
- **Maintain safe clearances:** Keep people, tools, and loads a safe distance from overhead power lines; avoid encroachment.
- **Control high-risk equipment and exposure:** Booms/cranes near lines require strict authorization and controls, and accessible live parts must be guarded to prevent contact during maintenance.

MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign - Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

Campaign focus [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#): Key elements (ss. 185(7-10))

If any work is being done on a machine

- **Stop and neutralize hazards:** Stop all moving parts and dissipate stored energy before work begins.
- **Isolate, lock, and tag:** Ensure energy-isolating devices are in place (install if needed), then engage, lock, and tag all isolations.
- **Verify before starting:** The worker must test/verify that motion is stopped, energy is controlled, and isolation/LOTO is properly applied.
- **Tagging + alternatives only when necessary:** Tags must be secure and identified (reason, name, date); if full compliance isn't practical, work may proceed only with effective protective measures (e.g., barriers, shields, or other precautions).

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Campaign focus [Reg. 854 Mines and Mining Plants](#): Key elements (ss. 196(6))

Work is being done on a conveyor

- For repairs, adjustments, or maintenance, the conveyor shall be stopped and the prime mover de-energized, locked, and tagged out.
- **Exception:** The conveyor may run only if operation is necessary to perform the work.
- If running is necessary: Effective precautions must be in place to prevent worker injury from moving parts.
- Use lock out tagout unless the task truly requires the conveyor to run then implement robust guarding and controls as effective precautions.

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What Inspectors will look for in the field

- Check that workers are trained in lockout/tagout procedures
- Evidence that equipment is de-energized, isolated, locked and tagged before work.
- Personal locks applied by each worker; group LOTO arrangements where multiple workers or crews involved.
- Tags show name, date, time, contact and reason for lockout; devices are durable and legible.
- Zero-energy verification (test) performed and documented as required.
- Procedures accessible at the job location; isolation points labelled and controls secured.

MHSP 2026-2027 Campaign - Energy isolation: Lock out tag out

Compliance Best Practices

- Maintain a written LOTO program aligned with Reg. 854 and site conditions, with equipment-specific procedures that clearly identify isolation points and steps.
- Provide the right LOTO devices (locks, tags, lockable isolators, group lock boxes) and manage unique IDs, key control, and access.
- Train workers and supervisors on LOTO and verify competence through practical demonstration.
- Conduct routine field verifications/audits, document findings, and track corrective actions to closure.
- Require pre-job hazard assessments/job briefings and permits where applicable (including energized work), and ensure contractors follow site LOTO and are included in coordination plans.

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Training Requirements

- Training content: energy source identification, step-by-step LOTO, group lock box, shift change, and return to service.
- Demonstrated competence with hands-on verification and periodic refresher training.
- Retraining after equipment or process changes, incidents, or observed deficiencies.



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Roles and Responsibilities

- **Employer:** establish and maintain LOTO program, provide devices, training and supervision.
- **Supervisor:** ensure procedures are followed and verify worker competence; conduct field checks.
- **Worker:** follow procedures, apply personal lock, verify zero energy, and report hazards/defects.
- **Contractors:** adhere to site LOTO program and coordinate with owner/employer for isolation.

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Key Messaging

- Lock out tag out (LOTO) prevents unexpected start-up or release of hazardous energy.
- Identify all energy sources: electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal, gravitational, and stored energy.
- De-energize, isolate, lock, tag, test and try to verify a zero-energy state before work begins.
- Each worker applies their personal lock and retains the key; group LOTO uses a group lock box.
- Energized work is only permitted under written measures and procedures with effective precautions and authorization.

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(MLITSD) Resources and Compliance Assistance

- [Hazards in the mining sector | ontario.ca](#)
- [Risk assessment and management for mines and mining plants | ontario.ca](#)





Mining Sector LOTO Campaign

Ron St. Jean
Health and Safety Specialist
Workplace Safety North



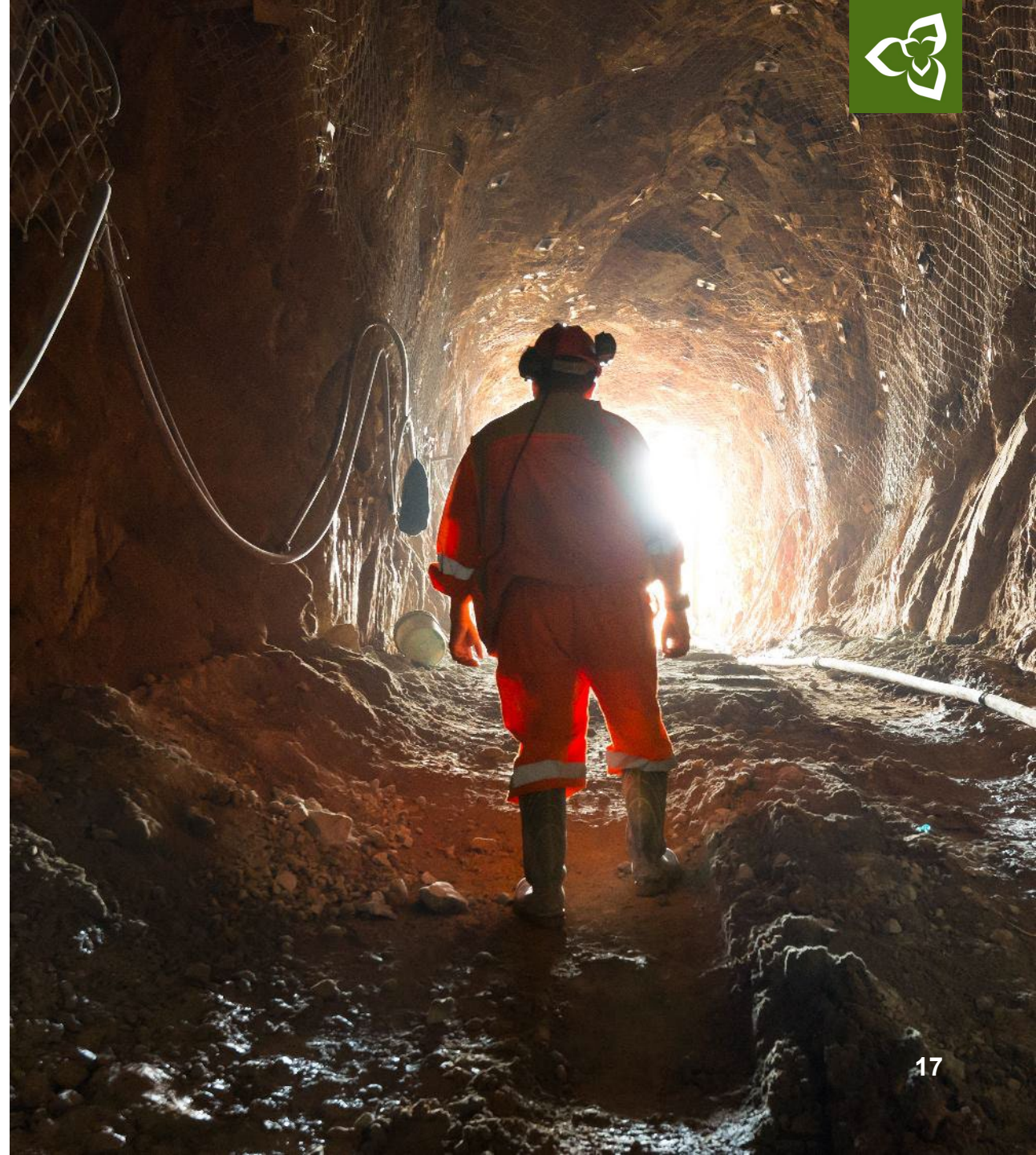
Workplace Safety North

At Workplace Safety North (WSN), we believe that the workers in the industries that we support are the most important asset to their employers.

Our Vision is every worker home safe and healthy.

Our mission is to be a force for positive action – anticipating and responding to the greatest needs of our clients, and bringing together our partners, members, and diverse communities to build safer, healthier, stronger workplaces.

Our values are compassion, integrity, respect, and team spirit. These values shape who we are and how we work.





How do we get every worker home safe and healthy?

Our approach

Gap Assessment

- Hazard inventory and risk assessment
- Self-serve
 - Many different forms and checklists available online
- Assisted:
 - WSN can support by providing site specific external assessment

Continuous Improvement Plan




- Establish plan to correct identified hazards
 - Prioritize high potential
- Use participatory approach (engagement)
 - JHSC/rep
 - Workers
 - Supervisors
 - Management
- Control implementation
- Ownership and champions

Evaluate for Effectiveness

- Hierarchy of controls considerations
 - Prioritize more effective controls
- Awareness and Communications of improvements
- Continue to identify OFIs, assign ownership, drive action
- Celebrate 'wins'
- Create strong IRS/culture



How WSN is supporting the Ontario Mining Sector

Desired Outcome	Information/ Awareness	Actionable Resources (Self-serve)	Training	Consulting (WSN assisted)
Compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Lockout/Tag out basics</u>• Stickers (hazard focused)• Webinars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sample Procedure• <u>Mining Compliance Pulse Check</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Lockout eLearning</u>• JHSC Part 1 – in person/ hybrid/ virtual• JHSC Part 2 – in person/ hybrid/ virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level 1 Assessment• Level 2 Assessment• Level 3 Assessment• Legislative Compliance Audit
Continuous Improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Safe Use of Machinery Video</u>• Hazard Alerts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Lockout/Tagout Assessment Tool</u>• Supervisor Safety Talk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lockout - in person• Lockout - virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy Hazard Inventory and Assessment• <u>Lockout/Tagout Assessment Tool</u>
Excellence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Risk Management (Conveyor Guarding Incident) Risk Assessment: No Time Like Now – Video</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maturity Based Lockout/Tagout Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk Assessment & Control Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conveyor Assessments – Mining• Maturity Based Lockout/Tagout Assessment• Culture Improvement



Thank you for helping to make workplaces safer

For additional information, please contact:

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Health and Safety Specialist

Workplace Safety North

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info@workplacesafetynorth.ca



**WSN Lockout and
Guarding Resources**



TF: 1-888-730-7821 (Ontario)
workplacesafetynorth.ca

Lock-Out, Tag-Out



Surface Mining &
Aggregate Sector

Ryan Smith,
Health and Safety
Consultant

About Us



Ontario's trusted health and safety resource



IHSA's vision

Safe and healthy workplaces free from incidents, injuries, illnesses, or fatalities.

IHSA's mission

To be Ontario's trusted health and safety resource for effective sector-specific engagement, education, products, and services.

IHSA's core values

- Trust
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Equity and inclusion
- Collaboration
- Continuous improvement
- Health, safety, and well-being



Part of the Safety System

The Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) is Ontario's trusted health and safety resource. Our goal is to improve the lives of Ontario workers. We provide the resources and training that control and eliminate safety hazards in work environments involving high-risk activities.

At IHSA we have always maintained a standard of excellence. We are proud of our role in helping to make Ontario one of the safest places in the world to work.

Our focus is on workers and keeping our promise to provide them with the tools to *Work Safe for Life*. As part of Ontario's health and safety system, we are recognized by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Ministry of Transportation, and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board as designated trainers and consultants. So, you can be sure that the training you get from IHSA meets regulatory requirements and compliance standards.

- For information about IHSA's strategic direction, view [IHSA's Strategic Plan](#).



Our Programs & Products



Listen to
IHSA Safety Podcast
Episode 80:
Women in construction health and safety
Three IHSA managers talk about creating gender-inclusive workplaces

ihsasafetypodcast.ca



IHSA Health and Safety Magazine
Your free resource for safer work



OHSA amendments: have your say
On May 6, the Ontario government introduced Bill 190, the Working for Workers Five Act, which will amend aspects of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). The proposed amendments deal with the definition of harassment, jobsite "posting requirements," joint health and safety committees, and more. Ontarians are invited to review and comment on the Bill until June 10, 2024.

electrical equipment
Safety advisory outlines the circumstances in which working on or near electrical equipment is permitted—and what employers must do in those cases. Download the advisory now.

compliance campaigns
Migration, Training, and Skills Development (MITS/D) recently launched the campaigns for 2024 and 2025. The campaigns aim to improve high education, outreach, and, ultimately, enforcement, with regard to chemical agents in the workplace (with a sub-focus on silica) on the amended Hazardous Products Regulations.

the trades at Skills Ontario
Sponsored the 2024 Skills Ontario competition. The event featured programs for young tradespeople in dozens of industries. IHSA's training technicians, apprentices and advisors on their safe-work knowledge and of Ontario elementary and secondary school students on an inside look at (and safe) career path. Check out photos from the event.

safety talk videos
Safety talks offer crucial information on workplace best practices and the safe use of equipment. Our latest videos look at the safe use of elevators, housekeeping on differences between a competent person and a competent worker. Watch our videos on our YouTube channel.

New training and resources from IHSA



Workplace health and safety is evolving. Stay in the know by subscribing to IHSA's 2-Minute News



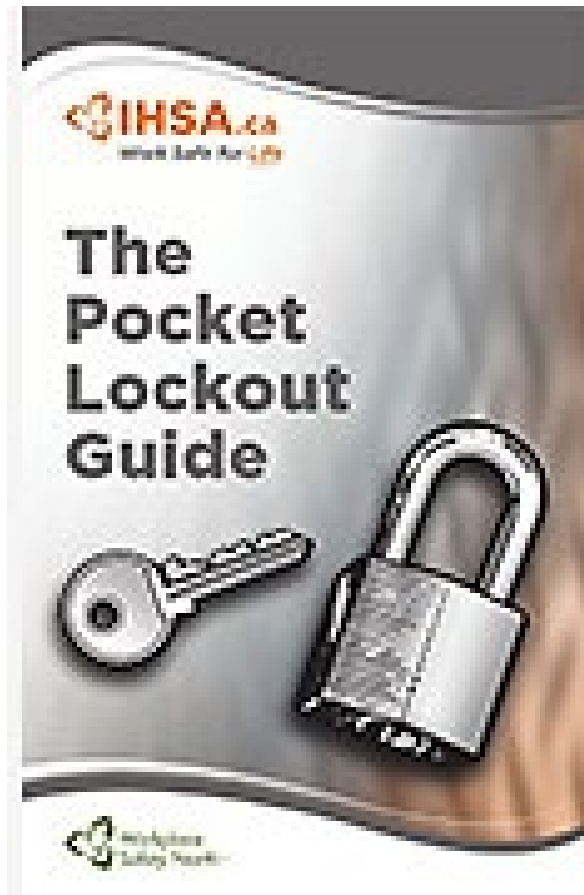
Training

IHSA offers several training programs related to safety in the aggregate industry including:

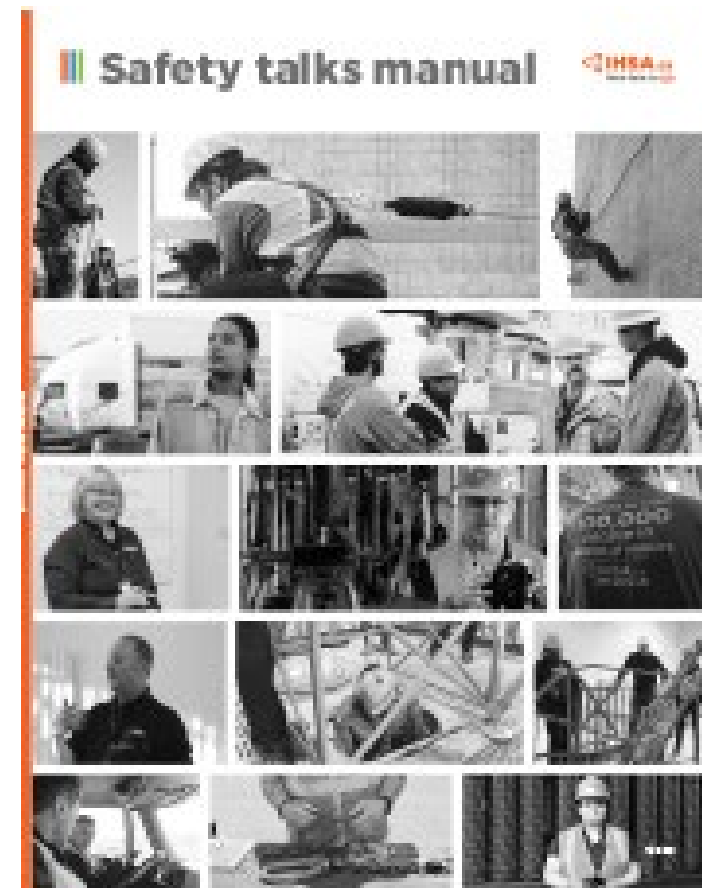
- Surface miner Common Core
- **Lockout & Tagout - Electrical, Mechanical, Gaseous**
- Basics of Silica (eLearning)
- Basics of Supervising
- Defensive Driving – Commercial
- Electrical Safety
- Hydraulic Aerial Equipment
- Hydraulic Material – Handling Aerial Devices
- Rough Terrain Class 7 Telehandler & Vertical Mast Lift Trucks
- Investigating and Reporting Incidents
- Fleet Signing Authority - MTO Driver Certification Program
- Preventing Work-Related Motor Vehicle Collisions
- Traffic Control – Temporary Work Zones
- Signaller and Traffic Control Person
- Working at Heights – Fundamentals of Fall Prevention
- Asbestos Abatement Worker/Supervisor
- Basics of Hearing Protection (eLearning)
- Brush Chippers - Safe Operation and Maintenance
- Chainsaw Operation and Maintenance
- Commercial Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation
- Confined Space Entry
- CVOR Facility Audit Overview (Seminar)
- Ergonomics - How to Effectively Control MSD Hazards
- Hoisting and Rigging - Basic Safety Training
- JHSC Certification - Part 1 & Part 2 (Aggregates)
- Mobile Crane Operator 0-8 Ton

Lockout Tagout

The Pocket Lockout Guide (B011) outlines key steps to safe lockout tagout in mining

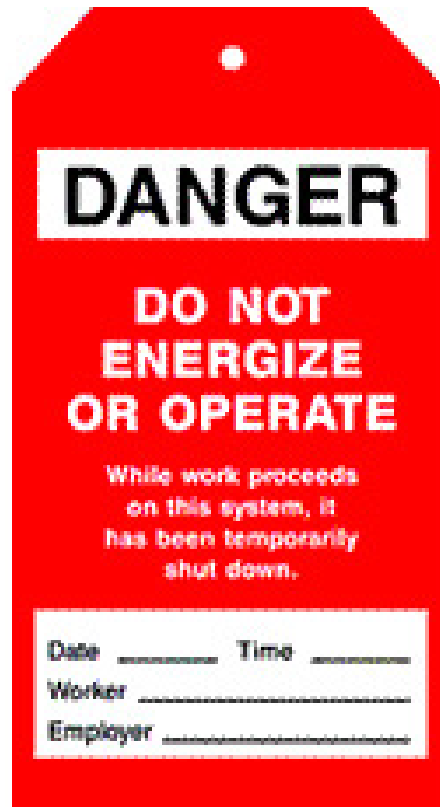


IHSA has a safety talk for locking and tagging that can be tailored to your specific site



Lockout Tagout

IHSA has several tags and stickers for different applications



E

Red Tag Work Permit

equipment locked

description of work

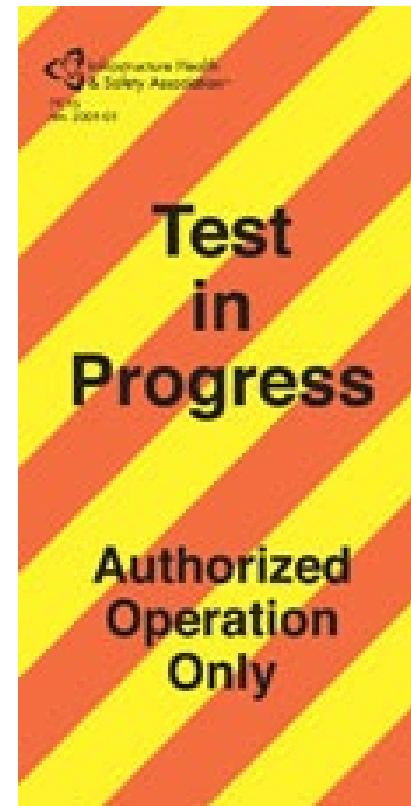
outage approved by Controlling Authority

lock tag	device	operations to be completed (Risk Permit)	initials

accepted by Worker
time _____ date _____

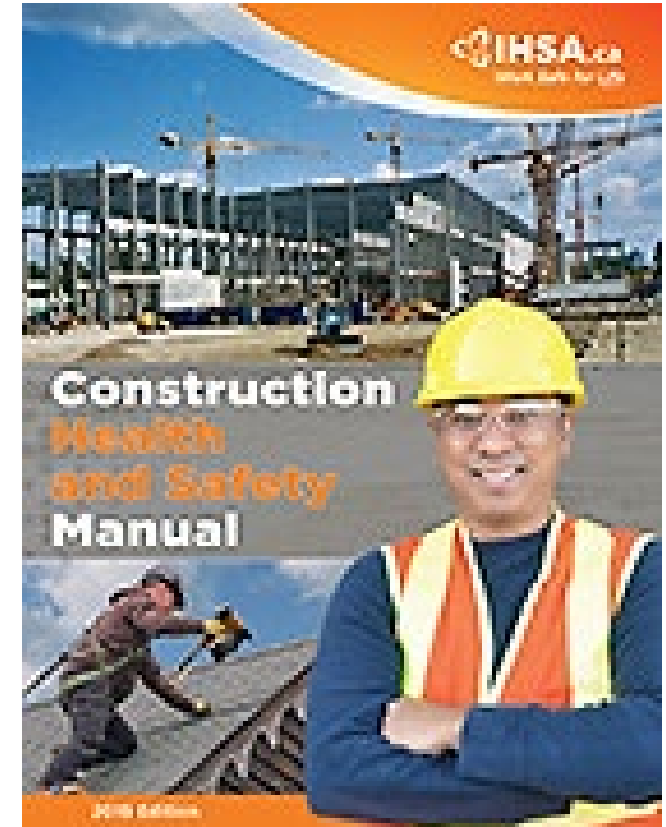
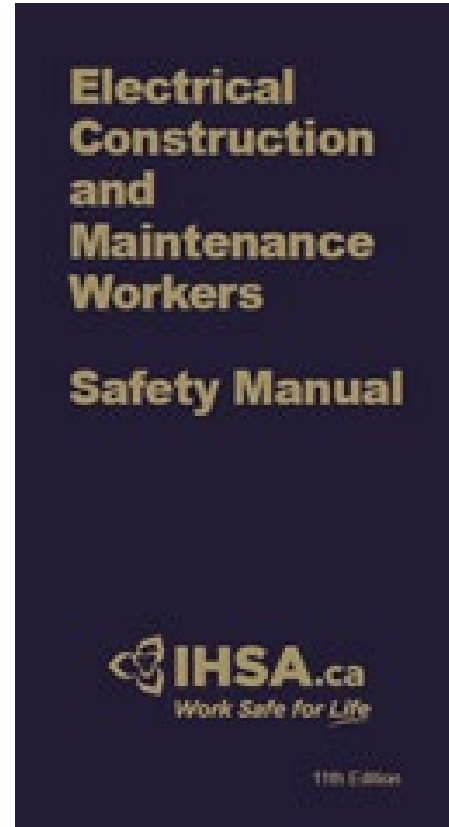
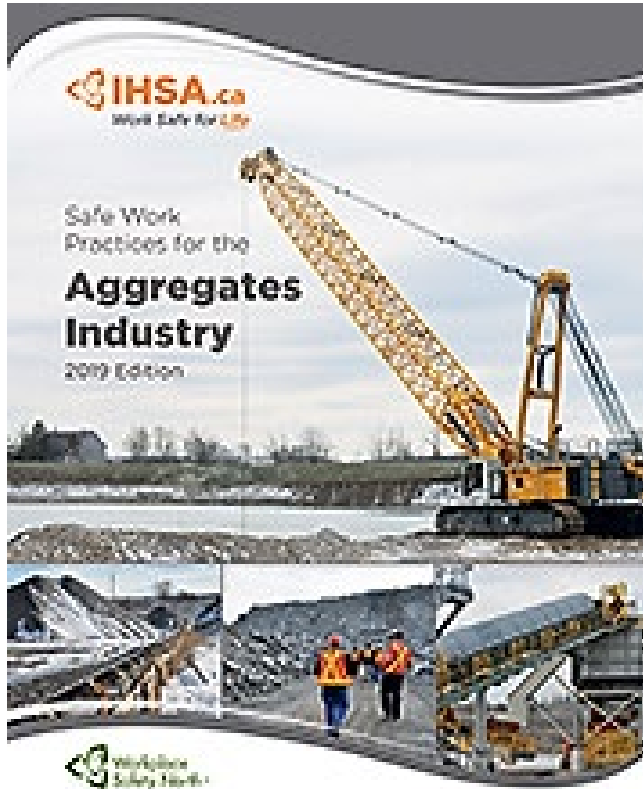
temporary de-energizing devices installed # _____

**Do Not Operate
Personnel Protection**



Lockout Tagout

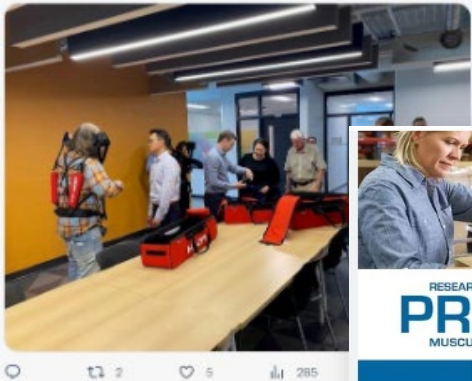
IHSA has books covering LOTO for different applications



Specialty Consulting & Member Programs

Ergonomics

Canadian Institute Safety, Wellness & Pe... @CISWP_Con... · Jun 27 ...
Dr. Yazdani and Dr. Yung presented at today's @IHSAnews Labour Management Health and Safety Committee meeting, hosted at the new Conestoga Skilled Trades Campus! They discussed exoskeleton technologies in the construction sector followed by a demonstration.



Mental Health



Occupational Hygiene



NCSO® & NHSA™



Keep your Promise

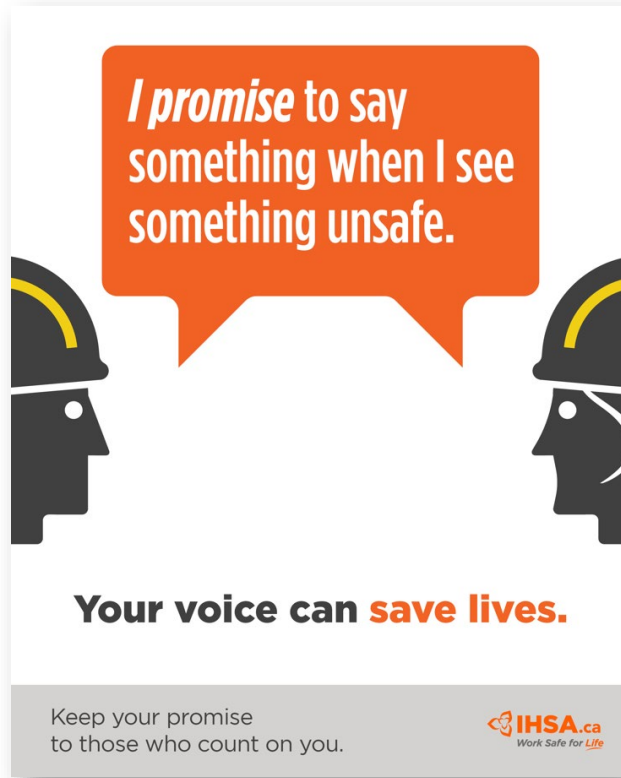
See Something Say Something



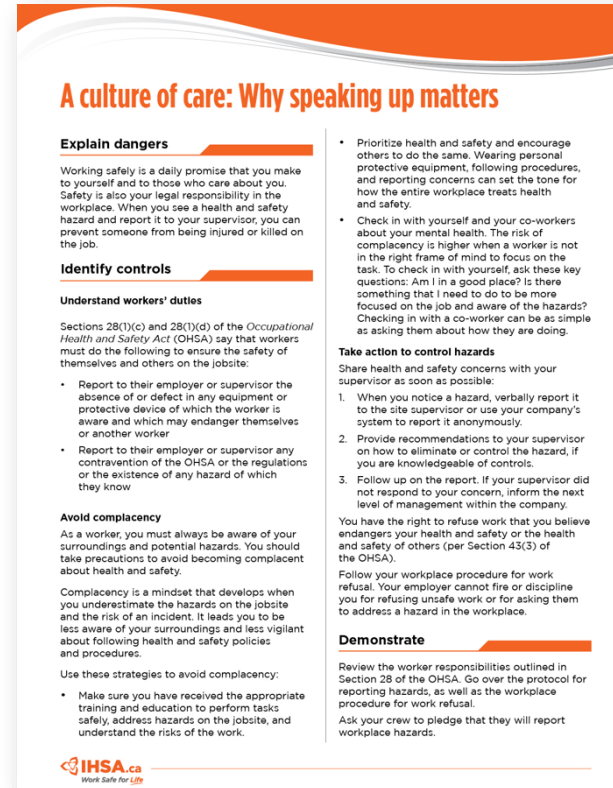
Trigger Warning:

The following session contains details related to the loss of a loved one due to workplace tragedies. These topics may be distressing to some viewers. Viewer discretion is advised

Keep Your Promise: See Something Say Something



Poster



Safety Talk



Stickers

Keep Your Promise: See Something Say Something



Get in Touch



@ihsasafetynews



@ihsanews



Infrastructure Health
& Safety Association



@ihsaworksafe



@ihsa-worksafeforlife

Visit [IHSA.ca](https://www.ihsa.ca) or scan
the QR codes below
to follow us on
social media



[linkedin.com/in/michellejroberts](https://www.linkedin.com/in/michellejroberts)



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