

April 2004

Annual General Meeting - April 14th 2004

The Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting at 10 am on April 14th, at the Executive Royal Inn, in Nisku. The meeting is open to all regular members of the association (i.e. municipalities). Everyone is welcome to come out and hear about AMHSA's activities in 2003. The purpose of the meeting is for AMHSA to share its results and the audited financial statements from 2003. We also consider any resolutions put before the Chairman of Board of Directors. If anyone would like to present a resolution, they must submit the resolution in writing by April 7. Each municipality is entitled to vote at the meeting. To be a voting delegate, delegates must provide written approval from their CAO prior to the start of the meeting.

Information packages have been sent to the Chief Administrative Officer of each municipality; voting delegate authorization forms and more information about the AGM can be found in these packages. Anyone interested in attending the AGM please contact Lorraine at 1-800-267-9764 or (780) 955-3701.

Occupational Health and Safety Code: comes into effect April 30, 2004

The changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulation and Code have all been approved. The revised Act and Regulation are in effect now; the Code comes into effect on April 30, 2004. If your organization has not yet learned about the new requirements, it's time to do something about that. The following sources of information are available for you:

- Copies of the legislation are available from Queen's Printer for a cost of \$64.95 plus GST. Contact the Queen's Printer at (780) 427-4952 in Edmonton, or (403) 297-6251 in Calgary. The legislation can also be viewed on Alberta Human Resources and Employment website: www.whs.gov.ab.ca and click on "[Acts, Regulations and Code](#)".
- Alberta Human Resources and Employment also created an explanation guide for the Code (but not for the Act or Regulation). This comprehensive document provides additional information about the rationale for the provisions, ways to comply, etc. It is available as a 2 volume set from Queen's Printer for \$104.95. It can also be found on AHRE's website, with the legislation.
- AMHSA offers a 1/2 day workshop on the changes to the legislation. We've booked over 100 sessions so far! Contact Lorraine at 1-800-267-9764 or 955-3701 to register for one of our scheduled courses, or to book a course on site.
- AHRE has created a web program to guide employers and workers through the OHS Act, Regulation and Code. Through interactive exercises, learners will become familiar with relevant

parts of the legislation. Learners can also access additional information via the web links to various resources. Go to www.whs.gov.ab.ca and click on "[eLearning Programs](#)"

- Drop a line to Rose Ann roseann@amhsa.net or Jim jim@amhsa.net at AMHSA or call them at 1-800-267-9764 if you have some questions. Or you can call AHRE's call centre at 1-866-415-8690.

New Web Programs Available

Alberta Human Resources and Employment has created three awareness programs for employers and workers: **Occupational Health and Safety Legislation** (mentioned in the previous article); **Hazard Assessment and Control**; and **Incident Investigation**. These stand-alone, interactive, web-based programs were developed by AHRE in collaboration with representatives from industry, safety associations and employee groups. These programs are designed to provide employers and workers opportunities to learn more about these health and safety topics in a fun and interesting format. Check out the programs by going to their site and clicking on [eLearning Programs](#).

Course Schedule Change

We sent out our AMHSA course schedule last month and have had lots of registrations so far. We made one mistake in the schedule, by offering the Working Alone - hazard assessment course in Red Deer on Easter Monday (April 9). Most municipalities will be closed that day, so we have moved it to April 16th. Sorry about any confusion that caused.

PIR Update

For the information of municipalities participating in the PIR program, letters went out to the Chief Administrative Officers of each participating municipality this week. The letters provide information on your results from last year and requirements for this year. Managers, please share this information with your health and safety coordinator and auditors, so that everyone knows the expectations for 2004. If there are any errors in the information that we sent, or you need some clarification, contact Jim jim@amhsa.net or Rose Ann roseann@amhsa.net. Refund cheques will be sent out by the WCB to eligible municipalities in late May.

AAMD&C Trade Show winners

Congratulations to the winners of our draw at recent AAMD&C convention and tradeshow.

- Floyd Smith of M.D. of Cardston: AMHSA Travel Mug
- Vern Hafso of Beaver County: AMHSA Vest

Thanks to all of you for taking the time to stop by our booth.

Contact us:

We love to hear from you! If you have any questions about what you read here, would like to register for a course, or have a health and safety question, drop us a line or give us a call. We can be reached at Edmonton at 955-3701, or toll free at 1-800-267-9764. You can reach Mark in our Calgary office at 619-1791. Or you can e-mail us at:

- Lorraine: lorraine@amhsa.net
- Jim: jim@amhsa.net
- Rose Ann: roseann@amhsa.net
- Mark: amhsasouth@hotmail.com