

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

**Ministry of Labour**

Minister

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

**Ministère du Travail**

Ministre



May 24, 2011

Dear Directors of Education,

Summer is almost here, and many of the students in your schools will soon start summer jobs. Please help them stay safe by sharing the enclosed information sheets with principals, and asking them to please share it with teachers, students in Grades 7 to 12 and their parents/guardians. These materials will help students ask the right questions, know their legal rights and duties, and stay safe on the job. You may choose to make copies of these information sheets available to students and their parents/guardians electronically on your board website. School principals may also post the information on their school website, print some copies and make them available through Guidance and/or post them strategically around the school.

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour have worked together for over a decade to get workplace safety into Ontario's curriculum, and to provide teachers with the classroom resources they need to teach it. However, we acknowledge that it is the daily work of teachers delivering workplace safety lessons in the classroom that has had a very significant and lasting impact on reducing young worker injuries.

With your help, between 2005 and 2009, lost-time injuries for teenagers have been dropping every year, from over 3,600 lost-time injuries for 15-19 year olds in 2005 to just over 2,000 lost-time injuries for this age group in 2009. This means that more teenagers in Ontario are coming home safe and sound from their jobs, and this is what we want to see continue. Safety lessons delivered by professional educators are preventing workplace injuries and saving young lives.

If you would like more information about young worker safety or the Ministry of Labour's Young Worker Program, please contact Ms. Ann Misetich at 416-326-7635 or by email at [ann.misetich@ontario.ca](mailto:ann.misetich@ontario.ca). Copies of these information sheets as well as other resources to support workplace health and safety education for students are available on the Ministry of Labour's website at [www.livesafeworksmart.net](http://www.livesafeworksmart.net).

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to young worker health and safety, and enjoy a safe summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leona Dombrowsky".

Leona Dombrowsky  
Minister of Education

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Sousa".

Charles Sousa  
Minister of Labour

Enclosure