



Workplace Safety North

# MINING HEALTH AND SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025

April 30 - May 1 | Sudbury, ON

The Foundation of Mining Safety

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# Welcome back!

Thank you for joining the 27th annual Mining Health and Safety Conference hosted by Workplace Safety North from April 30 to May 1 at Science North in Sudbury, Ontario.

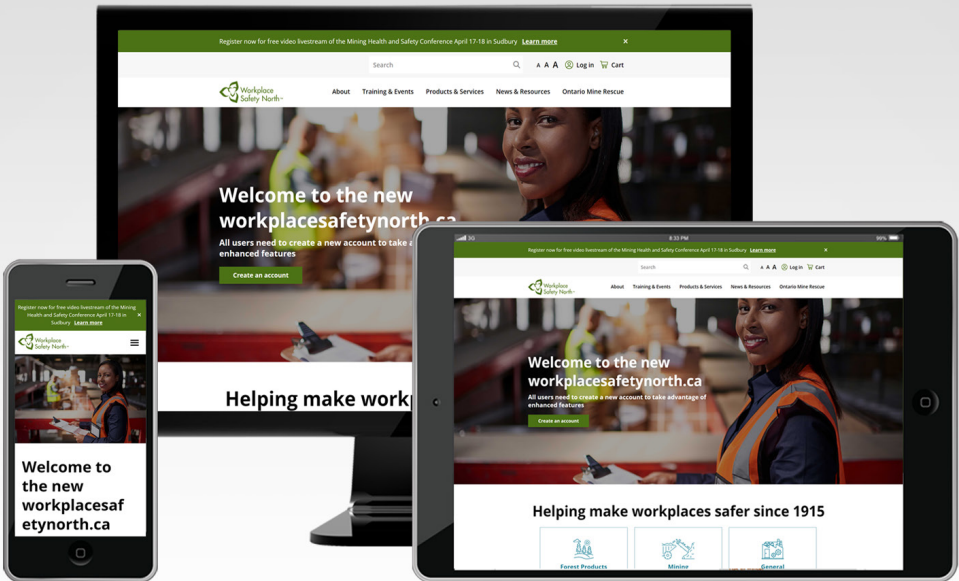
Themed ‘**The foundation of mining safety**’, this year’s conference focuses on the essentials of health and safety, while emphasizing the importance of legal requirements, risk management, and workplace culture, ensuring safe and healthy work environments.

Derek Daly, former Formula One and Indy 500 driver, opens the conference with a talk on high-risk environments. Derek shares personal stories and experiences to illustrate key safety concepts and how your team can make critical performance gains by turning Risk into Intelligence Risks.

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark law firm will lead an engaging and interactive mock trial that explores complexities of mining law, courtroom proceedings, and real-world issues faced by the mining industry.

The conference features a variety of technical sessions reviewing the latest in safety culture and leadership, high-risk hazard management, technology development and emergency response.

Network with industry professionals and visit more than 30 vendors at the two-day Information Exchange Trade Show.



# Welcome to the new workplacesafetynorth.ca

**Streamlined navigation and enhanced features simplify user experience**

Workplace Safety North has launched its new upgraded and accessible website. Packed with features designed to make booking training a breeze, this modern platform promises to simplify processes for businesses of all sizes.

**New features for a smooth experience**

The updated website features a clean and modern look, with diverse imagery. Its mobile-friendly layout ensures seamless navigation on any device, making it easy for users to access content on the go.



[workplacesafetynorth.ca](http://workplacesafetynorth.ca)





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# Your Conference Host

## **Workplace Safety North - Your local health and safety partner**

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North (WSN) is one of four sector-based health and safety associations in Ontario. Headquartered in northern Ontario, WSN administers the provincial mine rescue program and provides province-wide Ministry-approved workplace health and safety training and services for the mining and forest products industries.

With health and safety specialists and mine rescue officers located across the province, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make Ontario workplaces safer for more than 100 years. A leading provider of health and safety training and consulting, businesses call upon WSN for expert advice and information.

### **Consulting Services**

- Assessments: Conveyor, ground control, industrial hygiene testing, mobile equipment, radon, safety culture, ventilation
- Audits: Ground control, health and safety systems, legislative compliance, needs assessment
- On-site health and safety consulting
- Business health and safety program and culture audit
- Events, resources, and information on compliance initiatives, legislative changes, risk management research
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) Health and Safety Excellence program

### **Training**

Government-approved provider for the following courses:

- Mining Common Core for First Line Supervisors
- Joint Health and Safety Committee Certification (JHSC) Training
- Working at Heights Safety Training
- Related courses include Competent Supervisor, Workplace Mental Health Series, and Mine Rescue

# Conference Advisory Committee

Workplace Safety North would like to thank the Mining Health and Safety Conference Advisory Committee for their guidance in developing this year's conference program.

**Darren Toner**  
Vale Base Metals

**Gus Minor**  
Sofvie Inc.

**Joanne McGillis**  
Electrical Safety Authority

**Julia Salvalaggio**  
MacLean Engineering

**Michael Ferguson**  
Boart Longyear

**Michel Levesque**  
Boart Longyear

**Robert McVeigh**  
Compass Minerals

**Tom Rannelli**  
GMS Mine Repair & Maintenance

**Tyler Neeley**  
McEwen Mining

If you would like to join the Conference Advisory Committee, please contact Paige Jones at [paigejones@workplacesafetynorth.ca](mailto:paigejones@workplacesafetynorth.ca).

# Conference Sponsors

## Diamond sponsor



## Keynote sponsors



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# Wednesday, April 30

## Vale Cavern

8:30-8:45 am

### Conference Welcome

Steve Wrixon, conference emcee  
Vice President of Health, Safety and Environment  
Cementation Americas



8:45-9:00 am

### State of the Industry

Mike Parent, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Workplace Safety North



9:00-10:00 am

### Drive to Survive: The Crucial Balance Between Safety and Speed

Derek Daly, Formula 1 and Indy Driver, International  
Racing Champion



Having survived the hardest crash impact a driver had ever lived through, Derek shares his near-death experience that led to an unprecedented safety initiative in racing that continues today. You will learn how his sport developed the safest high-performance work environments in history.

When attitudes changed, lives were saved because Compliance did not replace Responsibility. Learn how your team can make critical performance gains by turning ever present Risk into Intelligent Risks. You will understand the crucial balance between Speed and Safety. No one remains emotionally neutral as they grasp these breathtaking personal experiences.

10:00-10:45 am

### Health Break and Trade Show

Visit more than 30 vendors at the Information Exchange Trade Show located in the Sun Walk, SN Lobby, and CTV Atrium.

10:45-12:15 pm

**Mining Mock Trial: part one**

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark will lead a three-part interactive mock trial exercise reviewing critical issues surrounding worker safety in a mining operation. The case explores whether the mining company's actions violated Section 55 of the Mines and Mining Plants regulation, which prohibits workers from conducting tasks without protective measures in place when others are working overhead. As the trial proceeds, attendees will learn whether any failures directly led to worker injuries.

12:15-1:15 pm

**Lunch and Trade Show**

1:15-2:15 pm

**Mining Mock Trial: part two**

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

2:15-2:45 pm

**Health Break and Trade Show**

2:45-3:45 pm

**Mining Mock Trial: part three**

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

4:00-5:00 pm

**Networking Reception**

Join WSN and the WSIB for an exciting partnership announcement at 4:15pm. Visit the CTV Atrium for networking, appetizers and bar service.



# Thursday, May 1

## Vale Cavern

8:30-8:45 am

### Conference Welcome

Steve Wrixon, Cementation Americas, conference emcee

8:45-9:15 am

### Everything You Wanted to Know About The New MSHA Silica Standard But Were Afraid to Ask

Edward A. Stuber and Ryan Sutcliff, SGS North America

9:15-9:45 am

### Building Your Safety Culture by Expecting the Unexpected

Lisa Kadosa, Threads of Life

9:45-10:15 am

### Awards Presentation

### Ontario Mining Contractors Safety Association Innovation Awards and Workplace Safety North Culture Maturity Awards

10:15-11:00 am

### Health Break and Trade Show

Visit more than 30 vendors at the Information Exchange Trade Show located in the Sun Walk, SN Lobby, and CTV Atrium.

11:00-11:30 am

### Advancements in Collision Avoidance Technologies for Underground Mining Safety

Chao Yu, Loop X

11:30-12:00 pm

**The Role of Culture and Leadership**

Gus Minor, Sofvie Inc., and Stephen de Groot, Brivia

12:00-1:00 pm

**Lunch and Trade Show**

1:00-1:30 pm

**Psychological Health & Safety**

Marsha Nicholas, Agnico Eagle Detour Lake Mine

1:30-2:00 pm

**Occupational Hand-Transmitted Vibration Exposure in Mining: Health Effects and Possible Control Strategies**

Dr. Katie Goggins, Centre for Research in Occupational Safety and Health

2:00-2:30 pm

**Health Break**

2:30-3:00 pm

**Advancements and Challenges in Fatigue Risk Management in the Mining Industry: A Critical Review of Best Practices, Barriers, and Policy Insights**

Dr. Emily Tetzlaff, Wenco International Mining Systems

3:00-3:45 pm

**Emergency Response to Battery Fires**

Dan Rulli and Nicholas Schwehr, Ontario Mine Rescue

# Thursday Technical Sessions

## Vale Cavern

8:45-9:15 am

### Everything You Wanted to Know About The New MSHA Silica Standard But Were Afraid to Ask

Edward A. Stuber and Ryan Sutcliff, SGS North America

The presentation will cover all major aspects of the new MSHA Silica standard, including:

- Who is impacted and how to comply
- Exposure hazards
- Timeline for compliance
- Major components of the MSHA Silica Standard
- Exposure sampling

9:15-9:45 am

### Building Your Safety Culture by Expecting the Unexpected

Lisa Kadosa, Threads of Life

In potentially high-risk sectors like mining, routine work practices can unexpectedly lead to injuries or fatalities. While highlighting the need to identify and address potential hazards in daily tasks to enhance worker safety, Lisa shares her personal story about her father, Robert, an experienced miner committed to safety, whose tragic death after 37 years on the job underscores the hidden risks in commonplace work practices.

This presentation aims to help motivate the mining industry to seek out hazards and eliminate them, even if they've never caused a problem before. This presentation will review how individuals and businesses can engage with Threads of Life to build professional development and corporate safety cultures.

11:00-11:30 am

**Advancements in Collision Avoidance Technologies for Underground Mining Safety**

Chao Yu, Loop X

Underground mining safety remains a critical challenge due to restricted visibility, confined spaces, and the close interactions between heavy machinery and workers. Various collision avoidance technologies have been developed to enhance situational awareness and mitigate risks, each with its own strengths and limitations.

This presentation provides a comparative analysis of different safety technologies, including traditional camera systems, ultra-wideband (UWB), Wi-Fi tag-based detection, LiDAR, infrared (IR) cameras, radar-based detection, and AI-driven solutions. The discussion will highlight the effectiveness, challenges, and evolving trends in mining safety, emphasizing the increasing role of sensor fusion and AI in ensuring reliable hazard detection.

11:30-12:00 pm

**The Role of Culture and Leadership**

Gus Minor, Sofvie Inc., and Stephen de Groot, Brivia

An engaged worker is the cornerstone of a safe workplace. By fostering a culture of exceptional leadership, commitment to improvement, and leveraging technological support, we can cultivate an environment where employees are eager to engage and excel in safety performance.

Achieving the highest level of engagement is within reach when these powerful elements align, creating a workspace people are proud to be part of, especially in these ever-changing times of uncertainty.

# Thursday Technical Sessions

1:00-1:30 pm

## **Psychological Health & Safety**

Marsha Nicholas, Agnico Eagle Detour Lake Mine

Employee mental health has become one of the most important issues facing employers today. Recent research suggests that 70% of people feel their manager has more of an impact on their mental health than their therapist or doctor. This adds additional pressures for people in leadership roles.

With mental stress claims at 30% of short-term disability cases, we recognize the importance of having a psychologically safe work culture to promote safe and healthy discussions where the belief is that nobody will be punished or humiliated for speaking up. This presentation outlines how Agnico Eagle Detour Lake Mine promotes a psychologically safe work culture through on-site support, leadership training, and implementing a mental health and wellness committee.

1:30-2:00 pm

## **Occupational Hand-Transmitted Vibration Exposure in Mining: Health Effects and Possible Control Strategies**

Dr. Katie Goggins, Centre for Research in Occupational Safety and Health

Hand-transmitted vibration (HTV) exposure in mining has long been known to result in combinations of carpal-tunnel syndrome and vibration-induced white finger, or Raynaud's phenomenon. This presentation will outline the health effects and symptoms to look for and the health surveillance methods, the levels of HTV in mining and how those compare to HTV evaluation standards, and possible control strategies to help protect workers. Updates on the most recent developments in foot-transmitted vibration research will also be provided.

2:30-3:00 pm

**Advancements and Challenges in Fatigue Risk Management in the Mining Industry: A Critical Review of Best Practices, Barriers, and Policy Insights**

Dr. Emily Tetzlaff, Wenco International Mining Systems

Fatigue is a critical human factor concern that significantly impacts industrial work performance, safety, and productivity. Equipment operators in the mining industry face a notably high risk of fatigue due to the relatively passive nature of their work, and are becoming increasingly vulnerable to environmental and occupational hazards, undermining their ability to perceive risks, react to new information, maintain vigilance, manage task distractions, and sustain situational awareness.

This presentation will provide an update on the current state of fatigue detection technology, fatigue management initiatives, real-life examples of wellness programs, implementation challenges, and how to leverage data within your organization to assist in improving physical, mental, and financial wellness.

3:00-3:45 pm

**Emergency Response to Battery Fires**

Dan Rulli and Nicholas Schwehr, Ontario Mine Rescue

This presentation outlines hazards and risks to mine rescue volunteers responding to underground battery fires in Ontario. In the quest to reduce traditional fossil fuel emissions in the mining industry, modern battery and electric power technology has progressed at an unprecedented pace.

The unpredictable nature of the new and old batteries when they fail, combined with their locations within heavy machinery, poses several new risks to our volunteers operating in confined spaces. Ontario Mine Rescue has identified the need for awareness and training to keep our responding teams safe and knowledgeable.

# Trade Show Exhibitors

## **CTV Atrium**

1. Electrical Safety Authority
2. Workplace Safety and Insurance Board
3. AJ Stone Company Ltd.
4. Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals
5. Vallen Canada
6. Occupational Hygiene Association of Ontario
7. Becker Mining Systems
8. STC Footwear
9. Soucie Salo Ltd.
10. LoopX
11. Provix
12. Workplace Safety North
13. Draeger Safety Canada Ltd.

## **SN Lobby**

14. Mammoth Equipment
15. Sofvie Inc.
16. SafeBox by Ionic
17. Alcumus SafeContractor Inc.
18. Levitt Safety Ltd.
19. DMC Mining Services
20. Threads of Life
21. NorthStream Safety & Rehab
22. Securo Vision
23. Tap Report
24. Unik Safety
25. Workplace Safety & Prevention Services



## Sun Walk

26. BlueMetric Environmental Inc.
27. Martor USA
28. Rescom Sales Inc./SED Inc.
29. Accutron Instruments
30. TopVu
31. FMDC Watermist Canada Ltd.
32. SGS
33. ISN
34. LifeMark Health Group
35. MineARC Systems
36. SafeSight Exploration

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LED Work Lights  
Wisdom Cap Lamps  
Remote Controlled Search Lights  
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## Here to help make workplaces safer

Workplace Safety North (WSN) is a not-for-profit health and safety association funded by the provincial government to provide approved health and safety training and services to the mining and forest products industries. A trusted safety advisor, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make workplaces safer since 1915.

As part of WSN, Ontario Mine Rescue (OMR) provides training to mine rescue team members throughout the province to continuously improve the skills and knowledge of mine rescue techniques and procedures. Since its creation in 1929, OMR has established a reputation for excellence in emergency response.

Headquartered in northern Ontario, Workplace Safety North knows the day-to-day realities of Ontario's resource industries. By including companies in research, risk assessments and root cause analyses, WSN builds and sustains close working relationships that ensure services and information stay relevant.