

**Council of Construction Associations**  
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COCA Update on WorkSafeBC Activities #476 May 31, 2010

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Injuries at Work

CONSTRUCTION -----

Injury Type : Lacerated arm

Core Activity : Commercial building renovations

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2010120030150 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

A worker was using a handheld angle grinder to cut exposed wire mesh in a concrete floor. The grinder was equipped with a 5-inch cutting blade that was not guarded. As the worker pulled at the mesh with the hand not holding the running grinder, the grinder contacted the concrete floor, bounced up, and contacted the worker's arm.

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Injury Type : Sprained back, road rash

Core Activity : Traffic control

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010155400118 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

The driver of a motor vehicle told a traffic control person (TCP) to get out of the way or be run over. The vehicle then struck the TCP. The vehicle was corralled by other workers in work trucks and the driver was subsequently charged by the police.

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Injury Type : Concussion, facial laceration, neck and back strain, arm contusions

Core Activity : Steep slope roofing

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010155070120 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

A worker fell 16 feet from a roof to grade.

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Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Commercial construction

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2010154960171 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

A temporary engineered concrete lock-block retaining wall was constructed to accommodate wider dump truck access to the base of a 30-foot-deep bulk excavation. The entire retaining wall consisting of 48 two-ton blocks suddenly collapsed after one worker heard a noise. Four workers near the collapse retreated from the fall zone immediately before the catastrophic failure. Debris from the collapse contacted the base of the operating 200-foot-high tower crane.

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Injury Type : Fractured ribs, vertebrae, leg

Core Activity : Residential painting

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010165420119 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

While painting from a ladder, a worker fell 14 feet, 2 inches and landed on a wood fence.

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Injury Type : Neck and back injuries

Core Activity : Framing

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010155070111 Date of Accident : 2010-Apr

A worker fell 24 feet from the second floor to the basement level of a single family home under construction.

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Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae, soft-tissue injury to chest (1 worker);  
fractured leg, dislocated ankle (1 worker)

Core Activity : Wood framing

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2010137290077 Date of Accident : 2010-Mar

Two workers were injured while trying to manually stand a wood framed wall.

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Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae, ribs, pelvis, hip; punctured lung

Core Activity : Roofing

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2010166950102 Date of Accident : 2010-Mar

A new worker was sheeting a residential roof in preparation for installing asphalt shingles. The worker fell 7.5 feet onto concrete steps.

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Injury Type : Electric shock, burns

Core Activity : Industrial construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010113820124 Date of Accident : 2010-Mar

A worker was working in a power house when he received an electrical shock.

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Injury Type : Crush injury to leg

Core Activity : Land clearing, excavation, or site surfacing

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010161740106 Date of Accident : 2010-Mar

While repairing residential perimeter drainage, a worker excavated a hole (1 metre wide by 3 metres long by 2.5 metres deep) against the concrete foundation wall. The worker had entered the hole to clean up when it collapsed and buried him up to his neck.

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Injury Type : Fractured ribs, cuts, bruises

Core Activity : Construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2010157530102 Date of Accident : 2010-Mar

A worker fell from scaffolding on the exterior of a four-storey building and landed on a brick walkway below.