

Day of Mourning

Each year April 28th is set aside to recognize workers who have died during the course of their work. Every year more than 100 Alberta workers die on the job. Hundreds more are permanently disabled, more than 50,000 are injured, and many others die of occupationally induced cancers and illness.

On April 28th, workers across Canada will be observing a National Day of Mourning in remembrance of workers who are killed or injured on the job every year. The Canadian Labour Congress first proclaimed the day in 1986. Canadian workers will also be joined by those in the United States, as the AFL-CIO has also adopted the Day of Mourning in its calendar.

The Canadian government has recognized April 28th as the Day of Mourning through Bill C-233, the Workers' Mourning Act, which became law on February 1st, 1991.

Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association

Annual General Meeting - April 18th, 2001

Our AGM will be held on April 18th, 2001 at 10:00 a.m., at the AMHSA Boardroom in Nisku. Our 2000 Annual report has been mailed to each municipality, with an invitation to the AGM. A special resolution - a request by the AUMA to be added back onto the AMHSA Board of Directors - will be on the agenda of the meeting. Each municipality may have one voting delegate at the meeting; the authorization form to represent your municipality in the meeting is included in the mail-out of the annual report. Call us if you have any questions.

Auditor Recertification/Upgrade - Training Reminder

Each year AMHSA offers its auditors a chance to review the concepts around auditing and to discuss questions related to a specific audit protocol through our free Auditor Rectification/Upgrade training. Auditors whose certification is expiring this year are required to take this training in order to remain certified by AMHSA as a peer auditor. Also any auditors who were previously certified to use the Safety Basics or the Partnerships audit and who would now like to use the new Municipal Health and Safety Audit Tool must take this training. For auditors who have already used the new audit protocol, it would provide an opportunity to have any questions or concerns addressed. The following is a reminder of the course locations and times for this spring. As these courses fill up, other courses will be added as required.

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

There is no charge for this training. Contact our office if you wish to register.

Employee Recognition Programs

How to reward employees for their health and safety efforts is an interesting and challenging area of discussion. To assist municipalities in dealing with the many questions that need to be addressed in developing and implementing an Employee Health and Safety Recognition program, a workshop was held at last fall's RUSA/ACSC/AMHSA convention. The workshop, which was led by Linnet Henderson (City of Wetaskiwin) and Rose Ann McGinty (AMHSA), provided a research based analysis of expert opinion on the topic and then had participants apply the information to the municipal sector. Linnet and Rose Ann have just completed a discussion paper based on the information gathered during the workshop. If you would like a copy of this interesting paper, please contact the AMHSA office.

Draw Prize Winners

Congratulations to the following who were winners in a prize draw at the **LGA 2000 Convention on March 21-22nd**. Each individual received their choice of a set of AMHSA coffee mugs or a free course registration.

Town of Coaldale	Sheldon Steinke
Village of Caroline	Edna Topp
Town of Redwater	Earla Wagar
Town of Carstairs	Daphne Turner
Village of Vilna	Twila Petrushka

Congratulations to the following who were winners in a prize draw at the **AAMD&C Spring 2000 Trade Show on March 26th**. Each individual received their choice of a set of AMHSA coffee mugs or a free course registration.

M.D. of Fairview	Ray Skrepnek
County of Minburn	Wilma Cherniawsky
County of Paintearth	Anna Rodvang
County of Forty Mile	Tom Thacker
County of Thorhild	Kevin Grumetza

"Heads Up" Campaign

For the third year in a row, there is a major promotional campaign underway focused on young workers and workers who are new or returning to work. This year the focus of the "Heads Up" campaign is to get new workers to find out about the safety efforts at their work sites before they end up as a statistic. The program is sponsored by a wide variety of organizations: WCB - Alberta, Alberta Construction Safety Association, the Alberta Motor Transport Association, Alberta Hotel Safety Association, Manufacturers' Health and Safety Association, and Alberta Human Resources and Employment. The program runs from mid-March to the end of June and involves a 30-second television commercial and three posters. If you would like to receive copies of these always-popular posters, please contact the AMHSA office.

North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week

Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Week (COHSW) has been organized by the Canadian Society of Safety Engineers (CSSE) since 1987. The goal of this Week is to increase employees', employers', and the general public's understanding of the benefits of investing in occupational health and safety. In 1997 the CSSE's efforts were rolled into an initiative to have a North American-wide OHS Week involving Canada, USA and Mexico. The week is now called North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week.

This year's NAOSH Week is scheduled for May 6th-12th. The national theme for 2001 is "Prevention is the Cure". This week will provide an opportunity for municipalities to get the health and safety message out to the community and to show leadership in injury prevention. Some examples of activities that municipalities can undertake to promote NAOSH Week include:

- declaration of NAOSH Week by Mayor/Reeve
- health and safety display at shopping malls, the municipal office building, etc. employee recognition events (BBQ, luncheon, etc.)
- posters, newsletter articles, etc.