The 10 Biggest OHS Fines in Canada in 2021



When I first started covering OHS compliance more than 20 years ago, six-figure fines were relatively rare’occurring maybe 3 or 4 times per year. In 2021, there were no fewer than 28 OHS fines of at least $100,000 across Canada, including 3 fines of $500,000 or more.

Continuing recent patterns, Saskatchewan accounted for 4 of the 6 biggest OHS fines in Canada last year. Ontario handed out the most 6-figure fines with 9, followed closely by BC with 7. Safety training and machine and conveyor guarding were the most often cited violation with 5 apiece, with the latter producing 4 of the 6 highest fines of the year. Other common violations included powered mobile equipment, confined spaces and lockout.

Rank	Fine	Jurisdiction	Defendant	OHS Violation
1	$575 000	SK	EVRAZ Inc. NA	Machine Guarding
2	$500 000	SK	Banff Constructors Ltd.	Safety training; Materials handling
2	$500 000	AB	Millennium Cryogenic Technologies	Confined spaces

Rank	Fine	Jurisdiction	Defendant	OHS Violation
4	$375 000	ON	2168587 Ontario Ltd., operating as Upper Crust	Conveyor guarding
5	$360 000	SK	EVRAZ Inc. NA	Conveyor guarding
6	$399 444	BC	7-Eleven Canada, Inc., 7-Eleven Food Stores	Workplace violence; Working alone; Safety training
7	$350 000	SK	BLS Asphalt Inc.	Machine guarding; Safety training
8	$339 444	BC	Lafarge Canada Inc	Confined spaces
9	$325 000	ON	2168587 Ontario Ltd., operating as Upper Crust	Column 5 Value 9
10	$254 697	BC	Petronas Energy Canada Ltd.	First aid; Materials handling; Traffic safety