



Take five for hand protection *By Janelle Johnson, Communications Coordinator, WORKSAFELY™*

Every employer, owner or supervisor is responsible by law to provide a safe and healthy workplace for employees.

So what types of injuries occur most often? It is a body part that is probably used most frequently throughout a workday. If you guessed head, you are wrong. It is what you are using to hold up this newsletter or to scroll through it on your computer screen. That's right, hands are the most commonly injured body part in any workplace, including the construction industry.

Hand and finger injuries account for over 19% of all injuries at any workplace in Manitoba. Hand protection is designed to protect workers from all types of hazards at the workplace.

The hazards must be assessed and proper hand protection must be chosen carefully to be sure they are best suited for the hazards. Another factor to consider is the size of the hand protection it must fit properly so it does not become a hazard itself.

Before any new task begins that requires hand protection, the hand protection must be inspected. An effective way to check for defects in hand protection is pressurized air or water; this will bring to light any holes in the hand protection.

WORKSAFELY **MHCA**

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Take five for hand protection, continued

When employers are asked what their main concerns are when it comes to staffing, one of the top answers is time loss injuries.

Injuries related to hands from 2003-2012 come in second overall at over 16% of all time loss injuries at the workplace. In 2012, there were almost 2500 incidents of finger and hand injuries in Manitoba.

So what can be done as employers to lower this statistic and be sure employees are properly protecting their hands?

- Educate staff on proper use, assessing the need and proper inspection of hand protection
- Provide staff with CSA approved hand protection
- Refer to the manufacturer's instructions on the maintenance and proper care of hand protection

Injuries involving hands do not only happen outside on a jobsite. They can also happen in the office, and in fact, many do. Office injuries usually occur gradually and will go unnoticed until there is extreme discomfort.

This discomfort usually stems from poor posture while using the computer or sitting at a desk. This discomfort, or even time loss injury, can be prevented by assessing the setup of the work station. While assessing the work station there are many situations to take note of, including but not limited to, your wrist position while using your mouse, the position of your fingers and wrists while using your keyboard and pressure points on your desk.

The majority of hand and wrist injuries can be prevented with education and awareness on the jobsite. It is a team effort which should involve owners, supervisors and employees.

For more information:

- visit our website www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely
- or call 204-947-1379.

City of Winnipeg wants to speed up release of tenders - will work with MHCA

By Chris Lorenc, B.A. LL.B. President MHCA

In May 2013, the MHCA raised concerns with the City of Winnipeg about the slow release of tenders by the City of Winnipeg. . This resulted in extensive communication and exchanges with the City of Winnipeg at all levels.

In a letter dated July 22, 2013, the City of Winnipeg committed that the Public Works Department will meet with the MHCA once the 2013 construction season has concluded, to discuss ways and means of expediting civic tenders for the 2014 construction season.

The MHCA is pleased that the City of Winnipeg remains committed to fiscal improvement, timely release of tenders and reception of industry feedback. The City of Winnipeg's timing rationale is as follows:

1. The City has advanced the process for preparation of the combined Operating and Capital Budgets for 2014 and is working to expedite review and approval;
2. Public Works is already endeavoring to improve the process so that consultant assignments can be completed earlier than in 2013;
3. Public Works intends to undertake an analysis of the 2013 construction program to identify further improvements.

The MHCA has agreed with the timing suggestions and will follow up with the City of Winnipeg in late September 2013.

MHCA members are encouraged to provide suggestions for areas of civic tendering improvements and provide them to Sarah Piercy, Manager of Public Affairs at sarah.piercy@mhca.mb.ca on or before September 9, 2013.



BI-POLE III receives province of Manitoba licence

On August 14, 2013, the Province of Manitoba granted an Environment Act licence to Manitoba Hydro for its Bi-Pole III transmission project.

The massive BI-POLE III project now includes 68 conditions, adding 42 conditions to the initial 26 Clean Environment Commission licensing recommendations resulting from concerns raised in public hearings and Crown-Aboriginal consultations.

Conservation and Water Stewardship Minister Gord Mackintosh noted, as the project proceeds, Manitoba Hydro will also submit individual environmental protection plans for project phases to the director of environmental approval. Two independent environmental audits will also be conducted, one when the project is completed and another five years after completion, to ensure environmental commitments were met.

The licence requires Manitoba Hydro to:

- implement extensive monitoring programs for woodland caribou, moose, wolves, black bears, white-tailed deer and birds of prey to ensure the effective implementation of mitigation measures to protect those species;
- establish an easily accessible public website that will be maintained - in perpetuity - to share monitoring results, reports and evaluations of mitigation measures;
- strengthen recommendations from the CEC by ensuring no net loss of wetlands;
- establish a new right-of-way clearing practice that protects coniferous forests and non-hazardous wildlife habitat trees, and protects lines-of-sight for aesthetic purposes;
- include provisions for consultation with farmers before tower placement is finalized to minimize the effects on farm operations;
- eliminate the use of herbicides during construction and during line maintenance in wildlife management areas and bogs, and use them in other areas during line maintenance only as a last resort; and
- submit annual reports on the success of mitigation measures used during construction including an assessment of the accuracy of predictions made about the use of natural resources.

Manitoba Hydro submitted its initial application for the project in December 2009 and the environmental impact statement was submitted in December 2011. Crown-Aboriginal consultations were held to hear and understand the concerns of First Nations, Métis and local Aboriginal communities about how the project might affect the exercise of their rights. The minister also noted that the government will continue to listen to any concerns raised by Aboriginal communities as the bi-pole project proceeds, adding those concerns will be considered through conditions in the many approvals and permits required for the project. For example, Manitoba Hydro will be required to invest in traditional knowledge programs, which could include programs that promote trapping and harvesting in affected Aboriginal communities.

"Consultations are based on relationships with First Nations, Métis and local Aboriginal communities and, like any relationship, are continually dynamic and evolving," said Mackintosh. "We set up Crown Aboriginal consultations based on our duty to consult and accommodate on a project by project basis. Our goal is to further reconciliation between the Crown and Aboriginal communities, and continue to develop and deepen our relationships."

The licence, including all conditions, can be found at: www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eal/registries/5433bipole/index.html.

2013 MHCA Membership & Services Directory available!

Released annually in spring, the MHCA Annual Directory is the exclusive Equipment Rental Rates Guide in Manitoba. Its 'yellow pages' list companies by areas of service. The 2013 Directory was mailed to MHCA members at the beginning of May.

Non-members can purchase this year's directory by contacting Brenda at 204.947.1379 or brenda@mhca.mb.ca

Public and private sector project owners extensively use the Directory to locate and contact needed suppliers of services, including contractors, materials, equipment, aggregates, oils, design, and engineering — to name a few.



Welcome NEW MHCA Members!

Alliance Underground Inc.

Robert Van Osch

Email:

robert@allianceunderground.com

1 - 2091 Plessis Road

Winnipeg, MB R3W 1S4

Ph: (204) 222 - 5250

Services:

Installation and repairs of sewer and water connections, pipes and repair and installation of watermains and services.

Sison Blackburn Consulting Inc.

Darren Blackburn

Email: dblackburn@sbcinc.ca

10 - 5 Scurfield Blvd.

Winnipeg, Manitoba R3Y 1G3

Ph: 204 - 505 - 0855

Fax: 204 - 505 - 0850

Website: www.sbcinc.ca

Services:

Sison Blackburn Consulting Inc. (SBC) specializes in land development and municipal infrastructure projects with a range of services including planning, feasibility studies, regulatory approvals, design, tendering, construction management and contract administration.

We've updated our logos and we hope you will, too!



Last year, MHCA invested in a new brand identity that you see throughout *The Heavy News Weekly*. If you are a proud MHCA member and wish to download and use our NEW logos for your marketing initiatives, please visit:

www.mhca.mb.ca/media/logos



Stay tuned for photos, news, award winners, and stories from the MHCA Golf Tournament - held on Wednesday, August 9, 2013 at Pine Ridge Golf Club and Elmhurst Golf & Country Club.

Have a story for us? We'd love to hear about it!

The MHCA is only successful thanks to our strong membership roster that continues to grow, and now we want to hear from you!

We want to hear about a success story, a great photograph or a fantastic video or anything you want to share with us and the rest of the MHCA membership!

We'd like to hear from our members on things such as:

- A New Exciting Construction Project your company is involved with
- A Recent Successful Completion of a Construction Project
- A success story or achievement for your company or staff member(s)

Feel free to submit your idea or story to media@mhca.mb.ca

We will contact you for more information or details on your story, and then have it ready for a future issue of the Heavy News Weekly!

Training Schedule

Winnipeg Schedule

Construction Safety Excellence -

WHMIS (1/2 day AM)	August 7
TCE (1/2 day PM)	August 7
Flagperson (1/2 day AM)	August 8
COR Auditor Refresher (1/2 day AM)	August 9
Traffic Control Coordinator	August 19-20
Train the Trainer	August 21-22
COR Leadership in Safety Excellence	August 26-27
COR Principles of Health & Safety Management	August 28
COR Auditor	August 29-30



To Register:
 Email: sarah@mhca.mb.ca
 OR Fax: 204-943-2279

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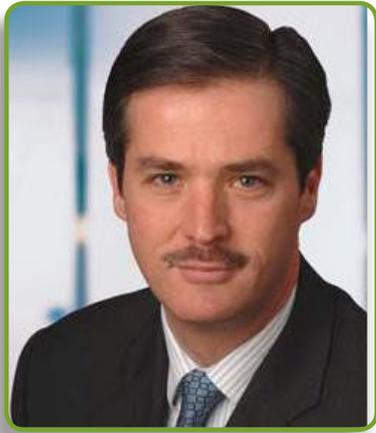


www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely

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Turning Summer Dreams into Reality

Peter G. Hall, EDC Vice-President and Chief Economist



Peter G. Hall



Summer offers many Canadians a rare opportunity to step off the daily treadmill and enjoy time with friends, family, and sometimes, just alone. Whether it's watching a sunset from the deck, fishing on a misty morning, enjoying a mid-hike mountain view or just lounging on a chaise, alone-moments can give rise to great dreams. Can we channel those dreamy thoughts to make them more realizable?

Let's start with growth. Yes, many have given up on it, thanks to prolonged global stagnation. But what if it were to pick up in a big way? How would we make the best of it? Are we prepared for it, or would we choke on the deluge of orders? Would we see it coming, or would it take us unawares? Good questions; are there answers?

Growth rarely makes reservations; it just shows up. It's the same in every economic cycle, so those who are more prepared get the business. This time around, it will almost certainly arrive from abroad, as our local economy is tapped out. That shouldn't be a surprise to Canadians, as recovery is rarely self-generated; we are a trading economy. So if you're ready to dream international-style, here are some basic points to ponder.

Where should I go? International opportunities are almost endless, and it's easy to lose focus. Sales are a key driver, and it's critical to look for the global hot spots. These are typically our less typical customers. You can access them either by being there, or by aligning your activities with those who are. Accessing resources - materials, people, know-how - is an increasingly critical determinant of location, suggesting that foreign investments should not be left out of those summer dreams.

What should I do? When it comes to product offering, don't presume the status quo. Maybe you need to expand your product lineup. Maybe you need to narrow it. Perhaps there are those that do parts of your production process better than you do. That could be an opportunity to leverage their expertise, and focus more on the things you do best.

How should I produce it? Renewed growth will make home-grown solutions increasingly rare. Not long into the next growth cycle, Canada will bump into tight labour markets, constrained industrial capacity, intense competition for financial capital, our legendary sluggish productivity record, and limited physical infrastructure. Rather than turn away sales, why not augment productive capacity offshore? It could even add to efficiency, and open the doors to brand new sales opportunities.

Learn from others. A decade of trade diversification has taken many Canadian exporters into multiple non-traditional markets, blazing a trail for others to follow. In most cases, they are more than willing to tell their story, and to help other Canadians - OK, non-competitors - prosper while avoiding the common pitfalls. Plan to tap in to this growing compendium of experience.

Be ready for risk. Today's higher growth opportunities come with greater risks. That's a reality, and it's necessary to shed our traditional Canadian risk aversion and embrace the risk. Many Canadian exporters are already 'there', and reaping the rewards. Lots are discovering innovative ways to mitigate the risks, with specially-designed financing and insurance products, careful selection of partners, legal due diligence, in-market advisors, government-to-government connections and so on.

The bottom line?

Growth may take awhile to arrive, but it may be just around the corner. When it gets here, it's likely to have a different makeup, that is, a significant and diverse international flavour. In your summer business dreams, make room - lots of room - for international aspirations. Those who do are taking steps to harnessing what may well be the most rewarding growth cycle in recent times.

Enhance your safety program today!



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