

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Wow, what a difference a year makes! My report in the August 2015 newsletter was about the wildfires burning across our Province. This summer, our member municipalities have been dealing with unprecedented flooding. Climate change at its' finest.

As I write this, the long-suffered cold front is leaving our Province and high temperatures will hopefully be around for a bit of time. Which means, of course, our outside municipal staff won't be acclimatized to the warmer temperature and are at risk of heat stress disorders. So – we have included a poster of potential hazards of heat exhaustion and heat stroke faced by outside workers (see page 10) in order for everyone to understand the signs and symptoms, and treatment, for heat stress disorders. And remember sun safety! Melanoma is the deadliest skin cancer, killing more than 1,000 Canadians each year. Sun Safety At Work Canada has provided templates to help you educate your staff on this mostly preventable illness: <http://www.bcmsa.ca/category/sun-safety-at-work/>

The [Sun Safety at Work website](#) has even more resources, including personal risk assessments for individuals who work outdoors.

Summer is typically a slow time for training, as municipal staff either take vacation, or are heavily involved in projects that can only be completed in the summer months. Around the BCMSA that means we have a chance to catch our breath, and complete some of the projects we've been working on all year. Watch for new courses and programs to come out soon! We will be rolling out a "Public Works Safety Certificate" program shortly, as well as individual courses including Utility Awareness for Municipal Workers and Safety Committees level II.

Cathy Cook

We have included a poster of potential hazards of heat exhaustion and heat stroke faced by outside workers in order for everyone to understand the signs and symptoms, and treatment, for heat stress disorders.



FIND US

BCMSA Office

20430 Fraser Highway
Langley, BC V3A 4G2
F: 778-278-0029
bcmsa.ca

Cathy Cook

Executive Director

E: ccook@bcmsa.ca
P: 778-278-3486
C: 778-835-7938

Mike Roberts

Manager of Audit
& Training Services

E: mroberts@bcmsa.ca
P: 778-278-3436
C: 778-835-9669

British Columbia
Municipal Safety
Association

3E ONLINE SAFETY DATA SHEET SOLUTION

Are you still looking for a way to maintain your inventory of current Safety Data Sheets, and have them accessible to all of your staff?

We have the solution, with the 3E Online SDS system.

All of your data sheets are put into an inventory for your municipality, and you can sort it down into individual locations. All your staff can have access to the data sheets at the click of a mouse. Don't have a current data sheet? 3E will find it for you!

Stickers, posters and wallet cards are also available.

See our website for more information, costing, and access to the printable products to help your staff know how to learn about the hazards of the products they are working with.

<http://www.bcmsa.ca/news/online-sds-management>

TELECLAIM

DID YOU KNOW? Every worker should be reporting their injury to first aid, and then to Teleclaim with WorkSafeBC. 1-888-WORKERS (1.888.967.5377)

No paperwork (Form 6) to fill out; the telephone operator will ask all the right questions. The employer will receive notification immediately that the claim has been started. (note: not adjudicated – just started)

Why would this be a benefit? For workers, it means they get a claim number immediately. For soft tissue injuries (sprains/strains, the most common injury in municipalities), workers can take that claim number to a Physiotherapist and start the recovery process right away. For employers, Physiotherapists who view workers as athletes, (as they should), will establish the workers' abilities and limitations, helping the employer identify suitable tasks the worker can do.



The "old school" belief that strain/sprain injuries should be treated with rest (usually in blocks of two weeks) is simply not true! We now know that active physiotherapy will speed the recovery process.



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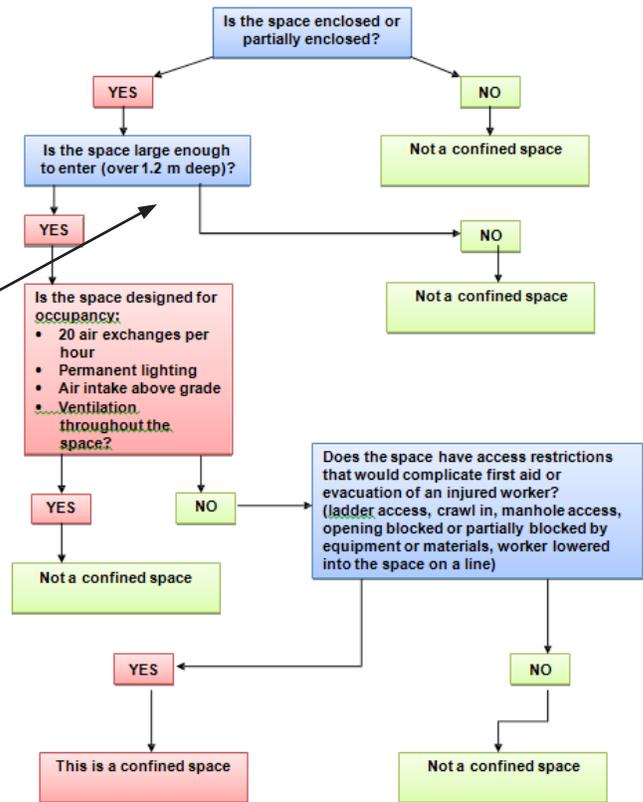
ATTENTION HOLDERS OF THE FLIP BOOK “HAZARD AWARENESS & RECOGNITION, A FIELD GUIDE FOR MUNICIPAL INSPECTORS”

The flip book contains information that is no longer valid in determining if a space meets the criteria to be a Confined Space, under OH&S Regulation Part 9.

If you have copies of this flip book, **please cross out “over 1.2 m deep”**.

This information is also found on page 6-7 of older versions of the training manual for Hazard Awareness and Recognition for Municipal Inspectors. The Uberflip version of the manual has been corrected.

Confined Space Identification Chart



Save the date!

BC Municipal Occupational Health & Safety Conference

October 15-17, 2017
Penticton, BC

Sharing the knowledge

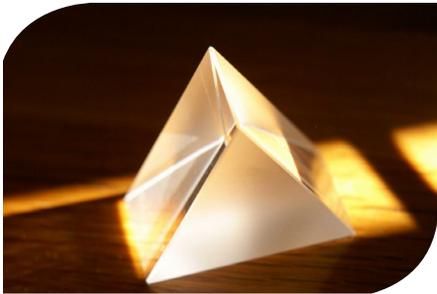


Penticton Trade and Convention Centre

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Do you want to have a say in changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation? Keep an eye on WorkSafeBC's (new) [website](#), or sign up for notifications from the Policy Regulation and Research Division:

There have been several proposed regulatory changes just released for public consultation. The BC Municipal Safety Association is not able to make comments or participate in the public consultation process (as that would be deemed "lobbying", something specifically excluded in our contract with WorkSafeBC). But EVERY OTHER EMPLOYER in the Province is entitled to participate in the public consultation process.



Just released for consultation:

New proposed sections on Joint Committees. There are major changes proposed, including the requirement for a formal annual review of the JOHSC (both for its' legislated requirements and effectiveness), an additional requirement for JOHSC member orientation/training within the first six months on the committee (in addition to the legislated requirement for 8 hours of training), and added language around employer and worker representatives in incident investigations.

In addition to the JOHSC proposals, there are sixteen existing OHSR Sections with proposed changes, open for consultation.

Written submissions will be accepted on these proposed changes up to October 7, 2016. Make sure your thoughts are heard!

CSSE CONFERENCE

The BCMSA is facilitating a "Municipal Stream" at the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering (CSSE) Conference this year, which is taking place September 18-21 at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver. Our own conference won't happen until October 2017 in Penticton, so we are happy to be able to provide municipally-focussed sessions at this event.

Registration is now open!

You'll find information and how to register, at the following link: http://www.csse.org/2016_conference

2016 *Registration Brochure*

CSSE Vancouver 2016
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF OH&S
SEPTEMBER 18-21 • WESTIN BAYSHORE

Register Before June 30, 2016 and save up to \$130

Register between July 1 - Aug 18 and save up to \$75

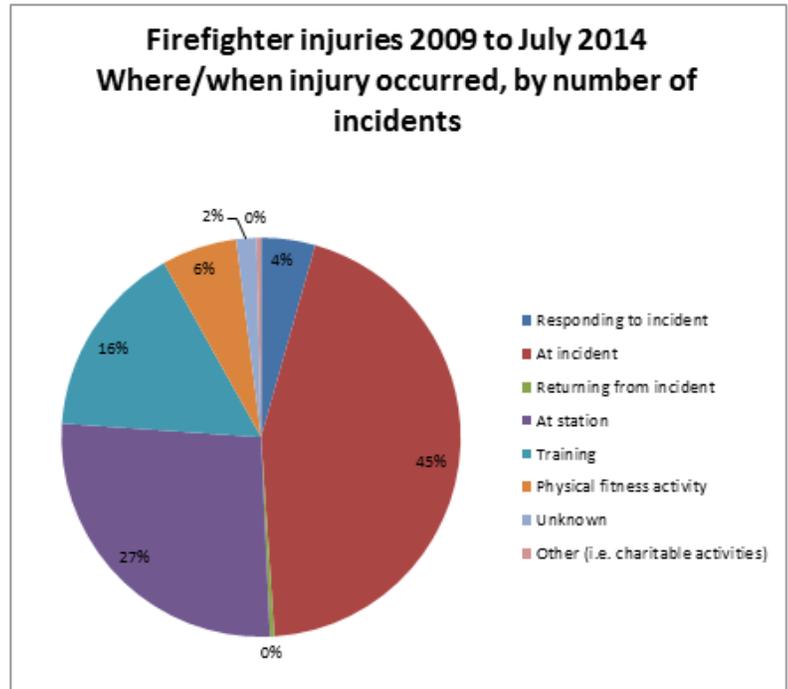
SAFE IN THE HALL

Did you know? Over a five year period, less than half of all injuries to firefighters occurred at emergency incidents. One third of all injuries occur in the firehall.

A new training program, “Safe In The Hall” has been developed in conjunction with WorkSafeBC and with support from the Fire Chiefs Association of BC, to highlight the top three causes of injuries in firehalls: Trips/Slips, Lifting, and Falls.

We have developed a training guide to go along with the three video clips created by WorkSafeBC. Both can be found on our website: <http://www.bcmsa.ca/resources/fire-department-resources/safe-in-the-hall/>

A very big thank you to the Township of Langley Fire Department for allowing us to use Hall 6 and their apparatus, to create the video. These are stunt actors; no firefighter was injured in the making of this video!



CONE ZONE

Be part of the Cone Zone Campaign May 16 – August 31, 2016

Find out more at ConeZoneBC.com



NEW COURSE: UTILITY AWARENESS FOR MUNICIPAL WORKERS

We are excited to announce that we are launching another new course for 2016, Utility Awareness for Municipal Workers. This course is designed for individuals who work with or around underground utilities.

At the completion of this full day course individuals will be able to:

- Understand what underground hazards are or could be present
- Understand the consequences of making contact with underground infrastructure
- Understand when utility packages are required

- Be able to read and interpret utility packages
- Understand what markings on the ground mean
- Identify and compare ground markings with utility packages
- Safely break hard surfaces
- Demonstrate safe hand digging practices
- Identify when work should be stopped or when utility company should be called
- Understand emergency procedures should contact occur

This course will be customized to fit your organizations specific procedures or guidelines.

Course details:

Course length: 8.0 hours

Class min/max: 6/18

Supervisor Safety Certificate Program: elective course

EOCP CEU's: applied for 0.6

Price: \$150 per person, minimum

\$1200.00 charge per class

Post session: Certificate of Completion

If you need training or more information, please contact [Mike Roberts](#), Manager of Audit and Training Services.

IT'S NOT BRAGGING IF OTHER PEOPLE SAY IT, RIGHT?

Keepin it gangsta yo
(...that's good, right?)

Educational and entertaining

Good instructor – awesome course

The content was informative, appropriate and also a little shocking. I learned a lot about the responsibility that falls on my shoulders.

So nice to have an instructor who is knowledgeable and EXPERIENCED!

Instructors humor, personal relation to material made it awesome.

COURSE FEEDBACK

When asked "what could have made this course better?" students noted:

Maui

ice cream

free swag

fly swatters

Go digging! (Shoring & Excavation)

Girls Girls Girls

donuts, not muffins

BOOK YOUR SESSIONS

We are currently booking courses for 2017. Contact [Mike Roberts](#) if you are interested in scheduling sessions for your organization.

COR PROGRAM INFO

Employers interested in participating in the Certificate of Recognition (COR) Program need to follow the outlined process and complete all required forms.

Find everything you need to get started on the [Process & Forms](#) page.

The [Certificate of Recognition \(COR\) Toolkit: An Employer Guide to COR Certification](#) will help employers understand the COR process.

Included in the manual is an overview of what is needed to succeed in achieving COR, detailed explanations of the audit tool questions and practical examples of forms, policies and procedures that organizations can use or modify based on their specific needs. By following this manual, organizations can expect to improve their safety performance and reduce costs.

Currently, 35 organizations are COR-certified through the BC Municipal Safety Association.

Congratulations to all these organizations and their staff, for recognizing the value of establishing and supporting effective Health and Safety Management and Return to Work Systems. Benefits include reduced injuries, improved morale, improved productivity, and, of course, incentive cheques from WorkSafeBC and often, reduced assessment rates.

For more information on the COR Program, contact [Mike Roberts](#), Manager of Audit & Training Services.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION – WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Under the terms of the *Workers Compensation Act*, WorkSafeBC is required to hold public hearings before changes can be made to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. While WorkSafeBC is not required to consult with stakeholders on policy issues, often a comprehensive consultation process including pre-consultation with key worker and employer stakeholders takes place.

The Certificate of Recognition Program is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation. Employer groups, employee representatives and health and safety associations/certifying partners were all invited to consultation sessions over the past few months. WorkSafeBC staff facilitated discussions to get feedback on changes to

the COR program. As you can imagine, there are very different points of view from the three stakeholder groups.

We don't know what the final recommendation to the Board of Directors is going to look like, but we do know that a revised policy must be established by October 31st. We will publish information on the new Policy in our November newsletter.

Whatever transpires by October 31st, this consultation process and policy development will not have any impact on the Stay at Work/Return to Work COR. We believe that SAW/RTW COR will never be reinstated. What that means, for the currently RTW COR certified organizations, is uncertain. The Board of Directors at WorkSafeBC will need to make the final determination.

MEETINGS

September 16, 2016
Regular General Meeting in Penticton

December 9, 2016
Regular General Meeting in Delta



NAME THE SAFETY AWARD CONTEST!!

The BC Municipal Safety Association and St. John Ambulance have developed a great partnership and as partnerships grow, new ideas come forward.

The BCMSA and St. John Ambulance are pleased to announce that an award that has been created for BCMSA members.

This award will recognize those individuals who have acted alone or as a team in providing assistance to:

- those in need of medical aid using their knowledge in first aid; or
- those in a situation where their lives may be in danger with or without the application of first aid.

We need a great name to identify this award!

If you have any suggestions for a name, or need additional information on this award, please contact [Mike Roberts](#).

Extended Deadline for submissions: September 2nd, 2016

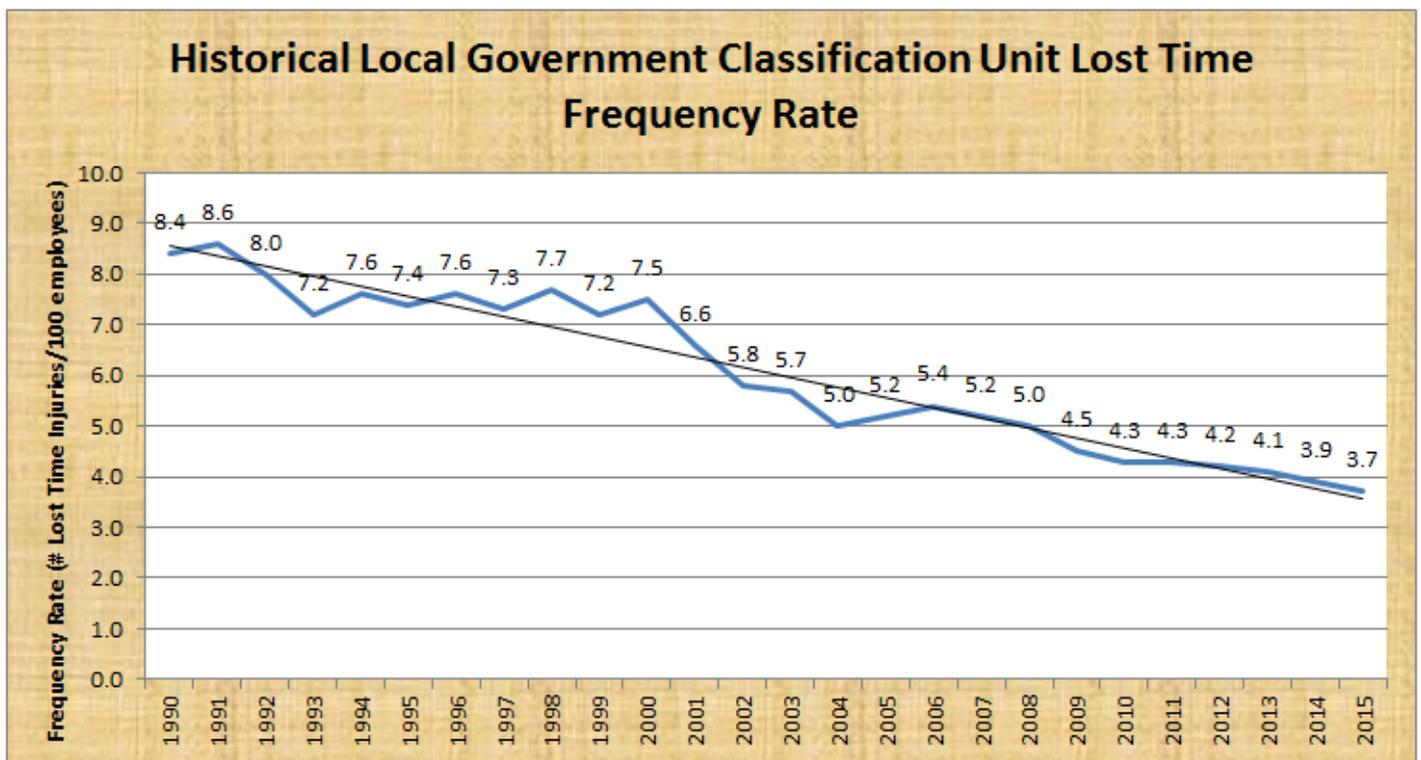
Names for this contest will be reviewed by both the BCMSA and St. John Ambulance; the winner will receive a \$100 gift card to Best Buy!



St. John Ambulance
SAVING LIVES
 at work, home and play



LOST TIME FREQUENCY INJURY



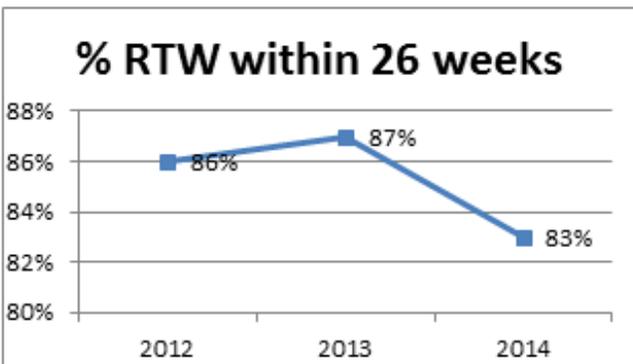
continued on page 9

LOST TIME FREQUENCY INJURY *continued from page 8*

It has been said before in this newsletter, but it bears repeating: municipalities are doing a terrific job of reducing injuries in their organizations! The chart says it all. In 2015, we had a historical all time low injury rate in our classification unit.

It has been suggested that the BCMSA has had a role to play in this. We say, we provide the tools – what each municipality does with those tools, is what makes the difference to your workers’ health and safety. We will continue to look for innovative ways to help!

The preliminary Assessment Rates for 2016 have been announced. For 2016, there will be no change in the assessment rate, it will again be \$2.03/\$100 assessable payroll. Why is this unchanged, when the injury rate is dropping? Because we aren’t doing enough to help workers stay at work or return to work quickly



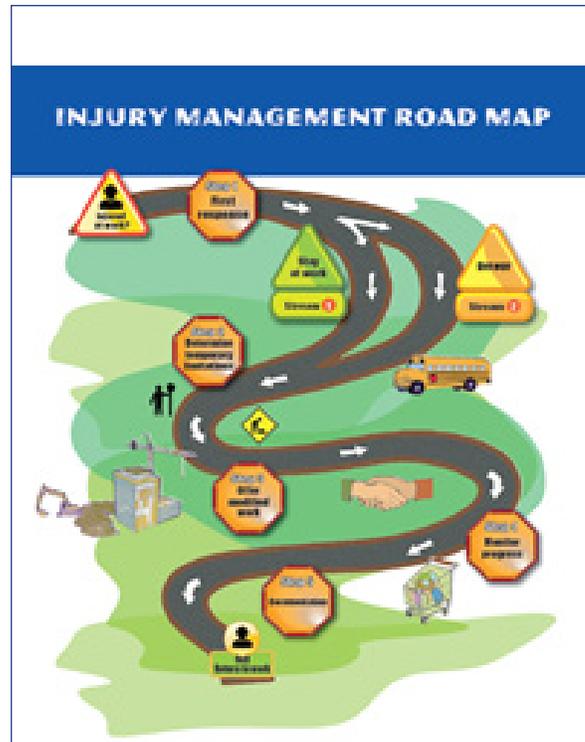
How can your organization impact the amount you pay WorkSafeBC for your workers’ insurance? By reducing your number of claims, and the claims duration, thereby improving your Experience Rating Adjustment.

The BCMSA, in conjunction with WorkSafeBC, have been working with individual municipalities to help them reduce their overall claims costs by assessing their current injury management state, and helping them establish effective claims management and return to work processes in their organizations.

It is a well-known fact that the longer a worker remains off work from any injury, the less likely they will be to ever return to the pre-injury position. Keeping employees in the workplace, or at the very least, returning them as soon

as possible, is key both for their physical, and for their psychological well-being. The side benefit of course, is reduced claims costs and reduced assessment fees.

Click on the the “Injury Management Roadmap” publication by WorkSafeBC to get a better idea of how you can help injured workers recover faster and save money on your WorkSafeBC premiums.



Compare your current state with the “best practices” shown in this publication, and consider getting involved in the Claims Duration Reduction initiative. We’re looking for up to 5 more organizations to participate in this project. Contact [Cathy Cook](#) for more information.

DID YOU KNOW? Every worker should be reporting their injury to first aid, and then to Teleclaim with WorkSafeBC. 1-888-WORKERS (1.888.967.5377)

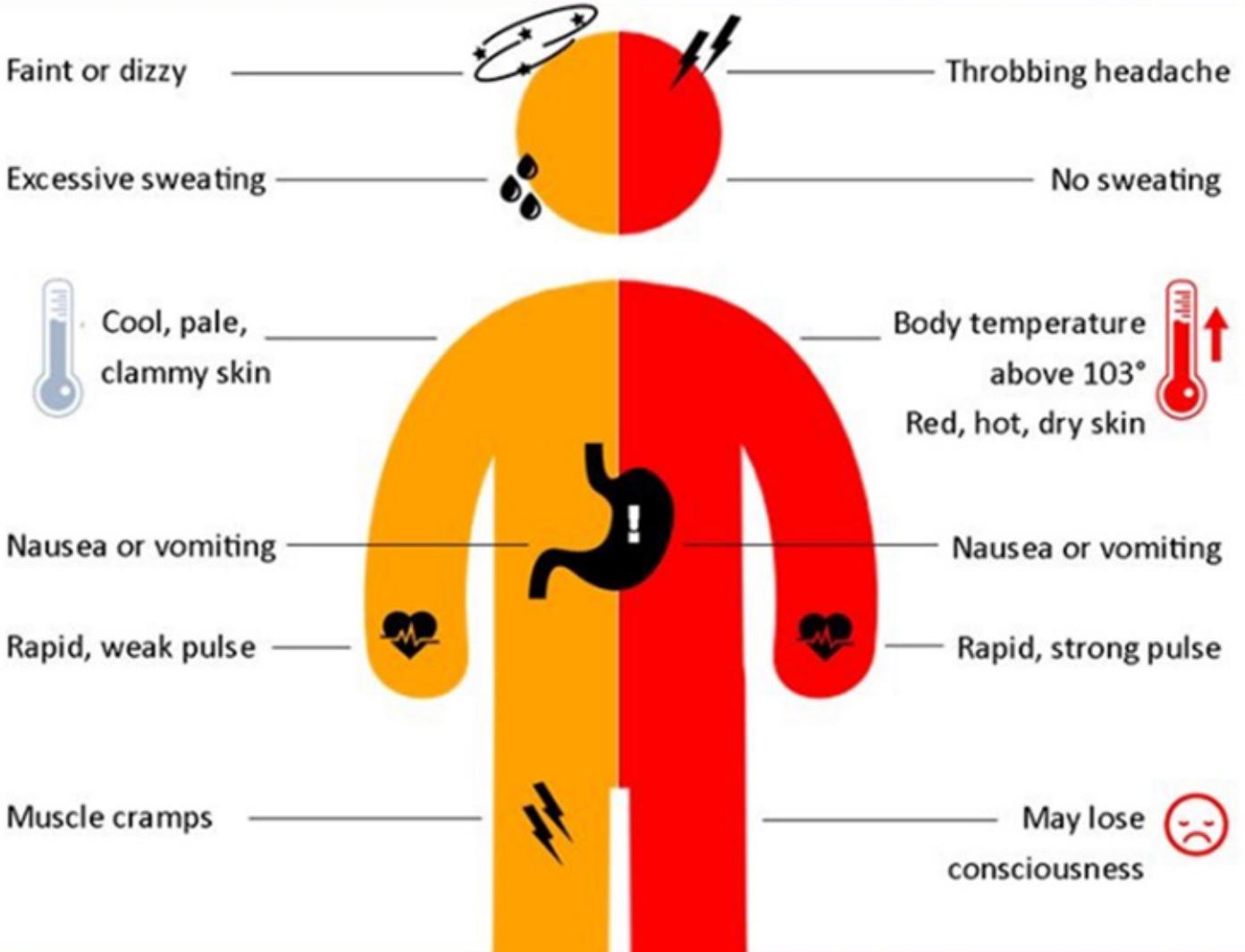
The worker will receive a claim number immediately.

For soft tissue injuries (sprains/strains, the most common injury in municipalities), workers should take that claim number to a Physiotherapist immediately. Physiotherapists who view workers as athletes, (as they should), will establish the workers’ abilities and limitations, and start them on a recovery program right away.

HEAT EXHAUSTION

OR

HEAT STROKE



- Get to a cooler, air conditioned place
- Drink water if fully conscious
- Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

CALL 9-1-1

- Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives

millynn