

McIntyre Powder Project: Updates from OHCOW

March 2025 Newsletter

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Greetings!

Thank you for participating in the McIntyre Powder Project (MPP) at the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers, Inc. (OHCOW). This newsletter provides you with highlights of our ongoing work with the McIntyre Powder-exposed group of mine workers over the past year.

New Research – Cardiovascular Disease and McIntyre Powder

A new study that was published in the American Journal of Industrial Medicine in August 2024 compared the rates of cardiovascular disease (diseases of the heart and blood vessels) in mine workers who were exposed to McIntyre Powder and mine workers who were not exposed to it. The study found higher rates of the following types of cardiovascular disease in McIntyre Powder-exposed mine workers, with risk generally increasing for those exposed for longer periods:

- Acute Myocardial Infarcts (heart attacks)
- Ischemic heart disease
- Congestive heart failure

The full study “*Incidence of cardiovascular disease in a cohort of mine workers exposed to ultrafine aluminum powder in Ontario, Canada*” is available on the OHCOW website or online. If you would like a paper copy of the study mailed to you, please contact us.

If you have questions or need assistance to make a workers’ compensation claim for cardiovascular disease related to your McIntyre Powder exposure and other mining exposures, please contact us (see below).

Workers’ Compensation (WSIB)

We continue to assist workers or their Estates to complete the initial paperwork to start new individual WSIB claims, or to request that the WSIB reconsider their original decision on claims that were denied in the past.

For additional information and assistance regarding making WSIB claims related to McIntyre Powder or any other mining exposures, please contact Janice Martell at OHCOW at 1-800-461-7120.

Please note that free legal assistance is available through the **Office of the Worker Adviser (OWA)** to represent workers or their next-of-kin in WSIB claims, including appeals of denied claims.

Introducing Emma!



We are thrilled to welcome our newest team member, Emma Lee, who joined us in July 2024 as a Client Service Coordinator assigned to the OHCOW McIntyre Powder team! Many of you have already received phone calls or letters from Emma, seeking updates on your health conditions, WSIB claims progress, contact information, and more. These updates have helped us tremendously to provide you with the best possible service, and we have assisted several workers to start claims for new health conditions. Thank you for welcoming Emma!

We want to hear from you

If you have any new health issues, changes in your contact information, updates on the status of your WSIB claim, or any other updates to provide OHCOW, we want to hear from you. **Please contact Emma Lee at OHCOW at 1-877-817-0336, ext. 2626 to provide us with your updates.** Thank you!

Registration is still open for any mine workers who were exposed to McIntyre Powder by calling Janice Martell at OHCOW at 1-800-461-7120. Deceased mine workers can be registered by their next-of-kin. **If you know other mine workers or their surviving next-of-kin who may need our services, please provide them with our contact information.** We are happy to speak with them to discuss their individual situation.

Contact Us

We maintain a hybrid work schedule, working from both home and office, so please contact us by phone in advance if you would like an in-person office appointment.

Mail: **OHCOW, Unit AB – 432 Westmount Avenue, Sudbury, Ontario P3A 5Z8**

Email: sudbury@ohcow.on.ca

Phone: 705-523-2330 or toll-free 1-877-817-0336 (option 4)

Fax: 705-523-2606

Website: www.ohcow.on.ca

TV Ontario (TVO) “Crossroads: Beyond Boom & Bust”

Episode on Elliot Lake will include McIntyre Powder Project



TV Ontario’s #1 show, “Crossroads: Beyond Boom & Bust”, will feature an episode on Elliot Lake, ON this season. The McIntyre Powder Project founder and local Elliot Lake mine workers were filmed and/or interviewed as part of the episode. The Elliot Lake episode is expected to air in the spring of 2025 on TVO. Episodes of “Crossroads: Beyond Boom & Bust” are also available on YouTube and the TVO website.