

**Ministry of Labour**

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DATE: March 29, 2017

TO: Chief Prevention Officer approved working at heights training providers
RE: Working at Heights Training Requirements for Construction Projects

As you know, the working at heights (WAH) training requirements set out in O. Reg. 297/13 came into force on April 1, 2015, requiring that employers must ensure that workers on construction projects successfully complete a working at heights training program approved by the Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) and delivered by a CPO-approved training provider before they can work at heights.

There was a two-year transition period for workers who, prior to April 1, 2015, met the fall protection training requirements set out in subsection 26.2(1) of O. Reg. 213/91. These workers had until April 1, 2017 to complete an approved working at heights training program.

After receiving requests from worker representatives in the construction sector, and in dialogue with employers and health and safety organizations, O.Reg. 297/13 has been amended to extend the time for workers to receive the training.

The deadline is being extended to October 1, 2017, lengthening the transition period by six months in specific circumstances.

The worker(s) in question must have completed fall protection training that met the requirements of section 26.2(1) of O. Reg. 213/91 (Construction Projects) before April 1, 2015, **and the worker must be enrolled in a WAH training program that will be completed before October 1, 2017**. The employer must have written proof of enrollment, which must be made available to an inspector upon request.

The proof of enrollment must include the name of the worker, the name of the approved training provider, the date on which the approved training is scheduled to be complete, and the name of the approved training program. Your clients may request you provide them with this proof of enrollment with these four required items.

The Ministry will continue to enforce all occupational health and safety training requirements, including those for working at heights.

The Ministry would like to thank the more than 160 Chief Prevention Office approved working at heights training providers who offer this crucial training. Together, we are continuing to make Ontario one of the safest places to work in the world.