

ENFORM

SAFETY ALERT

Medic Assaulted While Assisting at Recreational Area

Safety Alert: #27 - 2010	Release Date: October 22, 2010
Incident Type: Personal Injury/ Working Alone	Country of Origin: Western Canada

Description of Incident:

A medic was assaulted while attempting to assist recreational area users.

- Two individuals drove up to the security shack located on the road.
- The medic exited the shack to speak to these individuals and to inform them of the work activities in the area. These individuals were driving an UTV with a gun rack/guns attached and appeared to be hunting in the area.
- After a short conversation, one of the individuals started an unprovoked attack knocking the medic to the ground, where he continued his physical attack.
- The medic was able to convince the assailant that workers in the area would be coming to the trailer any second for lunch and the individuals fled the scene on their UTV.
- The medic had sustained injuries as a result of this attack.

What Caused it:

Examination of the scene revealed the following factors contributed to this incident.

- The medic safety shack was a short distance from where the crew was working. Usually, there was additional personnel at the shack, but when this incident occurred this staff member was by themselves.

Recommendations:

When you arrive on the work site, perform your regular duties including your hazard assessment. If you are on a site where you are staging in a remote area, where you may be working alone for any part of the day, ensure you list this as a hazard that needs to be addressed.

Potential hazards of working alone include but are not limited to the following:

- Violence third party personnel (including other workers, travelers, hunters, etc)
- Harassment from third party personnel (including other workers, travelers, hunters, etc)
- Wildlife
- Injury or Illness to self
- Ensure the hazards are corrected
- Establish communication with your site supervisor. This can usually be addressed by getting a two-way radio from the site. Complete scheduled radio checks with the site supervisor and record these communication checks on your daily safety meeting form.
- Ensure that the portable radio is on your person at all times.
- Minimize exposure to working alone. When possible, stage in areas where other workers are present.
- Keep barriers between yourself and others. When working alone, stay in vehicle, communicate through the window, and keep the doors locked.

Contact:

For more information of event, please contact safety@enform.ca

DISCLAIMER:

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