

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Deputy Minister

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: George Zegarac
Deputy Minister

DATE: August 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Asbestos Management

As part of the province's Safe at Work Compliance Strategy, Ministry of Labour (MOL) inspectors have been conducting an enforcement initiative to promote health and safety in parts of Ontario's education sector. This initiative has been developed to raise awareness of workplace hazards and is intended to promote compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS)* and its regulations.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all school boards of their responsibilities with regard to asbestos management when demolishing, altering or repairing buildings and infrastructure.

Building owners have responsibilities before tendering, contracting or arranging for the demolition, alteration or repair of a building to have an examination carried out to establish whether any material that is likely to be handled, disturbed or removed, is asbestos-containing material. Asbestos management programs are required in numerous situations when asbestos is found or may be potentially present at a work site.

Additional information about asbestos management and guidance on the requirements of and duties under this Regulation can be found in the Ministry of Labour's 'A Guide to the Regulation Respecting Asbestos on Construction Projects and in Buildings and Repair Operations' (<http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/asbestos/>)

For information on the Ministry of Labour's (MOL) provincial initiatives with respect to asbestos management, please contact Michael Chappell, Provincial Coordinator Construction Health and Safety Program at the Ministry of Labour at 416-326-7776.

Thank you,

George Zegarac

c.c. Deputy Minister Cynthia Morton, Ministry of Labour