



MINUTES

WSN Mining Advisory Committee

- Date & Time:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 9:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Attendance:** Chris Bamberger, Michael Ferguson, Don Langlois, Rob McVeigh, Tyler Neeley, Julia Salvalaggio, Dennis Sobey (Chair), Darren Toner, Sam Barbuto
- Regrets:** Aaron Duckworth, Louise Lowe, Tom Rannelli, Steve Wrixon (Vice Chair)
Meg Parker, Marketing and Communications Specialist
Tricia Valentim, Executive Assistant, Health and Safety Services
- Guest:** Stephen de Groot, Brivia Consulting
- WSN Staff:** Paige Jones, Marketing and Events Assistant
Mike Parent, VP Prevention Services
Gaby Lemon, Events Specialist
Cindy Schiewek, Director Health and Safety Services
Chris Serratore, Director Health and Safety Services
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1. Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Agenda, Safety Share – Chair

Safety Share: [LifeVac Canada – Choking First Aid Device – Save a Life](#)

Discussed a choking incident that took place at Voisey’s Bay. LifeVac, a non-invasive life-saving device, was used to dislodge an obstruction after other life-saving measures were unsuccessful. Within a few weeks of this incident, additional LifeVac devices were purchased and installed in all dining areas.

Remote sites have a higher risk for choking events. Discussed the need to communicate this story to mining camps and external sites.

Action: Darren to share story/testimonial with Mike.

Action: Mike to communicate story to mining camps and external sites.

Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Last Minutes – Chair

Approved

3. Brivia Consulting – Steven de Groot

Steven provided an overview of how leadership impacts performance. Discussed the importance of positive leadership experiences and the impact it has on employee performance.

Discussed moving forward with Steven’s leadership training this fall and engaging other committees.

4. Risk Assessment & Root Cause Analysis Update – Chris Serratore

Chris presented the attached slide deck, *Mining Advisory Committee Updates*.

Discussion:

- Risk category: MSDs listed as high risk. Would like more information on how risks are determined and if MSDs are determined based on a fatality lens – major to catastrophic fatality.

5. Mining Supervisor Common Core Update – Chris Serratore

Chris presented the attached slide deck, *Mining Advisory Committee Updates*.

Discussion:

- Reviewed slide 18, 2023 and 2024 progress. The team will meet in November to plan 2024 work.
- Practice Effective Communication will be ready this fall.
- Prepare for Emergencies is in progress. Writers are finalizing content, adding photos and criteria from Ontario Mine Rescue.

6. New System Underground Mobile Equipment – Mike Ferguson

Mike presented a slide deck.

Discussion:

- Testing is taking place this week in Haileybury on a diamond drill.
- Worker productivity has not decreased since implementation. Positive response from drillers.
- 3rd party risk assessment will be completed, followed by review and approval from the Ministry.

7. Risk Based Approach to 2023 WSN Recognition Awards – Cindy Schiewek

Cindy presented the attached slide deck, *RMA and WMHWPV Project Status*.

Discussion:

- RMA applicant guide is a 4-step process; application, submission, verification, and recognition notification. Due dates are for recognition at WSN's fall AGM.
- Health and Safety Specialists provided information to their firms. Recognition program launched in April. Currently six applicants; four mining, and two forestry.
- The program did not receive a lot of uptakes. The deadline to apply was removed. Still encouraging firms to apply and recognition can happen at any time, not just during AGM.

8. Mental Health Update – Cindy Schiewek

Cindy presented the attached slide deck, *RMA and WMHWPV Project Status*.

No committee discussion.



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9. Events & Conference Update – Paige Jones and Gaby Lemon

Paige and Gaby presented the attached slide deck, *WSN Communications Update All Sectors*.

- Slides 18 – 26 were reviewed. Additional MarCom updates available on slides 1 – 16.

No committee discussion.

10. Discussion on advisory committee future goals

Action: Evaluation surveys

Action: Chair Challenge: Come back with ideas for the next meeting that WSN could champion or partner with on a trend or industry issue. Even looking to other industries that could assist in mining issues.

Action: By end of this year a new Chair with new voice. (Keep on agenda)

11. New Business

- **September agenda:** update from OMR on surface mine and open pit rescue program.
- **Regulation 854:** legislation changes to diesel particulate. Suggestion for WSN to host a webinar.

Action: Mike to plan a fall webinar and request support from the MLITSD.

12. Best Practices/Meeting Roundtable/Wrap-up – Group Discussion

Chris B.: (Update on behalf of Steve) MTCU meeting tomorrow regarding committee challenges - lack of support from the ministry, high turnover of co-chairs, no support for face-to-face meetings, and no opportunity to build relationships with virtual meetings. Jake will attend MLRC meeting next week and provide an update.

Julia: Concern with compensation systems leading to shortcuts and lack of safety measures, leading to accidents and fatalities. How do we gather analytics to make changes?

Noted:

- Many companies are removing incentives or changing how they are measured. No rewards for safety.
- Need to test training and set an expiry. Some individuals are still qualified to train but haven't worked in that field for years.
- Need to educate supervisors to ask questions, not turn a blind eye. There shouldn't be negative impacts for reporting. Review performance metrics – participation, performance, reporting, and how it's rewarded.
- Safety culture and performance is driven by leaders from the top down.



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Mike F: Discussed changes to CSA standards re. diesel and emissions. Exposure limits have changed, and this impacts all diesel engines. Battery operated isn't always the solution.

Cindy: Working on signing authority template download. The ministry must approve before distribution. WSN to host workshops for the audit template.

Sam: will share discussion with TAC meeting.

Mike P: Attended the BEV In Depth, Mines to Mobility Conference in Sudbury and noted the high-level speakers (Tesla). WSN will look for opportunities to incorporate similar speakers for the 2024 Battery Electric Vehicle Safety in Mines Symposium.

Next meeting: September 27 or 28 in North Bay