**WEBSITE**

* Employer and worker campaign resources: [www.tieoffNS.ca](http://www.tieoffNS.ca)

**STATS**

* In 2022: 26 percent of all time-loss claims in construction involved falls (149 out of 565) ,
* In 2021: 22 percent of all time-loss claims in construction involved falls (100 out of 457).
* From 2021 to 2022, the number of time-loss claims in construction that involved falls increased by nearly 50 percent, from 100 in 2021 to 149 in 2022.
* In 2022, there were 15,259 days lost to workplace injury from falls in the construction sector.
* The most common injury types from falls in construction are sprains/strains and fractures/dislocations.

**FALL PROTECTION SPECIFICS**

In Nova Scotia, fall protection systems are required when working at a fall distance of 3m or more above the nearest safe surface or water, when working at less than 3m above any surface or thing that could cause injury during a fall (for example working above exposed rebar could result in impalement and serious injury even if the fall is less than 3m), or when working above exposed hazardous material, such as in an open tank, bin, pit or vat.

There are many different types of fall protection systems, including guardrails, temporary flooring, personnel safety nets, travel restraint systems, and fall-arrest systems. Fall protection systems may include the use of equipment and components such as body-belts, energy absorbers, full-body harnesses, lanyards, lifelines (horizontal or vertical), self-retracting devices, and work-positioning systems.

**EMPLOYER AND WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES**Employers are responsible for ensuring a safe work site and that all proper fall protection systems are in place and procedures followed. If they are not, workers can be seriously injured — or worse. That is a phone call supervisors and business owners never want to have to make to someone’s wife, husband, mother, or father.

Workers have responsibility to ensure they are tied-off and using fall protection properly. As the campaign demonstrates, they need to tie off for their families; tie off so they can make the big game; tie off for date night; and tie off to hang out with their friends.

**PARTNERS**

There are a total of 14 partners in this campaign which make up a group known as the Construction Safety Coalition: Construction Safety Nova Scotia (CSNS), the Occupational Health & Safety Division of the Government of Nova Scotia, Construction Association of Nova Scotia, Canadian Home Builders Association – Nova Scotia, Merit NS, Nova Scotia Road Builders, Roofing Contractors Association of Nova Scotia, Mainland Nova Scotia Building and Construction Trades Council, Cape Breton Island Building and Construction Trades Council, Nova Scotia Construction Labour Relations Association, Atlantic Concrete Association, Nova Scotia Construction Sector Council, Atlantic Home Building and Renovation Sector Council, and WCB Nova Scotia.

The Construction Safety Coalition was borne out of the COVID-19 pandemic and the desire among industry to come together and have a united approach during this challenging time. Of note, the coalition involves members from labour organizations, non-labour organizations, and government who have all been meeting once a month since 2020 to discuss pertinent safety issues affecting the construction industry and reaching consensus on these topics.