

"Mandatory safety awareness program coming to Ontario", *Legal Alert*, September 2012

September 30, 2012

Ontario has introduced two new “do nothing and you will be in violation” obligations on employers under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the “Act”). One is coming soon and one is already in place.

Ontario employers will, by a deadline not yet announced, be required to provide mandatory safety awareness training to their workers and supervisors using materials prepared by the Ontario Ministry of Labour (the “Ministry”) or equivalent materials. And, a failure to do so could lead to a compliance order or charges. The Ministry has also released a new safety poster that Ontario employers are legally required to post in all workplaces. While the law requires immediate posting, the Ministry has said that it will start enforcing that obligation on October 1, 2012.

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