

**PAINTER FALLS 3.14 M AND  
IS FATALLY INJURED**

Type of Incident: FATAL

Date of Incident: APRIL 26, 2010

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**SECTION 1.0      DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT**

1.1      The incident occurred on April 26, 2010 at approximately 11:45 a.m.

**SECTION 2.0      NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

**2.1      Owner(s)**

2.1.1    Effect Home Builders Ltd.  
9319 – 94 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6C 3V6

**2.2      Prime Contractor**

2.2.1    Effect Home Builders Ltd.  
9319 – 94 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6C 3V6

**2.3      Employer**

2.3.1    Labrentz Painting Ltd.  
Unit 23 – 1251 Rutherford Rd. SW  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6W 1T6

**2.4      Contractor(s)**

2.4.1    F. Andersen Drywall (1998) Ltd.  
46 Riel Dr.  
St. Albert, Alberta  
T8N 5B4

**2.5      Supplier(s)**

2.5.1    Not applicable

**2.6      Worker(s)**

2.6.1    The Painter

### **SECTION 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

- 3.1 Labrentz Painting Ltd. was owned solely by the fatally injured worker. Labrentz Painting Ltd. had been contracted by Effect Home Builders Ltd. to paint the interior walls.
- 3.2 The prime contractor, Effect Home Builders Ltd., builds refined energy efficient homes. The home under construction at the time of the incident was in the completion phase.

### **SECTION 4.0 LOCATION OF INCIDENT**

- 4.1 375 52328 Range Road 233, Sherwood Park, a new home under construction. (Refer to Attachment A – Map).

### **SECTION 5.0 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL AND OBSERVATIONS**

#### **5.1 Equipment and Material**

- 5.1.1 Paint spraying equipment. (Attachment “C” Photograph #2)

#### **5.2 Observations**

- 5.2.1 When the investigating officers arrived at the incident scene, RCMP Members briefed the investigating officers on the information they had collected. The incident scene was a new home under construction.
- 5.2.2 It was observed that there had been guardrails installed at one time but they had been removed. There were no other fall protection measures in place where the worker had fallen from the mezzanine level inside of the home.

### **SECTION 6.0 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT**

- 6.1 At approximately 6:30 a.m. on April 26, 2010 the Assistant Painter ( ) arrived at the work site. A Taper ( ) arrived at the same time as the Assistant Painter.
- 6.2 The Assistant Painter started to tape window frames on the main floor in preparation for spray painting the walls. The Painter ( ) arrived at the work site at approximately 8:00 a.m.

- 6.3 The Painter ( ) and the Assistant Painter ( ) carried paint pails and painting equipment to the mezzanine floor. They set up the spray painting equipment and the Painter ( ) commenced spray painting the walls. The Assistant Painter returned to the main floor level and resumed taping.
- 6.4 The Painter ( ) and the Assistant Painter ( ) took a coffee break at approximately 10:00 a.m. and a lunch break at approximately 11:45 a.m. After lunch they resumed work.
- 6.5 At approximately 12:30 p.m. the Assistant Painter ( ) heard a loud bang. He thought that a paint pail had fallen, but when he turned around he saw the Painter ( ) laying on the floor. Attachment C, Photographs #1,#3, #4)
- 6.6 The Taper ( ) was working in the basement. He also heard a loud bang. A short time later the Assistant Painter ( ) came down the stairs to the basement and asked the Taper ( ) to call 911. The Taper ( ) ascended to the main floor and saw the Painter ( ) laying on the floor.
- 6.7 As the Taper ( ) and the Assistant Painter ( ) were calling 911, the Foreman ( ) arrived at the work site and commenced CPR on the Painter ( )
- 6.8 Emergency Services arrived at the work site and treated the Painter ( ). Attempts to revive the Painter ( ) were unsuccessful and the Painter ( ) was pronounced dead at the scene.

## **SECTION 7.0 ANALYSIS**

### **7.1 Direct Cause**

- 7.1.1 Worker fell 3.14 m from the mezzanine floor level onto the plywood main floor level and was fatally injured.

### **7.2 Contributing Factors**

- 7.2.1 There was no hazard assessment conducted prior to the commencement of the painting.

- 7.2.2 There were no guardrails at the edge of the mezzanine floor from where the Worker was conducting his work. Occupational Health and Safety Investigators found that guardrails had been installed by Effect Home Builders to protect workers from falling from the mezzanine floor level. At some time before the fatal incident the guard rails had been removed by an unidentified worker. The lumber that had been used to make the guardrails was found by Investigators on the mezzanine floor after the incident.

## **SECTION 8.0 FOLLOW-UP/ ACTION TAKEN**

### **8.1 Alberta Employment and Immigration; Occupational Health and Safety**

- 8.1.2 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to the prime contractor, Effect Home Builders Ltd., to conduct an investigation, prepare a report and have it available for Occupational Health and Safety to review.
- 8.1.3 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to the prime contractor, Effect Home Builders Ltd., to provide Occupational Health and Safety with a plan on how they are to manage prime contractor status at their work sites.
- 8.1.4 Occupational Health and Safety issued a stop work order to Effect Home Builders Ltd. on fall protection at this work site where the fatality occurred.
- 8.1.5 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to Effect Home builders Ltd. for the installation of guardrails inside the home under construction and on the outside patio.
- 8.1.6 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to Effect Home Builders Ltd. to install handrails on stairways where there were 5 risers or more.
- 8.1.7 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to Effect Home Builders Ltd. to develop an emergency response plan for the work sites.
- 8.1.8 Occupational Health and Safety issued an order to Effect Home Builders Ltd. to conduct a hazard assessment at the work site prior to commencement of work at the home under construction where the fatality occurred.

### **8.2 Industry**

- 8.2.1 Effect Home Builders Ltd. conducted an investigation and provided a copy to Occupational Health and Safety for review.

8.2.2 Effect Home Builders Ltd. provided a plan to Occupational Health and Safety on how they are to manage safety compliance at their work sites.

8.2.3 Occupational Health and Safety removed the stop work order after Effect Home Builders Ltd. complied by installing appropriate fall protection measures to prevent workers from falling when working at a vertical distance of 3 metres or more.

**8.3 Additional Measures**

8.3.1 No additional measures were required.

**SECTION 9.0 SIGNATURES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Burbine, Lead Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sean McIntyre, Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Wagner, Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

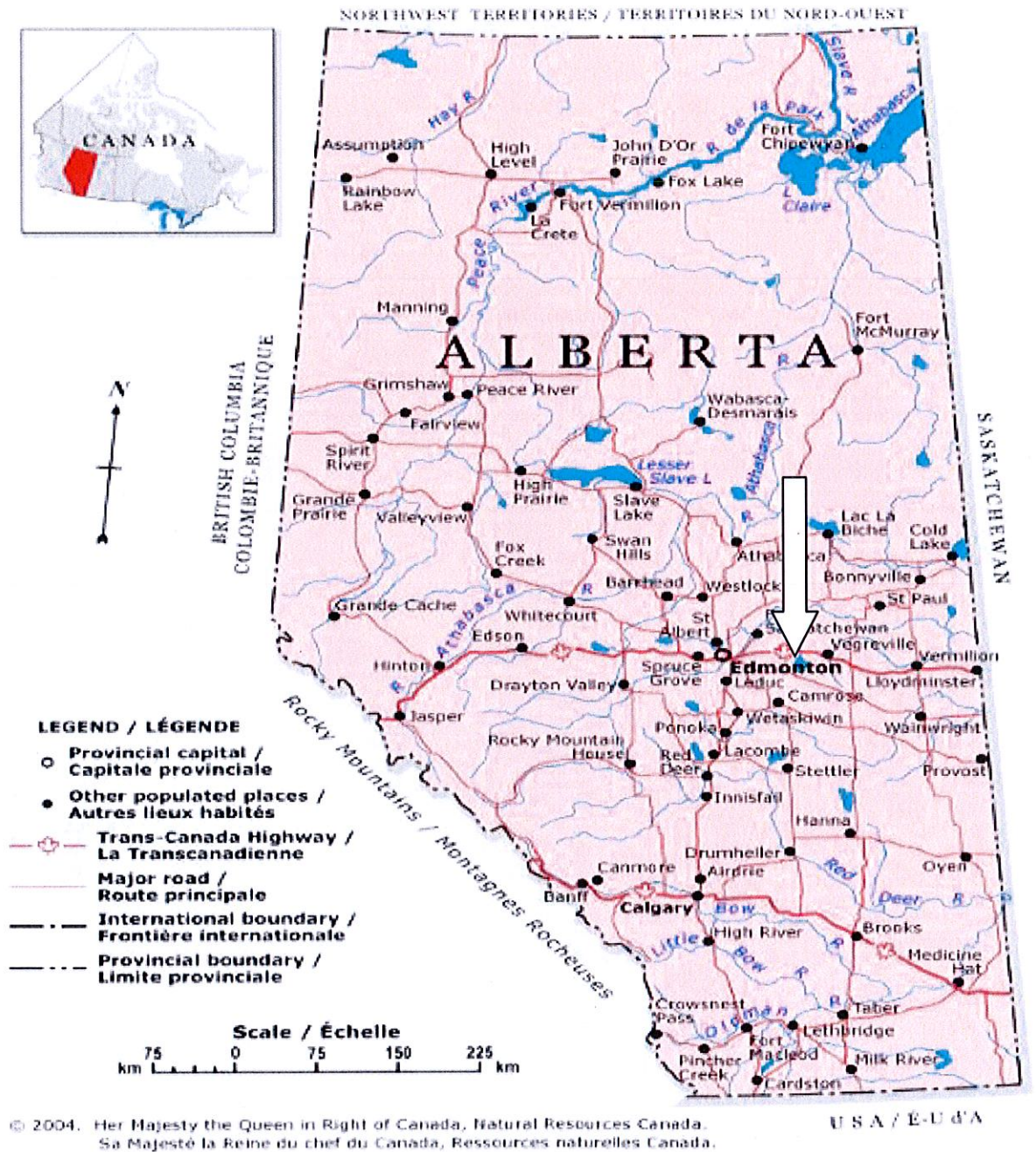
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanne Garton, Regional Director, North

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**SECTION 10.0 ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A	Map
Attachment B	Sketch – not required
Attachment C	Photographs

Alberta



The incident occurred in Sherwood Park, east of Edmonton, at 375 52328 RR 233, a new home under construction.



Alberta



Photograph #1

The white arrow indicates the distance the Painter fell and it is 3.14 m.

The blue spot is the where the Painter was found after he fell.





Photograph #2 Shows the paint sprayer and pails of paint the Painter was using at the time of the incident.





Photograph #3 The red circle indicates the area where the Painter was believed to be standing when he fell. There were no guardrails installed at the time of the incident.



Alberta



Photograph #4 Another view from the mezzanine where the Painter was working from at the time of the incident.