

## YOUR VEHICLE IS A WORKSITE

Have you ever considered how much time you spend in your work vehicle? Under some interpretations, WorkSafeBC considers your vehicle to be a work site, and all Occupational Health and Safety Regulations with respect to worksites apply.

Motor Vehicle Incidents are the leading cause of traumatic workplace deaths in the Province. When not the cause of death, motor vehicle incidents result in a longer recovery period and higher average claim costs than other traumatic injuries. We need to treat our work vehicles with the care and attention we treat any jobsite.



As with any worksite, good housekeeping in your vehicle is crucial. Loose items in the cab of your vehicle can become deadly projectiles in a crash. If the vehicle incident doesn't hurt you, the junk inside your vehicle can.

A near miss incident occurred when a fire extinguisher, improperly stored behind the seat of a pick up truck, discharged. Thankfully the incident occurred while the driver was trying to dislodge it, and not while he was driving. Every vehicle should have a fire extinguisher, but as with any compressed gas, it needs to be secured in an upright position.

You must secure tools, or use storage boxes in the cab and the truck bed. Store the boxes in the trunk of cars.

If you are driving a van, ensure a bulkhead door is secure between the driver/passenger and gear stored in the van. Ensure everything in the van is secure as well. Objects hurtling

*WorkSafeBC considers your vehicle to be a work site, and all Occupational Health and Safety Regulations with respect to worksites apply.*



towards the front of a vehicle in a crash could generate up to 20 times more force than the object by itself.

Having everything properly stored and secured will also eliminate one distracted driving hazard: fumbling for items while driving takes your attention off the road.

