



Owner Responsibilities

For purposes of assigning health and safety duties and applying the [Workers Compensation Act](#) and its Regulations, the licence holder is almost always deemed to be the **owner**. The owner is not necessarily a person. Depending on what name is on the licence document, the owner might be a person, a first nation or a corporation.

Owners have the following health and safety responsibilities:

- 1. Provide** and maintain their land and premises (includes licence area) that are being used as a workplace in a manner that ensures the health and safety of persons at or near the workplace.
E.g., the **owner** is responsible to ensure roads are properly maintained, danger trees are addressed and unsafe crossings are repaired.
- 2. Identify** and communicate to known and reasonably foreseeable hazards (conditions, events or practices that could be hazardous to persons at the workplace).
E.g., the **owner** is responsible to tell their contractor (or prime contractor) about the location of any steep or unstable slopes in the area they will be working.
- 3. Ensure** a plan is in place to address hazards, and that work-related activities are planned and conducted consistent with regulations and company safe work practices.
E.g., the **owner** is responsible to ensure that the falling plan or traffic control plan is in place before work starts, meets WorkSafeBC requirements and the contractor's safe work procedures, and is updated if the plan or circumstances change.
- 4. Monitor** worksite and work practices to ensure the plan is being followed.
E.g., the **owner** should ensure their contractor has a process of supervising employees to identify and correct any unsafe work practices.

Resources – click on the links below

[Workers Compensation Act – Duties of owners](#)
[Policy P2-21-1 General Duties - Owners](#)

[Guideline P2-25-1 Owner obligations - Public lands](#)