



MINUTES

WSN Mining Advisory Committee

Date & Time: Wednesday, Novembre 22 at 8:00 am

Attendance: Chris Bamberger, Michael Ferguson (Chair), Rob McVeigh, Tyler Neeley, Julia Salvalaggio, Dennis Sobey (Past Chair), Steve Wrixon (Vice Chair)

Regrets: Aaron Duckworth, Don Langlois, Louise Lowe, Tom Rannelli, Darren Toner,

Guest: Fern Houle (proxy Darren Toner)

WSN Staff:

Meg Parker, Marketing Communication Specialist
Allison Roy, Writer, Health and Safety Services
Chris Serratore, Director Health and Safety Services
Cindy Schiewek, Director Health and Safety Services
Tricia Valentim, Executive Assistant, Health and Safety Services

8:00 am to 9:30 am – Mining Advisory Committee Meeting

- 1. Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Agenda, Safety Share – Chair**
AGENDA APPROVED

Safety Share: A reminder to drive carefully during the winter weather was provided; even if roads look clear, they may still be slick. The sun is also blinding in the morning, compounding the issue. Diligent driving was strongly encouraged (the share was inspired by a recent incident involving pedestrian-pickup truck contact that resulted in severe injuries to the pedestrian).

- 2. Approval of Last Minutes – Chair**
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- 3. Risk Assessment & Root Cause Analysis Update – Tom Welton**

Tom presented the Underground Mining Sector Root Cause Analysis report. Presentation attached to the minutes.

Question on mining sector risk assessment priorities: Occupational illness/disease to be brought forward to Mining Tripartite Committee for consideration. Other possible topics include handheld pneumatic drills; hand and finger injuries (given their prevalence/increase, such as with a jackleg/percussion tools); fit for duty/fatigue

Action: Meeting Thursday, December 7, with Tom, Steven, and Darren Toner re: a bowtie analysis on fit for duty/fatigue

Action: Tom to follow up with Bryan Edwards re: hand injury information.

4. **Mining Supervisor Common Core Update and Proposed Development of Refresher Training Course for SCC** – Chris Serratore

Allison Roy, Writer, WSN presented the survey results of survey, previously sent to advisory members, regarding SCC refresher. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PW23XC6>

Comments and discussion included:

- Committee feels that it would be worthwhile to have a Refresher.
- Not everyone will need it for each of the sessions, maybe a way to customize, modular training and specific self-guided with a one-day in class session.
- A refresher is not currently a requirement so will depend on every company's commitment.
 - Refresher is on the table to become a requirement for every 5 yrs.
- eLearning components will be needed for those in remote areas and for convenience.
- More companies are running processes like this internally, so supervisors will need to understand their own programs, trained on their own system and process, so would need to focus on the fundamentals only.
- Use of hybrid training would be a must.
- Jake Hughes and provincial exam has been weighted for testing and exam questions on each of the areas so maybe he can share that with WSN?
- Everyone can share the survey to help gather more data. This has already been shared with MLRC and Tom has been in contact with Jake Hughes with MTCU questions.
- Working in parallel with the risk assessments as well as how inspectors focus seems to be with 5.1 and 5. 2.
- Soft skills/manage employees/incident investigations – the safety side is more of a struggle for some.
- Preference for in-person learning, not feasible for many employers so offer of flexibility is needed.
- Will keep advisory in the loop as move forward.
- Currently, Act and Regs has been updated in 2023, and other courses almost completed include Manage Employees and Practice Effective Communications.

5. **2024 WSN Recognition Awards** – Cindy Schiewek

- Cindy reviewed the awards process from last year which had a focus on pedestrian interaction.
- Received feedback, good criteria, however a lot of work.
- Seeking input from the group. Do we take Risk Assessment and target top hazards and lean into what we know with CAAT system to get the front-line voice?

- Does the process seem like it makes sense and is it enough work to earn recognition.
- Do people want recognition? What is priority on this? Only so many resources are available and is it worth the time away from regular tasks to do this?
- Potentially could be used in recruitment too, however not usually what people look at when going for jobs.
- Steve Wrixon will bring it back to the OMCSA.
- Discussion on how a recognition award is not the carrot, but rather more interested in the report card aspect and where the gaps are, and what doing right.
- If going to invest time to make sure we have useful tools, instead of reward, have the effort going to tools with climate assessment on top hazards. Lean into CAAT framework we are using validated questions which are already leveled. This way it could be up to the company on what they want to focus on.

6. Events & Conference Update – Meg Parker

Meg Parker presented a slide deck.

Work on the mining health and safety conference is already underway; keynote speakers are being identified (topics include culture, inclusion, equity, diversity, leadership)

Additional names for potential keynote speakers include Stephen DeGroot (Brivia Consulting). Information has been forwarded to Gaby Lemon, Event Specialist for the Mining Conference.

Action: Tricia to send link to call to papers with the minutes (see below).

- Here's the call for papers landing page with general info: [Workplace Safety North | Your health and safety partner](#)
- Here's the link to complete the submission form: [Call for Papers | Workplace Safety North](#)

7. Discussion on advisory committee future goals

In addition to BEV symposium: topics could include collision avoidance; proximity detection; interlocks; automation (complementary technologies)

FICOM (thermal barrier system) simulation to be added to next face-to-face meeting.

8. New Business

No new business brought forward.

9. Best Practices/Meeting Roundtable/Wrap-up – Group Discussion

Need to always be wondering what our goals are.

- Need to always be wondering what our goals are.
- Technology in general, we are behind with information.
 - Equipment running on its own and legislation isn't there yet.
 - Must make sure controls are in place to protect us with technology going on all around us.
 - Robots are now doing tasks underground.
 - Opportunity for WSN to get ahead of that rather than reacting to it when something bad happens.
 - Automation and AI piece coming fast as companies push to be first.
 - Must remind everyone that the risk assessments, commission and documentation, training pieces all need to be in place.
 - Management of change process needs to be complete and thought of first.
- Losing skilled workers. Worried about the next generation coming and making sure they are trained appropriately and properly. How does this affect the industry? Can't just pass everyone because they are going through the training. Must make sure they are trained well and not just paperwork.
 - a. Not sure how to address this over the next few years.
 - b. Need to define what success looks like.
 - c. Starts with training evaluation and build training backwards from there, the curriculum design.
- Collision avoidance discussed as a potential topic.
- Equipment guarding and how it is part of the MLRC sub-committees and how they are looking into industry language. MOL guidelines for regulations they are also working on.

10. Book 2024 Meeting Dates

Proposed dates for 2024 will be sent out. Potential tour places were discussed.

James Johnstone, Mining Health and Safety Specialist, long time employee of WSN will be retiring on December 1. Replacing him will be Geroge Mondoux, already familiar with programs and WSN itself, will be transitioning from Southern Ontario.



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9:30 am to 10:30 – Joint Meeting with FPPC Advisory Committee

1. Review Terms of Reference

Co-chairs verbally read through *Terms of Reference*.

Approved by both committees.

2. 2024 Objectives

Training suggestions for advisory committee in future:

- Lockout
- Risk Assessment
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Mental Health training (incl. a supervisory/leadership focus)
- Heat stress
- Working Alone

Action: WSN to send out monkey survey to help with further direction.

Common goals objectives: WSN aligns with Ministry guidelines and the top risk in sectors have come out of risk assessments and discussions with this group.

Technology discussion on trend with both committees, and how there needs to be better training in the change management process to follow with this new technology coming in and to confirm steps beforehand.

***** Note to us – Should we have a section each meeting regarding Technology trends/updates?**