



## SAFER Conference –2018 –Big Success



The recent SAFER conference held in Nanaimo was very well received by the participants that came from all areas of British Columbia and Alberta.

The conference had a great line-up of presenters. In addition to hearing about Wellness programs and Visual Literacy, participants also heard Michael Lovett's story of his injury as a young sawmill worker. Eldeen Pozniak gave the participants a humorous presentation on effective safety systems and implementation. Paul Krismer gave a presentation that moved safety culture from a theoretical goal to a case study of one company



Melinda Morben from Island Timberlands discussed how their Wellness program works and provided advice on adopting and encouraging wellness into your health and safety culture.



Colin Duncan, the Managing Director with the Center of Visual Expertise (COVE) based in Toledo Ohio discussed how Visual Literacy can be used to better identify occupational hazards that could lead to incidents. COVE presents a number of workshops designed to teach you how to slow down, look deeply and see things you may have missed .

that made the transformation. The SAFER Council would like to thank all the speakers and presenters as well as the participants that took the time to attend the conference. As well we would like to thank the companies and USW locals that donated gifts for the door prizes.

## Coming Events

November 5-9 BCFSC Falling Supervisor Training, Campbell River  
November 15 BC Fed Mental Health & The CSA Standard, Kelowna  
November 19-21 BCFSC Basic Forest Supervisor, Prince George  
November 29-30 BCFSC Falling Supervisor Training, Nanaimo

## Vancouver Island Safety Conference



The recent Vancouver Island Safety Conference (VISC) which the SAFER Council has been a long-time sponsor and participant in the organizing was another huge success with over 400 participants attending. The conference agenda included:

- Health and Safety with the Brain in Mind from Terry Small.
- Marine Forest Safety Advisory Group Update
- Hon. Harry Bains, Minister of Labour gave a update on what his Ministry is doing, in particular as it related to workers safety.
- Innovation and Safety from Colin Koszman from FPInnovations.
- Sleeping for Your Health and fatigue from Karren Kossey of Orca Health and Safety.
- What is up with this BS - Being Safe? By Eldeen Pozniak of Pozniak Safety Associates.
- Turning Risk Thinking Into Safety Doing from Alan Quilley from Safety Results.



SAFER Advisor, Ron Corbeil presents Hon. Harry Bains, Minister of Labour, a gift after his presentation at the VISC. Minister Bains who was a former forest industry worker and vice-president with the IWA and USW union gave personal insight into workers safety.



# HAZARD ALERT

Injury: Concussion

Industry: Forestry

Core Activity: Ground skidding, horse logging, or log loading

Location: Northern B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Sep

While a log truck stake extension (part of the bunk assembly) was being tensioned, tension was lost and the extension fell. The extension struck a young worker.

Injury: Crush injuries to upper body

Industry: Manufacturing - Wood & Paper Products

Core Activity: Veneer or plywood manufacture

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2018-Sep

A forklift carrying sheets of plywood was making a 90-degree turn in reverse near a worker at a plywood-strapping station. About 22 sheets of 3/4-inch plywood slid from the top of the load, pinning the worker between the sheets and a stack of plywood.

Injury: Fatal

Industry: Forestry

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Northern B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Sep

On a resource road, a worker was repairing the front steering of his 1-ton truck when he was struck by the truck.

Injury: Crush injuries to fingers

Industry: Manufacturing - Wood & Paper Products

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Sep

A welder was using a come-along and shackle while performing maintenance work on a bearing of a tail drum. The shackle failed, crushing the worker's fingers between the bearing and drum.

Injury: Injuries to legs

Industry: Forestry

Core Activity: Integrated forest management

Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Sep

A worker doing repair work was injured when the angle blade arm of a bulldozer dropped onto the worker's legs.

Injury: Amputated fingers

Industry: Manufacturing - Wood & Paper Products

Core Activity: Sawmill

Location: Northern B.C.

Date of Incident: 2018-Aug

A new and young worker was injured while using a trim saw.

## WorkSafeBC Raising Awareness About Impairment in the Workplace

"Impairment in the workplace isn't a new issue in B.C., but it's become top of mind as cannabis becomes legal for recreational use," said Tom Brocklehurst, Director of Prevention Practices and Quality for WorkSafeBC. "We're reaching out to employers and workers to remind them that they share responsibility for managing impairment in the workplace." Under current occupational health and safety regulations, employers must:

- Not allow a worker who is impaired for any reason — alcohol, drugs (including cannabis), or any other substance — to perform work activities that could endanger the worker or anyone else.
- Not allow a worker to remain at any workplace while the worker's ability to work safely is impaired by alcohol, drugs, or any other substance.

Employers also need to make workers aware of their responsibilities, including:

- Making sure that their ability to work safely is not impaired by alcohol, drugs, or other causes. This means showing up fit to work and remaining so throughout the work day.
- Not working if their impairment may endanger them, or anyone else.
- Notifying their supervisor if their ability to work safely is impaired for any reason.

"The legalization of recreational cannabis provides a good opportunity for employers and workers to be reminded about workplace-safety policies and practices," said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour and minister responsible for WorkSafeBC. "Every worker has the right to go home, safe and sound, at the end of their shift."

WorkSafeBC is advising employers to develop policies and procedures that address impairment in the workplace. To assist, WorkSafeBC has created a [guide](#) for managing workplace impairment and developing a policy. The need for an impairment policy is even more relevant with the legalization of recreational cannabis.

"An impairment policy that takes a fit-to-work approach to impairment can help employers meet their workplace-safety obligations," said Brocklehurst. "It's also very important that employers clearly communicate their impairment policy to workers."

WorkSafeBC : [Substance use and impairment in the workplace](#)

Policy Guide: [Guide to Managing Workplace Impairment and Developing an Impairment Policy](#)

Toolbox Meeting Guide: [Substance Use and Workplace Impairment](#)

Media Backgrounder: [Cannabis and the Workplace](#)

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