

Municipal Safety News

Alberta
Municipal
Health
&
Safety
Association



December 2008

E-Newsletter

Sign up to receive this newsletter via email. Send your request to stephanie@amhsa.net.

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The Board and staff wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season!



Association News

VIDEO LIBRARY

Starting January 2009, AMHSA will no longer charge a rental fee for videos from its library – members will only be required to pay for return shipping. We ask that all videos be returned in one week unless other arrangements are made.

To rent a video, call Lorraine at 1 (800) 267-9764, (780) 417-3900 or email lorraine@amhsa.net. The list of videos available for rent is available online: <http://store.amhsa.net/products>.

AMHSA AUDITORS

As auditors are certified through AMHSA, we will automatically email the monthly *Municipal Safety News* to them. The newsletter often contains audit tips and news of interest to active auditors. To unsubscribe from the mailing list, email stephanie@amhsa.net.

NEW STAFF MEMBER

AMHSA is pleased to announce that we've hired an Administrative Assistant! Krystal McDowell joined the team at the northern office in Sherwood Park on Monday, November 24, 2008.



She will be very busy assisting with our technical projects (for example, populating the online SafetyNet library) and general office administration duties. Once Krystal has become more familiar with AMHSA's operations, she will also be the friendly voice answering the telephone.

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DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

Our Defensive Driving course is a nationally recognized driver improvement program. Senior administrators, managers and fleet safety officers are encouraged to ensure that staff who drive municipal vehicles (or drive personal vehicles for municipal work) complete a Defensive Driving course at least every three years as part of their due diligence in the promotion of corporate safety.

Participants are eligible for a 3-demerit point reduction on their driving record. The course runs from 8:30 am-4:30 pm. See course calendar for schedule: <http://courses.amhsa.net/courses>.

TRADE SHOW PARTICIPATION

AMHSA staff will be at four upcoming trade shows/conferences:

- [RUSA/Municipal Safety Conference](#): December 2-4, 2008 (Red Deer)
- [United Conference](#): February 3, 2009 (Red Deer)
- [AWWOA Conference](#): March 11, 2009 (Banff)
- [LGAA Conference](#): March 18-20, 2009 (Red Deer)

Fatal Crash

AMHSA would like to express its sincere condolences to the family, friends, and co-workers of the Village of Alliance councillor, George Kun, who was killed in a car accident in November. Mr. Kun had been a member of village council for four years.

Also injured in the crash near Edmonton were Norm Johnston (the village's other councillor), Mr. Kun's wife, and a woman from the other car.

Member News

For the third year in a row, the **M.D. of Greenview** has received the Premier’s Award for Healthy Workplaces. Alberta Health and Wellness recognized Greenview’s wellness program, which promotes exercise, strength training, fruit and vegetable consumption and other points.

Russ Pawlyk, long-time manager of **Strathcona County’s** Recreation, Parks and Culture Department, has been given a Wild Rose Award, which recognizes dedication, long-term service, and impact on recreation.

The Recycling Council of Alberta has recognized the **M.D. of Rocky View** for its outstanding achievements in rural recycling. One of the services offered is the Chuck Wagon Program which allows residents to bring recycling to temporary locations in less densely populated areas.

Source: [AAMDC](#) Newsletter

The **Town of Stony Plain** held a safety event on Thursday, November 27th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Speakers included Dr. Louis Francescutti and Patrick Brophy from the Workers’ Compensation Board - Alberta. Mr. Brophy presented information on the PIR/Partners in Injury Reduction program.

Globally Harmonized System Update

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development agreed to develop a globally harmonized hazard classification and labeling system (GHS) to promote consistent communication of chemical hazards and lessen trade barriers. Please see the “[International Harmonization \(GHS\)](#)” page of the national WHMIS website for additional information and updates on projected implementation date as they become available. See www.whmis.gc.ca.

Source: WHMIS News, Health Canada

Meeting Topic - Near Misses

Looking for a topic for your next tailgate or Joint Health and Safety Committee meeting? Consider reviewing the definition of the term “Near Miss” and the reporting procedure in your workplace. A “Near Miss” is an unplanned, undesired event that **could have** resulted in injury, illness or disease; damaged tools, equipment or machinery; or damaged materials or property. In other words, a near miss is a **close call** (an incident without an effect or a situation where someone had to take action to avoid an incident).

Upcoming AMHSA Courses

Course	Date	Location	Cost
Defensive Driving	Jan 20	Strathcona County	\$65 / \$90
	Apr 29	Sturgeon County	
	May 13	Sturgeon County	
Formal Workplace Inspections	Jan 28 a.m.	Peace Wapiti	\$40 / \$50
Hazard Identification, Assessment & Control	Jan 27 a.m.	Peace Wapiti	\$40 / \$50
	Mar 24 a.m.	Wood Buffalo	
Health & Safety Management Systems	Mar 30-31	Wolf Creek Schools	\$90 / \$145
Health & Safety Management Systems - Audit	Apr 2-3	Wolf Creek Schools	\$90 / \$145
Incident Investigation	Jan 27 p.m.	Peace Wapiti	\$40 / \$50
	Mar 25 a.m.	Wood Buffalo	
Joint Health & Safety Committees	Mar 25 p.m.	Wood Buffalo	\$40 / \$50
Leadership for Safety Excellence	Dec 15-16	Lac La Biche County	\$90 / \$145
MSI Prevention (Office Environment)	Feb 25	Wood Buffalo	\$40 / \$50
MSI Prevention (Physically Demanding)	Feb 25	Wood Buffalo	\$40 / \$50
Operator Safety - Front End Loader	Jan 29	Smith International	\$175 / \$225
Prime Contractor	Mar 23	Wood Buffalo	\$50 / \$70
Supervisor’s Role	Mar 26 a.m.	Wood Buffalo	\$40 / \$50
Workplace Violence Prevention	Dec 15	Westlock	\$50 / \$70
	Dec 16	Athabasca	

Call (780) 417-3900 or 1 (800) 267-9764 to register.