



2017 “What are some of the new safety issues to be looking at this year”

**Wood Pellet Association of Canada Safety
Workshop in Prince George BC**

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Introduction

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Agenda

- 1 Safety Committee changes
- 2 Other relevant regulation changes
- 3 Silo Fires monitoring and response



What's New for Committees?

2017 Changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

June 13, 2017

WORK SAFE BC

Background

Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2015

- Goals of Bill 9:
 - Strengthen the tools that WorkSafeBC uses to enforce the *Workers Compensation Act* and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation
 - Improve workplace health and safety
- Bill 9 made these changes to employer incident investigations:
 - Preliminary investigation within 48 hours
 - Full investigation within 30 days

Background

Workers Compensation Amendment Act (No.2), 2015

- Goals of Bill 35
 - Build on Bill 9's legislative changes
 - Further strengthen WorkSafeBC's ability to promote and enforce occupational health and safety compliance
- Bill 35 made several amendments to enhance the role of JHSCs:
 - Mandated that the JHSC receive copies of employer incident investigation reports
 - Mandated that the JHSC advise their employer of proposed changes to the workplace that may affect occupational health and safety
 - Defined what it means for an employer and worker representative to participate in the incident investigation process
 - Allowed WorkSafeBC to take a proactive role in helping the JHSC resolve disagreements of workplace health and safety matters

Background

Changes to the Occupation Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR)

The amendments to the Act, along with the coroner's recommendations, led to the following regulatory changes:

- a) Requirement of an evaluation tool** (referenced as an "audit tool" in the coroner's recommendations) to measure the effectiveness of joint committees (Lakeland Inquest recommendation #17, Babine Inquest recommendation #13).
- b) Establishment of minimum mandatory training** and education for joint committee members (Lakeland Inquest recommendation #20).
- c) Clarification on the meaning of participation in section 174** of the Act by providing additional examples of what participation by worker and employer representatives in an employer incident investigation includes (section 7 of Bill 35; Lakeland Inquest recommendation #9).

Terminology

Joint committees and worker representatives

- A **joint health and safety committee** (JHSC) is required in every workplace with 20+ workers.
 - A JHSC includes worker and employer representatives.
- A **worker health and safety representative** is required in every workplace with more than 9 but less than 20 workers.
- A **worker representative** can mean one of two things:
 1. A worker representative on the JHSC
 2. A worker health and safety representative, if there is no JHSC

Mandatory Instruction and Training

OHSR section 3.27

Training requirements for new JHSC members or worker health and safety representatives.

Pre April 3, 2017

- JHSC members and worker health and safety representatives are entitled to eight (8) hours of annual educational leave to attend OHS training courses

As of April 3, 2017

- New JHSC members must receive eight (8) hours of instruction and training on specified topics
- New worker health and safety representatives must receive four (4) hours of instruction and training on specified topics
- All JHSC members and worker health and safety representatives are still entitled to eight (8) hours of annual educational leave

Mandatory Instruction and Training

For new JHSC members

Eight (8) hours of instruction on the following topics:

1. Duties and functions
2. Rules of procedure (Terms of reference)
3. Inspections
4. Investigations
5. Refusal of unsafe work
6. Conducting an evaluation of the JHSC

Mandatory Instruction and Training

For new worker health and safety representatives

Four (4) hours of instruction on the following topics:

1. Duties and functions
2. Inspections
3. Investigations
4. Refusal of unsafe work

Training Resources

WorkSafeBC has developed training materials

- Eight (8) hours for joint committee members
 - Blended learning (2 hours online + 6 hours in a classroom)
 - 8-hour classroom version
- Four (4) hours for worker representatives
 - eLearning, available online

Training Resources

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the WorkSafe BC website. The logo "WORK SAFE BC" is on the left. To its right are links for "Forms & Resources", "Law & Policy", and "Contact Us". Further right are "Log In" and "Create an account" buttons. Below the navigation bar is a secondary menu with tabs for "Health & Safety", "Insurance", "Claims", and "I Am a...". A search bar with the placeholder "Search worksafebc.com" is on the right. The "I Am a..." dropdown menu is open, displaying five options with corresponding images: "Worker", "Employer", "Health & safety committee member", "Health care provider", and "Vocational rehabilitation provider". Below this menu is a large banner image of two people looking at documents. An orange overlay on the banner contains the text "Enhanced tools for health and safety planning" and a blue "Read" button. At the bottom of the banner are three small circular indicators.

This section contains three content cards arranged horizontally. Each card has a title and a representative image. The first card is titled "For Workers" and features an image of a worker in a hard hat and safety vest. The second card is titled "For Employers" and features an image of two people in safety vests reviewing documents. The third card is titled "For Health Care Providers" and features an image of a man and a woman in a professional setting.

2017 Changes to the OHSR

Background

- Regulatory amendments have been finalized after public consultations and hearings.
- Joint Health & Safety Committee changes came into force on **April 3, 2017.**
- Changes to Footwear regulation came into force **April 7, 2017**
- Fourteen regulatory changes came into force on **May 1, 2017.**
- Some, but not all, of the regulatory changes have resulted in related Guideline changes.

Recent Regulatory Changes

- Footwear – **effective April 7, 2017**

Changes Effective May 1, 2017

- **Combustible and Flammable Liquids**
- **Guardrails**
- **Environmental Tobacco Smoke and E-cigarette Vapour**
- Chemical and Biological Agents
- Asbestos Inventory Requirements
- Chassis Dynamometer
- Cranes and Hoists
- **Notice of Project**
- Underground Workings
- Saw Chain Shot
- **Silica**
- **Lead**

Notice of Project: Hazardous Substances

OHSR section 20.2 and 20.2.1

- Notice of Project requirements for construction projects involving hazardous substances, such as asbestos, lead, and other similar work activities have changed.
- Primary changes are:
 - Employers conducting the work, as well as owners/prime contractors are now responsible for ensuring NOPs are submitted.
 - Increase in prior notice period from 24 to 48 hours.
 - Significant changes to the NOP information must be re-submitted.
 - If applicable, hazardous materials survey must be submitted along with the NOP.
 - NOPs must be retained for at least 10 years.
- For General Construction NOPs, any significant changes have to be re-submitted and posted onsite. Requirements for other types of NOPs have not changed.
- Review is underway by WorkSafeBC for the NOP process.

Storage Racks — New Requirements

OHSR section 4.43.1

- The OHSR did not have specific requirements addressing proper installation, inspection and maintenance of steel storage racking systems to a safety standard.
- Therefore, officers issued orders under various general sections of the OHSR or the *Workers Compensation Act* to rectify unsafe storage racks.
- A new section was created to ensure employers install, use, inspect and maintain racks.
- New requirements come into force on **January 1, 2018**.

Resources and Communication Materials

Strikethrough Versions of the Regulatory Amendments

- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/public-hearings-consultations/closed-public-hearings-and-consultations/bod-approves-amendments-ohsr>

March/April issue of WorkSafeBC Magazine

- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/newsletters/worksafe-magazine/worksafe-magazine-marapr-2017/policy-notes?lang=en>

Resolution of the Board of Directors

- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/law-policy/board-of-directors-decisions/bod-2017-01-25-01?lang=en>

Emerging Issues- Silo Fires



- Recent incidents in Canada and US
- Several Key questions raised
- What are you doing to properly monitor Silos on your sites?
- What is the planned response in the event of a fire?
- What have you communicated with your local fire department about their response plan to a silo fire?
- <https://www.pellet.org/wpac-news/new-silo-safety-handbook-for-pellet-storage>

Questions?