

FATALITY ALERT

– PRELIMINARY INFORMATION –

BCFSC #2017-10-13

The following is a RCMP statement about a pickup rollover that resulted in a forest worker fatality:

On Friday October 13th, 2017 at 5:10 AM, Smithers RCMP were called to the scene of a single vehicle crash on a logging road north of Smithers.

On scene, police discovered that a 2005 Dodge pickup, travelling north, left the road way and rolled near the 34 kilometer mark on Babine Lake Road. The driver and only occupant, a 50 year old man was ejected from the truck. The man was taken to hospital but later succumbed to the injuries sustained in the crash.

Early findings suggest that the gravel road was icy.

This is the 8th harvesting fatality of 2017.

Our condolences go out to the family, friends and co-workers of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by this incident.

The RCMP, the Coroners Service and WorkSafeBC are investigating this incident.

Although the details of this incident are still unknown, review the following safety information:

- 1) Seatbelts need to be worn at all times. During a motor vehicle incident, staying secured in your seat and in the cab greatly increases your chances of survival.
- 2) The fall is a challenging driving time with unpredictable weather patterns and the start of freezing road conditions. Equip vehicles with the appropriate winter tires and emergency winter equipment. Allow more time to arrive at your destination.
- 3) Watch out for upset conditions while driving. Poor weather, construction zones, changes in traffic patterns or road use can all contribute to incidents.
- 4) Winter is a busy time for logging operations and long work hours are normal. Monitor your workers for signs of fatigue especially at the end of shifts or if there are long drives to and from the worksite.

Resources:

- 1) Shift Into Winter - Winter Driving Tips & Safety for BC Drivers

<https://shiftintowinter.ca/>