# **OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE** TO HEAT STRESS IN FEDERALLY REGULATED WORKPLACES



#### IS THIS YOUR WORKPLACE OR INDUSTRY?

- Postal work (contractors/employees)
- · Long shoring work
- · Barge work

· Other outdoor work (ex. maintenance, inspections, training, emergency response)

YFS

For information, refer to publication:

Thermal stress technical guideline.

## **CONCERNS ON HOT DAYS OR IN HOT ENVIRONMENTS:**

- Are you unaware of the early signs or symptoms of heat stress?
- Do you feel unbearably hot, flushed, fatigued, weak/faint/dizzy/lightheaded and are you sweating excessively while working?
- Do you suffer from any chronic illness and/or have had previous episodes of heat-related disorders?
- Do you feel thirsty or distracted or you experience blurred vision while working?
- Are you new to working in the heat (unacclimatized)?

- Do you wear PPE or work near equipment that emits heat into the workplace?
- Is your work physically demanding and conducted mostly outdoors?
- Do you experience itching skin and/or reduced sweating or skin rash?
- · Do you have painful muscle cramps, especialy in abdominal and fatigued muscles?
- · Do you work alone where you cannot easily communicate with fellow employees?

You answered "YES" to one or more of these questions or if you have other heat stress concerns.

#### **ACTION TO TAKE**

Raise the issue with your supervisor. Refer to the

Internal complaint resolution process website.

## **UNRESOLVED?**

Refer to Labour Program by telephone 1-800-641-4049 or consult canada.ca/workplace-health-safety.

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