



MINUTES

WSN Mining Advisory Committee

Date & Time: Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Committee: Michael Ferguson (Chair), Chris Bamberger, Rob McVeigh, Tyler Neeley, Julia Salvalaggio, Darren Toner, Steve Wrixon (Vice Chair), Louise Lowe (partial), Tom Rannelli

Regrets: Aaron Duckworth, Don Langlois

WSN Staff: Chris Serratore, Director Health and Safety Services
Tiana Larocque, Manager, Education Services
Dennis Griem, Director, Client Experience
Mike Parent, President and Chief Executive Officer

Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams Meeting)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Michael welcomed everyone to the meeting.

General share: OMCSA has started a LinkedIn page: Attendees were encouraged to follow. Further information will be provided during the WSN Mining Health and Safety Conference.

Safety Share: Fatigue or inattentive-related incidents and near misses associated with driving/operating equipment; sensors and alarms that detect these concerns are encouraged. Revisiting the area in which an incident occurred as a deeper dive into an incident may generate more information.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved by all attendees.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved by all attendees.

4. Review of Action Items and Recommendations

See **action tracker document** for updates.

5. Sector-Specific Health and Safety Updates (Chair)

a. **Technical Advisory Committee Updates**

- Ground Control TAC: Intro. to Seismic Risk in Underground Mines: September (Sudbury)
- Mobile Equipment TAC: BEV symposium postponed to Fall 2025 (Sudbury)
- Workplace Environment TAC: Practical Auxiliary Mine Ventilation: September (Timmins)

See presentation shared at meeting for information on ongoing projects/initiatives.

5. Sector-Specific Health and Safety Updates – continued (Chair)
 - a. **Technical Advisory Committee Updates (continued)**
 - Clarification: Ontario Mine Rescue is regarded as an advisory committee (and not a technical advisory committee).
 - Recommendation: Terms of reference to be reviewed to determine capacity/scope for this type of committee (potentially to add subcommittees focused on specific topics).
 - b. **Health and Safety Information Exchange**: Open forum for members to exchange sector-specific information, experiences, and concerns.
 - Five items presented to date:
 - a. Jumbo toolbox (customized for various gear pieces)
 - b. Go/no-go gauges to distinguish between metric and imperial couplings and hoses on concrete pumps (reducing blowout events)
 - c. Pole-type shifter device to move forks (versus using hands) to reduce hand injuries
 - d. Pipe sling to reduce hangups during vertical movement
 - e. Tugger safety improvements to avoid stored energy release from rigging/ropes
 - General share: Effective radio communication use is required (per Radio Communications Act, but also per Ministry requirements); site-specific communication channels mitigate the potential for driving-related hazards (ensuring appropriate communications are the only ones transmitted, versus general worker dialogue); additionally, separating dedicated site/mining from site/forestry communication channels to reduce busier/conflicting channel communications is important.
 - a. Recommendation: Traffic-focused subcommittee should examine radio use and reduction of risk of vehicle incidents. Consultation with MTO may be valuable.
6. WSN Update:
 - a. **Program Development (Tiana)**
 - Mining Supervisor Common Core Update and Refresher Training
 - a. Encouraged to provide feedback on [Common Core survey \(click here to access\)](#)
 - Coaching for Performance Pilot (Chris)
 - Learning Management System (LMS)
 - a. E-learning for Competent Supervisor Refresher (Tiana)
 - b. **Marketing & Communications**
 - c. **2025-26 Mining Campaign: Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention**

Additional materials provided through Microsoft Teams meeting chat.

See presentation shared at meeting for information on all WSN update pieces.

7. Suggested Initiatives and Development for WSN consideration (Advisory committee informed suggestions)

a. Future Advisory Committee Goals:

Areas of interest include traffic management, lockout improvements, working at heights, confined space, and mobile traffic.

For reference:	
Traffic Management Tool	The discussion highlighted the need for new traffic management systems to enhance safety. An expert may be invited to discuss collision avoidance and proximity detection, outlining their pros and cons. The goal is to create a best practice guide for employers, recognizing no single solution fits all. Automatic braking systems, tags, and nuisance signals can cause harm if misused. A proposed assessment tool would help employers integrate these systems effectively using a checklist and analysis. Put together a sketch of the tool and review with this group and then the ME TAC.
Meeting update:	
○ Collision avoidance and proximity detection review (potentially at June meeting, Canadore College, North Bay) ○ <u>Recommendation:</u> A series of subject matter experts to discuss diverse topics (expanding to battery electric vehicles and other themes) → 'Lessons learned' approach.	
Action: Group/sub-committee to determine topic selection/potential speakers.	

8. Advisory Committee Professional Development (October 1):
[Workplace Mental Health: A Framework for Leaders | Workplace Safety North](#).
 Decision was made that this training will take place the day ahead of the AGM and meetings.

9. Next Meeting: June 12 Meeting/Tour
 Louise Lowe hosting at [iCamp - Canadore College](#) (North Bay)

10. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Closing note/recommendation:

Exploration of an e-learning series on legislative updates, potentially on an annual basis.