



Alberta Cities Safety Councils

MINUTES June 7, 2022, 2022

Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Lyall	AMHSA
Shannon Thomas	AMHSA
Olana Todoruk	AMHSA
Rob Rosete	AMHSA
Chris Carter	AMHSA

Guests/Presenter and Members

Sanjeev Bhagrath, WCB
Miranda McLay, Partnerships
Colleen Manderville, City of Lethbridge
Jamie Anderson, City of Lethbridge
Melissa Craig, City of Lethbridge
Paul Shields, City of Calgary
Denise Isbister, City of St. Albert
Lisa Rantucci, City of Beaumont
John Scarlett, City of Edmonton
Cyndil Taylor, City of Edmonton
Farhan Ali, City of Edmonton
Linda Plaicar, City of Leduc
Nicole Wetsch, Edmonton Police Service
Kristi Lea, City of Grande Prairie
Patty Pura, City of Grande Prairie
Megan Miller, City of Lacombe
Jeri Wolfe, City of Leduc
Bev Glass, City of Red Deer
Amanda Russell, Strathcona County
Adam Baxter, Strathcona County
Leanne Litchfield, City of Grande Prairie
Lorna Melton, City of Camrose
Katya Ziad Abbasi, University of New Brunswick

1. INTRODUCTIONS, WELCOME AND SAFETY MOMENT

Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association's Program Evaluation Manager, Shannon Thomas, welcomed everyone, introduced herself, and called the meeting to order at 10:01 am. Members, guests, and staff introduced themselves.

Shannon Thomas reviewed housekeeping items including recording of meeting but not roundtable, use of microphone and video, chat function, Chris available for technical support, etc.

2. HEALTH AND SAFETY MOMENT

The Health and Safety moment on Wildlife Vehicle Collision Awareness was Rob Rosete of AMHSA. Please see attached PowerPoint for details.

3. WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD – ALBERTA UPDATE

Sanjeev Bhagarath presented on the features and function of the updated Fit-For-Work Dashboard. Sanjeev also introduced the Psychological Injury Dashboard which provides province-wide stats on psychological injuries.

WCB employer and employee handbooks have reverted to digital only effective May 1, 2022.

Sanjeev presented changes to physiotherapy reports. Please see attached PowerPoint for details.

Policy Updates – Public Consultation on Funding policy. Please see attached PowerPoint for details.

PIR number update. Please see attached PowerPoint for details.

A question-and-answer period followed Sanjeev's presentation including: trends in claims, PTSD prevention, recovery and treatment; psychological injuries; addiction and treatment.

Sanjeev also provided a clarification of rate setting.

4. RUSA CONFERENCE

www.rusa.ca

Shannon provided details on the upcoming RUSA Conference. November 29 - December 1 in Red Deer at the Cambridge Hotel. Please see PowerPoint for details. Shannon answered questions re: Virtual vs in-person presentations and attendance and highlighted the pre-conference AMHSA sessions – Contractor Safety Management (new) and Health and Safety Committees and Representatives (revised). The conference will also include an OHS Legislation Update, Psychological Injuries in the Workplace seminar from WCB, and opening and closing keynotes. An in-person tradeshow will also take place.

3. UNB & AMHSA PARTNERSHIP

Scott Lyall introduced Katya Ziad Abbasi from the University of New Brunswick.

Katya presented on the UNB & AMHSA Partnership and available scholarship/tuition award. Scott drew Shawn Justus' name as the winner of the tuition award.

6. PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE

Miranda McLay – Government of Alberta, Partnerships Consultant

Ms. McLay presented the Partnerships update (attached in the PowerPoint) which included the following topics:

2022 COR Auditing

- Requirement for 2022 audits
- Observations continue to be optional for 2022
- Action plan dates have been extended for 2022 season

Auditor Status

- Please see attached PowerPoint

Printing CORs

- Partnerships no longer printing physical copies.
- AMHSA can download and print CORs
- Employers can print CORs through WCB LCR portal.
- Contact WCB for access

COR and SECOR updates

- COR and SECOR audit criteria have been updated due to change in legislation and standards.
- New COR and SECOR tools are being created.
- Updates to training courses and new audit tools must be implemented by AMHSA by Jan1, 2023.

Auditor Notes

- Auditor Note Standard was updated.
- All questions require a quantification except for interviews done on an electronic tool.

Key Changes to the COR Audit Criteria

- Allowance of applicable legislation (Alberta or Federal) to be used to answer legislation questions.
- Hazard assessment review on predetermined frequency instead of regular basis
- Reduction in number of questions around Violence and Harassment.
- JHSC/HSR element updated to match legislation req.
- Self employed persons removed as now included under employer as per the OHS legislated definition
- Minimum requirement around cascade scoring

Key Changes to the SECOR Audit Criteria

- Allowance of applicable legislation (Alberta or Federal) to be used to answer legislation questions
- Hazard assessments reviewed on pre-determined frequency instead of regular basis
- Reduction in number of questions around Violence and Harassment to simplify the requirements
- Joint Health and Safety Committee/ Health and Safety Representative element updated to match new legislation requirements
- Self-employed persons removed as now included under employer as per the OHS legislated definition
- Minimum requirements around cascade scoring of questions
- Allowance of applicable legislation (Alberta or Federal) to be used to answer legislation questions
- Addition an element for Health and Safety Representative
- Addition of element around Other Employers
- No cascading of questions however, no sampling for the first 3 questions for hazard assessments
- Content aligned with Appendix B – Regular COR audit where appropriate

SECOR Adapted for Owner/Operators

- A new definition for Owner/Operator was created with Certifying Partners and WCB.

2022/23 OSAR Year

- Target this year is 75 OSARs with 2 planned for AMHSA
- OSARs will be looking at interview data to ensure proper process/sampling completed
- Documentation review will be completed on 14 chosen audit criteria
- OSARs will be completed both on-site and off-site this year

2021/22 OSAR Results

- 3 OSARs were completed for AMHSA
- 82 were completed across all Certifying Partners
- 32% required follow up with the Auditor
- Main area was findings not verified
- 2nd highest area was incorrect audit process

OHS Allowance and Inter-Jurisdictional Recognition

- A new OHS allowance permitting work sites to use Confined Space Remote Monitoring System (CSRMS) technology came into effect on May 3, 2022. CSRMS technology allows workers in a confined space to be monitored remotely, meaning that the tending worker does not have to be physically at or near the confined space entrance.
- Two Inter-jurisdictional recognitions have recently been issued. See slide.

Searchable Legislation

- Search for workplace health and safety rules under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulation and Code
- View, download, email, print and manage a custom 'handbook'
- Expected to be available later this month
- Does not have links to other documents referenced (ie. CSA Standards), however it is something they are considering when they do an upgrade.

Legislation Updates

- In the Fall of 2020 two technical working groups were formed to provide input on Parts 33, 36, and 37 of the OHS Code.
- Public engagement on proposed year one changes occurred in Spring 2021, and was presented as an online survey that ran from March 30 to May 10, 2021
- The changes will be finalized in 2022; stakeholders will be given time from when the changes are announced to when they come into force to allow them to prepare

OHS Publications

- <https://ohs-pubstore.labour.alberta.ca>
- Our resource team is working diligently to get all publications updated with the new legislation
- The “New” tab brings up those that have recently been updated
- Few to Note: See slide

Contact information:

Miranda McLay – 780/422-5612 - email Miranda.McLay@gov.ab.ca

7. AMHSA COR AUDITING

Shannon Thomas, AMHSA Program Evaluation Manager

Ms. Thomas provided a complete update which is attached. Topics included:

2022 Auditing

Remote Audits

- Suspension of on-site data gathering lifted – optional
- Quarterly updates to COVID-19-related policies from Partnerships
- Remote documentation sharing and interviews recommended

Audit Registration

- New process 2022, see [website for form](#)

Reminders

Deadlines

- Action Plan in Lieu of COR Maintenance June 30
- Submission of 2022 Audits December 1
- Submission of action plan deliverables December 1

SECOR Changes

- January 2023 – scored version of SECOR audit tool (yes/no version no longer available)

Auditor Tool Changes

- Auditor updates regarding changes and timing distributed May 31
- Updating training for Auditing and Audit Refresher

Upcoming Training

HSMS

- September. 20 – 21, 2022
- October 11 – 12, 2022

H&S Auditing

- September 27 – 28, 2022
- October 18 -19, 2022

Audit Refresher

- May 11, 2022
- September 14, 2022
- October 4, 2022

Communication

AMHSA continues to be committed to keeping our COR-holders and auditors informed and up to date about changes, and communicates regularly via several vehicles:

- AMHSA newsletters
- Auditor Updates
- Member Meetings
- Website Forums
- Website

If you have any questions, please contact [Shannon Thomas](#) or [Jessica Meyer](#).

8. AMHSA – ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Scott Lyall, AMHSA Director of Operations

- Introduction of **Olana Todoruk, Director, Learning and Assurance**
- New AMHSA offerings
- Strategic Partnerships – NAIT, Continuing Education Discount
- AMHSA Forums
- Lawn Maintenance Safety Program
- Infection Prevention and Control: Basic Awareness Training
- Disability Management Training in Partnership with Pacific Coast University
- Industry Task Force Association partnership
- Psychological Health and Safety Facilitator certification program
- National Institute of Disability Management and Research
- Psychological Health & Safety: Rural First Responder, Municipal Psychological Health Impact Group, Maintaining Mental Fitness, optional PHS COR Element
- Mental Health Commission of Canada – Mental Health First Aid and The Working Mind training available
- Rural First Responder Mental Health – Ruralfirstresponder.ca
 - Shannon Thomas provided an introduction to the project which is supported by a Government of Alberta SPHIFR Grant.
 - Project parts: Mental Health Commission of Canada, TELUS Health, and University of Calgary
 - Provides rural and remote Alberta fire fighters with innovative, evidence-based mental health training and resources for prevention and recovery from PTSI.
 - Contact safety@amhsa.net for more information or to register!

9. INFORMATION SHARING ROUNDTABLE

Meeting participants discussed trends, initiatives, statistics, audits, etc., including the following topics:

- Trends around injuries
- Lost time claims
- Heavy equipment train-the-trainer
- Hand Injuries
- Returning to work post-COVID
- COVID exposures
- Fire drills and other emergency response drills including tabletop exercises
- Cleats / slips and falls
- Verbal Judo training
- Disability management and industry trends
- Lost time incident information; incident reporting
- Mental health programs, policies, and resources
- Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention

- - Increase in harassment of municipal employees.
- Vaccine requirements
- Modified work
- Fit for duty
- Training at management level for threats (internal and external, letter, calls etc.)
- Psychological injury claims
- Contractor Management
- Driver training
- Data on incidents, days without LTC, injury frequency, days missed, costs, safety pyramids, risk management
- Mental health
- Conflict resolution
- Respectful workplace training

8. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

Shannon Thomas thanked participants for attending and reviewed the dates for the next Alberta Cities Safety Council meeting:

- November 29, 2022 (Cambridge Hotel, Red Deer – tentative)

Anyone interested in hosting future in-person meetings or presenting health and safety moments at upcoming meetings is invited to contact Shannon Thomas.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.