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## **A Cooperative Effort**

*The Kahnawa:ke Department of Occupational Safety and Health along with Mohawk Self Insurance are working closely to reduce workplace injuries. Workplace injuries cost employers, employees, insurance providers and families thousands of dollars each year. By providing the tools through promoting safety, providing training and or training materials and continued safety awareness, together we can reduce workplace injuries.*



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# **“Safety” Is No Accident**



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**Kahnawa:ke Labor Office  
Department of  
Occupational Safety and Health**

## **Fire Protection**



## **Don't Get Burned**

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# Fire Safety and Prevention



## Classes of Fire

**Class A** means a fire involving ordinary combustible materials such as paper, wood, cloth, and some rubber and plastic materials.

**Class B** means a fire involving flammable or combustible liquids, flammable gases, greases and similar materials, and some rubber and plastic materials.

**Class C** means a fire involving energized electrical equipment where safety to the employee requires the use of electrically nonconductive extinguishing media.

**Class D** means a fire involving combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, zirconium, sodium, lithium and potassium.

**Class K** means a fire in cooking appliances that involve combustible cooking media ie: vegetable or animal oils and fats.

Before you attempt to shut out a fire, you should know what type of fire it is. For example a Class A fire could be extinguished by spraying a continuous flow of water, on the other hand you should never attempt to put out a Class B fire with water. Applying water to a Class B fire will only cause the fire to spread and will not extinguish it.

For Class C fires it is important to de-energize the flow of electricity (shut the power off) whenever possible and never try to extinguish with water. On a Class D fire a specially blended sodium chloride dry powder is used or a copper extinguishing agent for lithium or lithium alloy fires.

Fires can occur at any time and anywhere, how prepared are you if a fire should start at your office or construction site? Fire safety and prevention plans are put in place not only to prevent damage of property, but to save lives. Make yourself familiar with your employers fire protection program, your building or jobsite evacuation routes, locations of fire alarm stations and fire extinguishers.

Employers should train workers on what to do in case of a fire emergency in the workplace and about workplace fire hazards.

Your local Fire Department or Emergency Preparedness Planning Department may be able to assist in providing the proper training on the how to use equipment safely for employees who are expected to use it.

Every workplace must have enough exits to enable everyone to get out of the building or facility quickly.

Exit routes must not be obstructed and fire doors must not be locked or blocked when employees are inside the building.

## Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention plans must be available for employees to review and must include:

Housekeeping procedures for storage, cleanup, handling, packaging of flammable materials and flammable waste.

Control workplace ignition sources such as smoking, welding, burning and refueling.

Provide for proper cleaning and maintenance of heat producing equipment such as burners, heat exchangers, boilers, ovens, stoves, and fryers and require storage of flammables away from this equipment.

Inform workers of the potential fire hazards of their jobs and plan procedures.

Require plan review with all new employees and with all employees whenever the plan is changed.



*Kahnawake Fire Brigade in action*

