



NOTICE TO BUILDERS Permits Licence and Inspection Services

Refusal of Inspection Services for Unsafe Work Sites

**20338 65 Ave., Langley B.C. V2Y 3J1
Phone 604.533.6018**

WorkSafe BC promotes health and safety in the workplace in conjunction with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. On construction sites the need for safe work practices is greatly increased because of the additional hazards present.

The Township of Langley has the responsibility for the safe work practices of its staff including the time spent on construction sites providing inspection services. However, experience has shown that the level of safety varies widely on construction sites, and specifically on small construction sites related to the single family dwelling industry.

The Township of Langley follows a Township policy regarding safe work practices during inspection services. The following items need to be followed as they are reflected in the policy.

1. Township Inspection staff SHALL NOT enter or continue inspecting any construction site that to their knowledge is not in compliance with WorkSafe BC Regulations.
2. Township Inspection staff SHALL refuse inspection service to any unsafe site.
3. Township Inspection staff SHALL NOT perform an inspection if there are construction workers performing works on roofs until such time that the workers cease such works and physically remove themselves from the roof area to reduce any potential for overhead hazards.

Jobs which are refused inspection service due to unsafe site conditions will be charged an automatic re-inspection fee which must be paid before scheduling any other inspections.

Examples of issues that create an unsafe site condition include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Openings in floor decks such as stair openings which do not have temporary guards in place.
- Open staircases that do not have temporary handrails or guards in place.
- Open decks or balconies which do not have temporary guards and which are required to be accessed for a requested inspection.
- Open trenches or excavations 4 feet deep or more that do not have proper shoring or as an alternative a geotechnical engineer's approval.
- Construction sites that are cluttered with construction debris that present a tripping hazard or potential for other injuries (i.e. nails). Construction Waste Bins are to be used on each site.
- Access provisions that are not in accordance with WorkSafe Regulations such as make shift ladders, ramps or steps.
- Unsecured overhead hazards. Construction workers on roofs must come off before an inspection is performed (i.e. roofing application).

- Unstable work platforms.
- Working in hazardous proximity to overhead power lines.
- Any other obvious hazard which could jeopardize the safety of Township Staff.

It is the builder/contractors responsibility to ensure the job site is safe for Township Inspectors to perform the inspection and that all trades working on the site have work safe procedures in place for all aspects of the construction taking place at the job site. All workers on the job site are to be familiar with the work safe procedures.

For further information and inquiries, contact Permit, Licence and Inspection Services at 604.533.6018 or visit us at the Township Civic Facility.

Roberto Cesaretti
Manager, Permit, Licence & Inspection Services

Sandra Ciparis
Safety Advisor