

The Real Cost of Incidents: More Than a Statistic

DID YOU KNOW? “Every single day in Canada, **969 workers are injured on the job**. Every month, **85 Canadian workers lose their lives**.

In the United States, an average of **15 workers die every day** from work-related injuries (THAT’S 1 WORKER EVERY 99 MINUTES), and in 2023 there were **2.6 million nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses**, including nearly **1 million cases with days away from work**. (Source: OSHA, Bureau of Labor Statistics)

These aren’t just numbers. They’re moms, dads, friends, coworkers — people just like you and me. And when it happens, it doesn’t just change their life. It changes everyone’s life around them.”

The Human Cost includes but is not limited to:

- Physical pain, rehab, or chronic injury
- Emotional suffering: trauma, fear, depression
- Lost income, strained relationships, family stress
- Loss of role as a provider, teammate, community member

Facilitator Q&A. Questions to ask:

1. *“If you were injured today and couldn’t work for six months, what would be the hardest part for you?”*
(Expected: money, family stress, boredom, loss of pride.)
2. *“Think of someone at home who depends on you. How would their life change if you didn’t come home safe today?”*
3. *“Who here believes most incidents are preventable? Why?”*
(Reinforce: Nearly all incidents are avoidable with safe choices.)

“Actions We Can Take Today Discussion” Questions to ask:

1. **Personal Ownership**
 - *“What’s one thing you can personally do differently today to make sure you go home safe?”*
2. **Looking Out for Each Other**
 - *“If you see a coworker taking a shortcut or at risk, what’s the best way you could step in and help them?”*

TOOL BOX TALK



3. Hazard Awareness

- *“What’s the most common hazard on this jobsite right now — and how can we reduce the risk today?”*

4. Preparation & PPE

- *“Before you start a task, what’s one quick check you can do to protect yourself?”*
(Expected: inspect PPE, check tools, scan the work area.)

5. Speaking Up

- *“If something doesn’t feel safe, what should you do?”*
(Reinforce: stop, report, speak up — no job is worth an injury.)

6. Team Commitment

- *“What’s one thing we as a crew can agree to watch out for today so that everyone gets home safe?”*

Closing Impact: “Every incident is personal. It’s not about statistics — it’s about people. **Your safety choice today protects your family, your coworkers, and your own future.** Don’t just do it for compliance — do it because your life matters.”

Facilitator, remember to:

1. Ask for the commitment of your employees,
2. Answer all questions,
3. Thank them for their time and
4. Document that this safety talk occurred.

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