

National Day of Mourning: Renewing your Commitment to Safety



This year, when you observe the National Day of Mourning, recommit your workplace to improving occupational health and safety and preventing incidents, too.

What is the National Day of Mourning?

It's a day to commemorate workers who have been killed, injured, or suffered illness due to workplace hazards and exposures. It is also a time for workplaces to renew their commitments to improving occupational health and safety.

On April 28th:

- Many workplaces hold moments of silence, lay wreaths, wear commemorative items, or light candles
- The Canadian Flag flies at half-mast on Parliament Hill and all Federal Government buildings

This April 28th, recommit to OHS improvement and prevention!

1

Educate vulnerable groups about the most common hazards they face

- Hold specialized safety meetings for vulnerable worker groups, like young workers
- Provide a special question and answer session for vulnerable groups and HSC
- Send an email newsletter with reminders about common hazards



2

Hold a Safety Fair

- Designate tables in lobbies, lunch rooms, or other worker rest areas to provide safety information and awareness to the workforce
- Ensure workers have OHS take-aways, such as quick reference documents, newsletters, and brochures
- Provide seminars or webinars over lunch or break periods

3

Hold an OHS Townhall Safety Meeting in addition to your commemoration plans

- Disseminate important OHS information, such as annual OHS performance with leading and lagging indicators
- Remind workers of their rights, and the ways they can exercise them
- Praise people, divisions, and areas that are performing well in OHS
- Encourage questions, both during the townhall question period, and after, by ensuring the HSC or HS Representative's contact information is announced and available



4

Dedicate the day to Safety Training

- Book required onsite training, fit-testing, or drills on April 28th
- Provide access to online training and re-training
- Provide access to webinars or other OHS professional development

5

Perform necessary safety tasks

- Hold fire drills
- Perform unscheduled inspections
- Have work areas conduct hazard identification
- Hold safety meetings
- Elect members to the HSC

