

Auditor Re-Certification/Upgrade Training

Part of the maintenance requirement for peer auditors is that they take an auditor re-certification course every three years. The training is offered free of charge by AMHSA and reviews the basics of health and safety program auditing and updates auditors on changes to the audit protocol.

Last year AMHSA introduced a new audit protocol focused specifically at the municipal sector and meeting the new partnership standard. Any municipalities that wish to start using the new protocol need to have auditor(s) certified in its use. AMHSA is combining the auditor re-certification training and the training required to upgrade to use the new audit protocol into one training program. Auditors who take the re-certification/upgrade training this year will continue to be certified to use either the safety basics or the partnerships audit (whichever standard they were previously certified to use) and also upgraded to use the new municipal audit protocol.

The training is being offered free of charge in the following areas on the dates indicated.

Lethbridge	April 24, 2001
Red Deer	April 25, 2001
Grande Prairie	May 10, 2001
Edmonton	May 15, 2001

Any certified peer auditors whose peer auditor certification is expiring or who would like to upgrade to use the new audit should contact the AMHSA office to register.

Children's Construction Safety

The Alberta Chapter, Canadian Public Works Association has asked that we pass along some information regarding a "Children's Construction Safety" program. The program is designed for children from kindergarten to grade 6 and teaches them the dangers of various construction sites. This program should be of interest to many municipalities. The instruction package includes a 14-minute video, 30 student workbooks, and an instructor's guide. Packages can be order from the chapter website at www.publicworks.ab.ca.

Updated AMHSA Catalogue

We have recently updated the AMHSA catalogue so that it reflects all the courses we currently offer. It also contains descriptions of videos we have for sale or rent and a listing of a number of publications we have available for our members.

Course information provided includes:

- Purpose of the program
- A detailed course description
- Intended audience for material
- Prerequisites
- Length of program

- Fees

If you would like an updated copy of our catalogue please contact our office.

CSTS Update

AMHSA continues to offer the innovative computer delivered health and safety training program - CSTS- to its members. This highly interactive program is delivered individually to participants and allows them to work at their own pace. The program provides an overview of many health and safety concerns and is particularly useful as a refresher or part of an orientation program for outside workers.

AMHSA has the software and the computers needed to run the program on hand for use by our members. Computers are sent to interested municipalities for a period of a few months and they are asked to "host" the program by making it available to their workers and also workers from surrounding municipalities. There is a \$40.00 per student fee for participants who successfully complete the program. Host municipalities are compensated for their involvement.

If you are interested in becoming a host municipality or would like more information, contact Dave or Rose Ann in the AMHSA office.

Due Diligence Project

The biggest challenge most organizations have in implementing an effective health and safety program is having all levels of the organization understand their roles and responsibilities within the program. This issue is common across all industries in Alberta and is a concern to most groups and associations that have an interest in promoting occupational health and safety. In recognition of this, a number of safety associations have gotten together to discuss a promotional campaign that would help to address this need.

A proposal has been put forward to develop four one-minute promotional "spots" that would examine an incident from the perspective of the various workplace stakeholders. The spots would outline how the activities of each party contributed to the incident and the impact it has on each of them. It is expected that the four spots taken together would send a powerful message to all parties on a worksite regarding what they must do to prevent workplace tragedies from happening. There would also be a 20-25 minute documentary video produced about the making of the four spots that could be used as an instructional tool. The intent is to air the spots across the province on ACCESS television for a period of 6 months.

There appears to be broad-based support for this initiative from many industry groups and AMHSA has said they support the concept. Over the next few months the committee looking into this proposal will be trying to raise the funds necessary to proceed with this important project. If you would like more information or could provide any support please contact Dave at the AMHSA office.