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Alberta Occupational Safety Auditors Association

Message from the Chairperson

Welcome to “almost-summer” everyone! It seems we have jumped from winter to “almost summer” without any spring at all this year!

Since we last met in February, your association executive has been busy moving ahead with the items you asked us to work on. Thank you to those who completed the recent membership survey; we have learned a lot about what you feel the association should be doing for the next couple of years. We will be sharing the results and suggestions with you at the meeting in Red Deer on June 2nd.

Please plan on attending if you are able to; this is your opportunity to meet other auditors, share ideas and learn from leaders in our profession. Further in the newsletter, you will find details on the time and location. Please RSVP so that we order sufficient meals.

Anyone who did not get an opportunity to provide your input through the members survey, please feel free to email you ideas and comments directly to me at: ceamer@telusplanet.net.

An example of how we are acting on your suggestions, is AOSAA’s active search for an organization that will provide OHSAS 18001 training for members, at a reduced fee (based on having a minimum number of people signing up). Watch for more information on this topic in the near future.

We are also developing a closer relationship with the Partnerships group in Alberta Employment and Immigration. We will establish direct communication with the Certifying Partners group, so that we are aware of decisions made at that level, which could impact auditors.

Much more information will be shared at the June meeting, so please plan on joining us to continue the dialogue. Also, the executive heard that you want us to plan the dates for the bi-annual meetings further in advance – so please note that the winter meeting (hate to even think about winter again!) will be held in Red Deer on February 8th, 2012.

Happy Spring into Summer!

Carol Eamer CHMSA

Partnerships Update

The following is an excerpt that was provided from a communication to Partners from Rob Feagan (Director of Partnerships), to inform our members:

The Workplace Standards Division has seen some staff changes and some reorganization. We now have two divisions; Workplace Standards Policy and Workplace Standards Delivery. Both the Compliance and Partnerships units are in the Delivery Division.

Brent McEwan who was formerly with agriculture, took over responsibility as the Executive Director of the OHS Program Delivery Branch in December, and a new Assistant Deputy Minister for the Standards Delivery Division is currently being hired.

After a final meeting with Stakeholders and the Minister, our revised Employer Review Process has been finalized. The Minister will be announcing this on May 11, 2011 and the revised process will be implemented on June 1, 2011. Once the Minister makes his announcement we will ensure that copies of the final document are circulated. Some final changes to the process hinge around the PIR rebates attached to the COR. Under the revised process rebates will be lost if an employer loses their COR due to an Employer Review. As well, any COR holder who is charged and convicted under the Act will lose their PIR rebate.

Our On Site Audit Review Process wrapped up in March and we are currently preparing a report on the results. This report should be available prior to the end of May.

Did you know that if an employer has any open compliance orders, issued by one of our OHS Officers, they are not eligible for a COR? When AEI Partnerships receives a COR request from a Certifying Partner, asking for a new COR or COR recertification, Partnerships staff check our database for open orders. If there are open orders of any kind, the COR will not be issued! The COR request will be placed on hold and if the orders are not closed within a three month period, the request will be deemed "stale" and a new audit required if the employer is to receive a COR.



"Partnerships in Health and Safety promotes health and safety through partnerships with safety associations, industry groups, educational institutions and labour organizations."



AOSAA June Workshop

Spring into summer (a few weeks early) and plan to take in AOSAA's mid-year workshop scheduled at the Holiday Inn on 67th Street in Red Deer, June 2, 2011. We have a full agenda planned for the day with interesting presentations on COR in BC; "Raising the Bar" and Auditing Skills – Team Audit Sampling, along with regular reporting and updates and an open forum for members.

The current agenda is as follows:

08:30	Registration	Coffee / Refreshments
09:00	Welcome and Introductory Remarks, Association Update	Carol Eamer - AOSAA Chair
09:15	Review of Member Survey Results –	Rae Anne Aldridge
09:30	Partnerships Update	Robert Feagan - Senior Manager, Partnerships
10:15	Refreshment Break	
10:30	Workshop – "Effective Auditing Skills" – Team Auditing – Sampling	Glynn Jones, EHS Partnerships
11:15	Updates from Certifying Partners	AASP, AFPA. MHSA and Enform
12:00	Lunch	
13:00	"Raising The Bar" – an industry perspective	Rob Wilman, Ensign Drilling
13:30	Update on BC Status– Forestry Association Where they are at with the COR program in BC	Peter Lineen CRSP
14:00	Refreshment Break	
14:15	Members input to AOSAA future - Discussion	All
	- Educational / Training topics	
	- Follow-up from Member Survey.	
	- Idea for regional meetings – (Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge)?	
15:45	Closing Remarks	Carol Eamer
16:00	Adjourn	

Please contact AOSAA at info@aosaa.ca by Thursday May 26, 2011 to confirm your attendance. This will assist us in finalizing plans with the hotel for refreshments and lunch. We look forward to seeing you there.

Manage Summer for Safety

Summer will soon be upon us, yes it will arrive, and with it comes the shift to a host of seasonal activities that we have not conducted for many months. Time to apply what we know to have a safe and incident free summer.

- Recognize – the hazards of activities you will be undertaking during the summer months.
- Evaluate – the risk presented by the hazards and activities
- Control – the risk to the ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) level, so that you can enjoy summer fun and expect to return from it safe, healthy and rejuvenated.

Enjoy what the season has to offer!



**ALBERTA
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ASSOCIATION**

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We're on the Web!

*For more information
or to join the association
please visit us at:*

www.aosaa.ca

About Our Organization...

The Alberta Occupational Safety Auditors Association is a professional organization dedicated to the development and professional practice of health and safety auditing. It is the goal of the association to become the voice of the health and safety auditing profession with membership from across the province and representing all industries.

The Association's mission is to enhance the practices of safety auditing by creating a provincial forum and organization to advance ideas, procedures and member interaction.

The Association's primary objective is to promote the health and safety auditing profession, not only in Alberta, but across Canada. The Association will provide its members with ongoing professional development and will also provide a meeting place for health and safety professionals to focus on the auditing discipline.

The founders of this association believe that as the Partnerships in Health and Safety program continues to grow in Western Canada we will see a growth in the auditing profession and it is only appropriate that we develop professional, competent and ethical auditors to complement this growth.

The Association was incorporated as a not-for-profit society in September 2005. IN May 2006, it became a Partner with Alberta Human Resources and Employment in the Partnerships in the Health and Safety Program.

All members are required to sign and abide by the AOSAA Code of Ethics.

Executive Committee

Chairperson – Carol Eamer, CHSMSA (OHS Consulting Ltd.)
Past-Chairperson – Wally Cook P.Eng., CRSP, CHSMSA (Kestrel Resources Ltd.)
Vice-Chairperson – Joan Barbour, MHSc, ROH, CRSP (Joan Barbour Consulting Ltd.)
Secretary/Treasurer – Judy Cook, P. Eng, CRSP (Kestrel Resources Ltd.)
Director – Laurent St. Louis, CRSP (Sword Energy Inc.)
Director – Rae Ann Aldridge, B. Eng., CRSP (EHS Partnerships Ltd.)
Director – Rob Wilman, CRSP (Ensign Energy Group)
Director – Steve Nyenhuis (Creative Door Services Ltd.)
Director – Brock Downey, CRSP (City of Calgary)
Director – Shannon Bolger , CRSP (Benchmark Safety Inc.)

The Auditor newsletter is produced and edited by Wally Cook, P. Eng., CRSP, CHSMSA (Kestrel Resources Ltd.)

Would you like to write an article for **The Auditor**? Provide your idea to the editor.

Questions or comments about the newsletter may be directed to the editor at: wcook@kestrelresources.com

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