

SAFE WORK PRACTICE

SWP-57

October 11, 2017

WORKPLACE OHS COMMITTEES

PURPOSE/APPLICATION

To provide direction and guidelines for the development of a health & safety committee for Strike. Certain regulatory jurisdictions require Health and Safety committees as part of a functioning Health and Safety Management system.

PPE

TRAINING • Orientation • Training defined by the regional regulatory body

HAZARDS & CONCERNS - Communication - Failure to participate

GUIDELINES

The duties of committees are defined in Provincial OH&S legislation. The requirement for a committee and their specific duties may vary by the province in which work is being conducted. General duties and expectations common to committees are to:

- Promote the health & safety policy and program and make recommendations for improvement where required
- Assist in the development of health and safety practices and procedures
- Assist and advise employer on workplace health and safety issues. However, the committee is not responsible for managing health and safety in the workplace; the employer has that direct responsibility
- Participate in the identification, assessment and control of workplace hazards
- Participate in workplace inspections as per regulatory and Strike requirements
- Consult with workers and the employer on issues related to occupational health and safety and environment
- Participate in activities as directed by the Corporate HSE Committee and Health, Safety and Environment Department
- Receive information and communicate with workers on health, safety and environment initiatives
- Actively participate & review incident investigations according to regulatory and Strike requirements
- Select appropriate worker and employer representatives to participate incident investigation processes
- Review and provide feedback on any corrective action reports resulting from incident investigations
- Execute any other duties and functions prescribed by the provincial regulations
- When necessary, request information from the employer about:
 - Known or reasonably foreseeable health or safety hazards to which workers at the workplace are likely to be exposed
 - Health and safety experience and work practices and standards in similar or other industries of which the employer has knowledge

REFERENCES / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HSEMS Section 8.3 Workplace OHS Committees

HSEMS Section 9 Inspections, Audits, Evaluations and Observations

HSEMS Section 10 Incident Investigation, Management and Follow-up



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REGULATIONS

Alberta OHS Code

Part 13 Joint Work Site Health and Safety Committee

British Columbia OHS Regulation

Part 3 Joint Health and Safety Committees and Worker Health and Safety Representatives

Manitoba OHS Regulation

Section 40 & 41 Workplace Safety and Health Committees and Representatives

Saskatchewan OHS Regulation

Part 4 Committees & Representatives

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