



MINUTES

WSN Mining Advisory Committee Meeting

Date & Time: Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Attendance: Dennis Sobey (Chair), Chris Bamberger, Michael Ferguson, Don Langlois, Louise Lowe, Darren Toner, Steve Wrixon

Regrets: Clare Foladore, Goncalo Valentim,

WSN Staff: Paul Andre, President & CEO
Mike Parent, VP Prevention Services
Angele Poitras, Community Engagement Specialist
Chris Serratore, Director, Prevention Services
Paige Spillane, Event Specialist
Tricia Valentim, Executive Assistance, Prevention Services
Tom Welton, Director, Prevention Services & Educational Programs

1. Joint Session with FPPC

- a. Mental health program offerings update. *Angele – WSN ADVISORY MAY.pptx *COINS.pdf

Angele presented slides around the program offerings. Please see attached.

June 16 – Join us for an amazing Feed Your Brain session exploring young workers and their mental health. [Feed Your Brain Lunch and Learn Webinar Series: Dismantling the Barriers to Positive Mental Health for Youth | Workplace Safety North](#)

- b. Advisory committee discussion on future statistical data to support initiatives.

<https://www.workplacesafetynorth.ca/resources/mining-statistics>

2. Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Agenda, Safety Share

Safety Share: Bumblebees and keep them going through the end of May by not touching or killing your dandelions by mowing or pesticide use. These are all they have until other flowers bloom at the end of May.

Agenda: Approved

3. Approval of Last Minutes

Approved

4. Business Arising from the Last Minutes

- a. Exploration sub-group: Exploration sub-group (Mike P., Clare, and Louise) discussion on completing a risk assessment for drilling and exploration.

Action: Tom to have further discussion with Louise for support from the CDDA.

- b. Mental Health (ongoing): dig deeper and challenges with substance abuse. Discussion on what is and is not happening, gap around contractor support, pulse checks.

Discussion around the new mental health suite and how companies are currently supporting their workers through the pandemic. People are having the courage to speak and ask for help as this is an issue which is rampant in communities and workplaces.

Issues identified are:

1. The number of contractors and employees on site at any given time and how to support all the workers, even contractors as everyone needs to be treated the same. Need to include contractors in sessions as well.
2. That some people are not being honest and are using it as an excuse not to stay on site when they are not actually suffering which makes it harder for those who are.
3. Workers having to be at home with the children for schooling, especially when working night shifts.
4. Proactive need of putting wellness first instead of relying on reactive measures.
5. Unknown 'new normal'.
6. Some companies do not know that they can get numbers from their EAP program on how many people are using the services.
7. There is a three-year window to see financial results from instituting a mental health strategy, however there are some programs which are quicker.
8. Consistent messages so all workers get the same level and amount of training.

Agenda: Next meeting see how the WSN MH program is going, what are the wins, and what are the improvements.

Partnership with CROSH on being able to see the impact and if it is making a difference.

- c. Reporting Fires: Fire form and MLRC, information on reported first. What should the process be? Look to see how to promote.

Not well used and using the report has been a struggle. OMCSA reminded their members of using it as having to report fires under the act anyway. Having a consistent format and collect data where it is no one can learn the trends when not being used. CDDA will bring this reminder to their next meeting as well. Discussions need to occur on how to report.

Real value comes from risk assessment and how can have fire and what controls in place. If there is a fire then something went wrong, what was it? WSN wants the data to be able to understand root causes of issues that occurred. If not getting the reports, not getting the full picture.

Agenda: More discussion next meeting, ask OMR to present data on the number of first that involved a response from OMR.

5. **CDDA Presentation on National Standard for Surface Common Core (Louise Lowe)**

* Diamond Driller Program WSN.pptx

Partnership between the CDDA and the Mining Industry Human Resources Council

Extensive process. Each lesson learning plan for the trainer and areas they must work on right in their book.

Laid out and ready to go to pilot and have some major companies taking part and will complete program when get feedback after the pilot program.

Does include underground but not enough to meet underground common core so will be doing another one which fits all the standard signoffs.

This gives hands on opportunities to learn. Looking into what medium to deliver information with, and timeline, which is 5 weeks vs. 1-2 weeks.

Agenda: Next meeting will let us know how it is going. If need any support, please reach out to the any of the committee members.

6. **Marketing and Communications Update (Paige Spillane)**

Mining Conference Update Presentation

7. Round Table/Wrap Up

Ideas for future meetings.

- OMCSA meeting coming up. Have shortened them due to virtual fatigue.
- Advisory members reach out to WSN regarding mental health program. Question if can put together training for global focus on Canadian contractors.
- Mike Huard has stepped down from the committee. Recognition plaque has already been sent to him.
- Battery Electric Vehicle Risk Assessment schedule for mid-June and will share results at the next meeting.
- Join WSN and MLTSD for May 26 mining webinar on top 10 root causes of mobile equipment incidents in Ontario mines.
- Extended thank you from Paul Andre to this committee volunteers who take time out to provide guidance.

Dennis Sobey, Chair

Date

2021 Meeting Schedule

September 23, 2021

December 9, 2021

Attachments:

1. Angele – WSN ADVISORY MAY.pptx
2. COINS.pdf
3. Diamond Driller Program WSN.pptx
4. Internal Post-conference Debrief – WSN Virtual Mining Health and Safety Conference 2021.pptx