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SPRING 2017

CSSE Toronto Chapter

Newsletter

A NEW FORUM LINKING MEMBERS



Welcome to the new CSSE Toronto Chapter Newsletter. This newsletter has been designed to bring our membership closer together and provide you with important information about you, our Chapter members, and what the Chapter is doing to advance OHS&E in your community.

Each volume will include:

- Chapter news
- Schedule of breakfast meetings and other Chapter events
- Information about important Chapter policies and procedures (e.g. elections, donations, etc.)
- What our Chapter is doing to improve OHS&E in the community
- A spotlight on one or two Chapter members

**HELP US NAME OUR NEWSLETTER AND
WIN A FREE BREAKFAST MEETING FOR
YOU AND A GUEST.**

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and we look forward to receiving your feedback and suggestions. If you would like to volunteer to be involved in creating future newsletters, please contact anyone on the Executive Committee.

CHAPTER NEWS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

It's that time again. The Toronto Chapter is governed by a volunteer Executive Committee, drawn from and elected by the Chapter membership. The Executive Committee is comprised of four Executive Officers (Chapter Chair, 1st Vice Chair, Treasurer and Immediate Past Chair) and a minimum of three and maximum of six Directors (there are currently 3 Directors). The Executive Committee is responsible for the overall direction and operation of the Chapter on a local level, including establishing and implementing policies and procedures to advance the objectives of the Chapter and ensuring the efficient and effective use of the Chapter's resources. They meet at least 4 times per year.



We will be holding an election for the following positions in the Spring of 2017:

- Directors

All CSSE Toronto Chapter members are eligible to apply. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee to ensure they meet the application requirements. A roster of eligible candidates will be provided for election by Chapter members. All CSSE Toronto Chapter members are eligible and encouraged to vote.

SPOTLIGHT 2016 STUDENT BURSARY RECIPIENTS



In June 2016 the Chapter awarded our first student bursaries (\$750 each) to 2 wonderful recipients, Sonia Isoufi and Travis McLennon, who met all of the eligibility criteria. We are proud to feature Sonia and Travis in our newsletter.

The 2017 bursary program is done. Stay tuned – the winner will be announced in the Fall Newsletter.

If you are interested in applying for a student bursary in 2018 or know someone who is, please contact info@cssetoronto.com for more information.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AS YOUR CAREER PATH?

Simply put – you will never get bored in this field! The OH&S field is unlike any other – it is a blended and multidimensional career. You can be a researcher, educator, trainer, coach, administrator, auditor, legal advisor, and even technician, all in one. Depending on an organization's safety needs, there will be opportunities to learn and explore these different avenues while remaining under the same health and safety professional belt. In addition, I strongly believe that future generations are more and more inclined to consider a career path that will provide a diverse range of opportunities for professional growth and development.

I also find the OH&S to be personally rewarding, as it gives me a great sense of purpose and meaning to be part of a profession that makes every effort to help reduce injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the workplace - be it in any setting (i.e. company, community, non-profit/for-profit organizations).

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR CHOSEN PROGRAM OF STUDY?

Obtaining a professional OH&S degree at Ryerson University equipped me with the fundamental toolkit of knowledge and skills I needed to be prepared for the workforce as an OH&S professional. My program curriculum was applied and my professors clearly made every effort to equip students as a safety professional – I see that especially now having started my career in OH&S.

WHAT DOES THE CSSE TORONTO BURSARY AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

Receiving the Bursary award gave me a great

sense of belonging within the safety professional community. It also inspired me to continue to take on new safety awareness projects with non-profit organizations & other agencies alike.

IF I COULD TELL OTHER CSSE MEMBERS ONLY ONE THING ABOUT YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT THEM TO KNOW?

“The best way to gain self-confidence is to do what you are afraid to do.” – this quote helped me in the past, and continues to help me tackle my fear of public speaking, and take on new challenges.

WHAT DOES CSSE MEMBERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

Having a CSSE membership allows me to be a part of a safety community of OH&S professionals from all different backgrounds. CSSE membership also means that high standards are set for safety professionals who want to pursue certification in this area - personally I feel that this is essential. I've learnt very quickly being out of school that you are given a lot of responsibility as an OHS Professional, and by being a member of CSSE, you have access to resources that would help support your continued learning and development in the field. Lastly, attending the monthly chapter events gave the opportunity to collaborate with other professionals and discuss ideas in an inclusive and supportive environment.

TRAVIS MCLENNON

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AS YOUR CAREER PATH?

I chose to pursue the field of Occupational Health and Safety as a career path due to my family's experience with occupational exposures. Witnessing this first hand has allowed me to realize the negative impact that workplace hazards can have not only on the health and safety of the worker, but also with respect to the burden that can be placed on their family and loved ones.

Occupational Health and Safety takes a preventative approach to the health and safety of workers which aligns well with my goals of ensuring and advocating for workplace conditions that allow workers to return home safe from work, not only on the same day, but twenty to forty years down the road.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR CHOSEN PROGRAM OF STUDY?

What I love most about studying Occupational Health and Safety is the applied nature of the program. Everything we learn in class at Ryerson University is supplemented by real life examples through Faculty and Staff experiences in the field, which I believe will tremendously help prepare us for the day to day challenges that we may face as Health and Safety professionals. I also love the breadth of topics that Occupational Health and Safety covers, including knowledge of legislation, management, occupational hygiene, procedures for safe return to work and accident analysis and theory.

WHAT DOES THE CSSE TORONTO STUDENT BURSARY AWARD MEAN TO YOU?

The CSSE Toronto Student Bursary award has meant a lot to me. This bursary has relieved some of the financial burden associated with being a full-time student. It has also meant a lot from a personal level, to be recognized by an organization such as the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering for my passion and commitment to the field of Occupational Health and Safety. Their support of young

students and future professionals in the field goes a long way to ensuring our success.

IF I COULD TELL OTHER CSSE MEMBERS ONLY ONE THING ABOUT YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT THEM TO KNOW?

I would want them to know that I am very passionate about Occupational Health and Safety and look forward to learning as much as possible about the field.

WHAT DOES CSSE MEMBERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

As a student, being a member of the CSSE is very fulfilling, as it affords me the ability to attend the Toronto Chapter breakfast meetings and gain invaluable knowledge about current topics in the field as well as issues that exist. These meetings also provide the opportunity to network with highly experienced health and safety professionals who are very helpful and always willing to share their experiences on getting into the field, dealing with the day to day issues that may arise and impart some of their own helpful tips with the goal of making our transition to the profession easier.

NAVIGATING THE NEW CSSE TORONTO CHAPTER WEBSITE

Have you seen your new [Toronto Chapter website](#)? It's been redesigned to be a true resource for helping you connect with your Chapter. You will find information about the Chapter, upcoming events, presentation archives and membership benefits.

You can log in to view and update your profile and connect with other Chapter members through our social media forum. This is a great way to get to put faces to names and connect with each other about your needs and what is going on in your community. This is still relatively new. We encourage you to sign on and help us grow this wonderful new tool.

Visit

www.cssetoronto.com

VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES AT CSSE CHAPTER FUNCTIONS

Our Chapter has a cornucopia of qualified vendors available to meet the various OHS&E needs of Chapter members (and others). Periodically, vendors of OHS related goods and services may share information regarding their products and services with Chapter members and other interested parties who are attending Chapter functions. Such sharing can be of mutual benefit. If you are an interested vendor or know a vendor whose goods or services you have been pleased with, you may obtain more information regarding this opportunity at info@cssetoronto.com.

CSSE TORONTO CHAPTER 2017 BREAKFAST MEETING SCHEDULE

Come out and network with other OHS&E professionals in your community and hear from professionals about topics of interest. Our breakfast meetings are held in person or on-line on the second Tuesday of each month (except for July, Aug, and Sep). For in-person meetings we gather at the Centre for Health and Safety Innovation (CHSI) in Mississauga at 7:30 am for breakfast and networking. The educational portion of the meetings is from 8 am to 9 am. The schedule is listed below and you can register on the website or pay at the door (pre-registration is preferred for catering purposes for in-person sessions). If you have a suggestion for a topic you would like to see covered or you would like to host a meeting at your facility, please let us know. We also host some meetings by Webex, giving members an opportunity to attend an informative session from the comfort of their computer, tablet or smartphone, without having to travel.

JANUARY 2017

We heard from Addie Greco-Sanchez, President, AGS Rehab Solutions, one of the organizations that participated as an early adopter of the National Standard for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace in the Mental Health Commission of Canada's Case Study Project. The enthusiasm for her presentation "Lessons in Implementing Psychological H&S in the Workplace" was demonstrated in the engaging questions and discussion following the presentation.

FEBRUARY 2017

We had updates from the WSIB.

Matt Wilson, Director, Workplace Health and Safety Services Division provided an overview of the Safety Groups, Workwell and Small Business Health and Safety Programs in his division.

JS Bidel, Executive Director, Rate Framework Modernization Initiative gave an update on the progress of the WSIB's review of its current employer classification structure as well as its premium rate setting process which includes its Experience Rating programs. The WSIB is targeting implementation of the new rate framework for January 2019.

MARCH 2017

Jeremy Warning, a Partner in the Toronto Office of Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP and member of the firm's National OH&S and Workers' Compensation Practice Group, gave a very informative presentation titled "Don't Get More Than You Bargained For: Minimizing OHS Risks When Contracting for Work". Again, participants were actively engaged in questions following the presentation that help them with application in their workplaces.

We are interested in hearing what topics you would like to hear about for the upcoming 2017/2018 schedule.

If you are a speaker and have a compelling talk that would be of value to our members, please let us know.



Date	Topic	Presenter
April 11	Lock Out Tag Out	Laurence Polley
May 9	Ministry of Labour	TBA
Jun 13	Heat Stress	TBA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE SUMMER SOCIAL EVENT



We are planning a social event for Member Appreciation on Tuesday, June 27 in the evening. More details to come.

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

The Board of Directors will hold their annual planning meeting on July 11th. If you have any items you feel should be on our agenda please let us know.

This meeting will include any newly elected Board members.

