



NEUBERGER & PARTNERS LLP

Toronto Criminal Defence Lawyers

Domestic Assault • Drugs • Sexual Assault • Impaired Driving

Find A Lawyer/Legal Supplier

Join AdvocateDaily.com



AdvocateDaily.com

Canada's Legal Wire Service



Accounting for Law
Financial Peace of Mind for Lawyers

Need help with bookkeeping?

[Start Now](#)

Personal Injury

Don't check common sense at amusement parks



Serious accidents are rare at amusement parks, but a recent spate of them is shining a spotlight on ride safety, says Windsor personal injury lawyer [Gino Paciocco](#).

In those cases, equipment failure or human error results in a catastrophic accident, but most incidents at fun parks occur when people aren't paying close attention or are engaging in risky behaviour, he tells [AdvocateDaily.com](#).

"These places all have exhaustive lists of rules and safeguards that are in place to protect the public," Paciocco explains. "Because they are such regimented environments, people wrongly feel they can check their common sense at the gate."

Paciocco, a partner with [Paciocco & Mellow](#), says the number of injuries sustained in amusement parks has been increasing in recent years, but it's important to recognize that most aren't serious.

"Most of these accidents involve minor injuries such as strains, sprains and bruises from a slip or fall or something of that nature," he says. "In many cases, it's a direct result of people either not paying attention or engaging in risky behaviour such as hanging their arms and legs outside the ride. Rules are there for a reason: because people have been hurt in the past."

The agency that enforces amusement ride regulations in Ontario, the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), agrees that bad rider behaviour is at the root of many incidents, [CBC](#) reports.

"In most of the cases when something goes wrong, it's something the user does," says TSSA director Roger Neate in the CBC article.

Recent tragedies in the U.S., including the death of a 10-year-old boy on a waterslide, has renewed scrutiny on ride safety, reports [Global News](#).

There aren't any national statistics on amusement park injuries, and provinces are responsible for their own regulations and enforcements, but the [TSSA](#) recorded 556 incidents in Ontario in 2015. That's up from 519 in 2014 and more than six times higher than the 88 occurrences counted in 2010.

"It's important to remember that while that appears to be a huge leap, much of it is due to the fact there are better reporting mechanisms in place today, and 95 per cent of those are minor injuries according to TSSA," Paciocco says.



PatWorld
The Global Patent Database

Toronto
www.patworld.com
salesna@patworld.com

Developed by Patent Seekers



White or black?

FUJITSU

ScanSnap iX1500
Now available in 2 colours



A new kind of law firm.

You run a modern, innovative business. So do we.

CONDUIT LAW
The evolution of law™



COMPUTER & CELL PHONE FORENSICS

UFED

Most of the claims Paciocco is involved in are primarily related to poor maintenance of park facilities, such as an overflowing toilet or sink that causes someone to slip and break an ankle. The [Occupiers' Liability Act](#) states that the property has to be reasonably safe, and that occupiers can be held liable if someone sustains an injury due to their negligence, Paciocco says.

“Like all occupiers they have an obligation to ensure the premises are safe, so they need to address things like garbage on the floor, uneven walkways, or slippery areas of the park,” he adds.

But that protection might not apply to amusement park guests who ignore the safety guidelines, suggests Paciocco.

“Patrons should follow the safety guidelines and restrictions, including the height and weight restrictions on rides, which are there for good reason,” he says.

[To Read More Gino Paciocco Posts Click Here](#)

AdvocatePlus >

- [The Fund Library publishes Samantha Prasad's "Year-end tax tips"](#)
- [Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario awards \\$120,000 award for discrimination in hiring process](#)
- [IIROC mandatory cybersecurity breach reporting](#)
- [Join Littler LLP for its 2019 Canada Conference](#)

[View more AdvocatePlus posts](#)



