

Top 10 root causes of inadequate emergency response in surface diamond drilling sector

As identified by workers, supervisors, and employers in the surface diamond drilling industry through a Workplace Safety North-facilitated root cause analysis workshop with the support of the Canadian Diamond Drillers Association.



1. Inadequate emergency response planning with Emergency Services and workers



6. Mental and physical health (fit for duty)



2. Limited availability and low readiness of transportation and evacuation equipment (to transport injured worker to transfer point)



7. Bad weather conditions preventing evacuation



3. Lack of, or inadequate, emergency response procedures



8. Lengthy travel distance for emergency services



4. Hesitate to call for emergency response (not sure when to call; fear of reprisal)



9. Evacuation travel conditions delay emergency response time (highway, bush road, ATV trail)



5. Lack of awareness or preparation to address an emergency from pre-existing medical conditions



10. Failure to update emergency response process

For more information, please contact your WSN Health and Safety Specialist or visit workplacesafetynorth.ca

Overview of Joint Health and Safety Committee certification and mining safety training

Focus on workplace-specific hazards - JHSC Part 1, 2, and Refresher training

JHSC Certification: Part 1

(Disponible en français)

This mandatory course is available in three formats: self-paced e-learning, instructor-led virtual training, and instructor-led classroom training. Participants learn how to recognize, assess and control workplace hazards; the rights and duties of certified members; and how to conduct effective workplace inspections and incident investigations.

JHSC Certification: Part 2

This mandatory course is available in two formats: instructor-led virtual or classroom training. Focusing on the concepts of recognition, assessment, and control of hazards, and evaluation of controls, participants learn how to apply these concepts to a minimum of six hazards relevant to their own workplaces.

JHSC Certification Refresher

Certified members of a joint health and safety committee are required to take Refresher Training within three years of becoming certified, and every three years thereafter to maintain their certification.

Failure to meet this requirement may result in revocation of a member's certification status by Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer.

This CPO-approved course reviews core elements of the Part 1 and Part 2 certification program.

Also available

Competent Supervisor Training

(Disponible en français)

This program makes supervisors aware of their legal duties and responsibilities under the Occupation Health and Safety Act. It also gives them a sound foundation of health and safety knowledge to deal with the many issues they will face in their work. Participants gain insight into advancing safety culture in their workplace.

Other recommended training

- Duly Diligent Mining Supervisor
- Supervisor Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training

About Workplace Safety North

Your 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 provides province-wide Ministry-approved workplace health and safety training and services for the mining and forest products industries.

A leading provider of health and safety training and consulting, businesses call upon WSN for expert advice and information.

The internal responsibility system (IRS) is a system where everyone shares responsibility for occupational health and safety that is appropriate to their role and function within the workplace.

All workplace parties — including employers, managers, supervisors, and workers — need to do their part to raise awareness of risks, and follow and promote safety procedures to help make workplaces safer.