



Beginning The Second Century of Construction Safety in British Columbia:

Developing a collaborative vision for future incident reduction activities

Project Funding By:



Consultant:

Jeffery Lyth

QSP Leadership Inc.

August 2016

A Unique Opportunity

An opportunity currently exists for the collaborative development of a strategic ‘road map’ for the relationship and future activities of the major construction industry associations, the British Columbia Construction Safety Alliance, and WorkSafeBC.

Fall 2016 finds all three groups poised and ready for a project of this nature:

- The construction industry in British Columbia, as represented by the existing network of industry associations, does not have a clear vision or defined goals for accident prevention, and tends to ‘react’ to WorkSafeBC insurance or enforcement issues. This project will consult with these major stakeholders, and generate discussion in order to identify opportunities to further reduce construction incidents and injuries.
- The BC Construction Safety Alliance (BCCSA) was formed as an amalgamation of two previous construction HSA’s 5 years ago, and is now well established as one of the leading construction safety associations in Canada, as well as a leader amongst other provincial HSA’s. It is very ready to serve the entire construction industry of BC.
- A shared and collaborative vision for the future of construction safety is needed to not only guard against the risk of ‘losing ground’ on progress made, but to in fact capitalize on these changes and ‘gain ground’ as we all move into a rapidly changing future.

This project intends to build on a track record of successful incident reduction efforts in BC, and include new developments in construction Health and Safety understanding occurring internationally.

Project Vision

As WorkSafeBC nears its 100th anniversary, it marks the end of the first century of occupational health and safety understanding and expertise in British Columbia workplaces.

For the past 100 years, WorkSafeBC has been responsible for the enforcement of workplace health and safety regulations in BC. The role of WorkSafeBC also includes working with employers, industry organizations and workers to reduce risk and keep workplaces healthy and safe through education and consultation. Going forward, this work must include applying its expertise in partnership with industry in order to ensure the continued reduction of both accident rate and severity in construction.

The construction sector is faced with a new set of challenges in trying to understand and prevent the root causes of incidents and injuries. The effectiveness of traditional approaches to health and safety has plateaued.

This project will seek to produce a collaborative guide to be used jointly by the construction industry associations, the BCCSA, and WorkSafeBC.

It is intended to positively influence the evolution of construction safety in BC as it enters the 21st century, and to facilitate the emergence of British Columbia as a world-class jurisdiction in contemporary construction safety.

Scope

As an independent 3rd party, Jeffery Lyth of QSP Leadership Inc. will meet with the stakeholder groups listed below and lead a discussion on the past and present of construction health and safety in order to develop a cohesive vision for future collaborative activity.

By engaging the respective members of these stakeholders in this discussion, this project is intended to be as inclusive of the entire BC construction sector as possible, with the goal of increasing the collective safety climate, and to further decrease the accident rate and severity on British Columbia construction projects.

Project Values

- Consensus-building
 - Forward looking
 - Collaborative approach
 - Coordinated goals and roles
-

Focus

The goal of this project is to create a collaborative vision for future incident reduction activities based on the input, needs, and perspective of all major stakeholder groups and their membership.

It is premature to speculate on precisely what that outcome may entail, as this process is to seek consensus amongst the parties. However there are key areas of focus to guide the conversation.

They are:

- Construction High Risk Strategy (Falls from Elevation)
 - Small Employers
 - 'Safety Differently' and new principles
 - Supervisor Knowledge and Skill
 - Organizational Culture and Safety Climate
-

Governance

Members of the project steering committee are:

- Mike McKenna – BC Construction Safety Alliance
- Dale Walker – WorkSafeBC
- Wayne Fettback – Western Pacific Enterprises
- Don McNiven – McNiven Masonry

Deliverables

This project will seek out innovative ideas and identify common incident prevention themes amongst the stakeholder groups. It will culminate in the collecting, collating, theming, and summarizing of this input into a report containing suggested one year (seed), three year (maintenance), and five-year year (fruition) targets. These targets will then serve as guidance for the parties to develop their own specific action plans.

Success of this project will be defined by the identification of systems and means to potentially:

- Engage the BC construction industry
- Decrease accident rate in the construction sector
- Decrease accident severity in the construction sector

Phases

Phase 1 Information Gathering (August/September 2016)

Stakeholder Meetings and Discussions with all identified parties.

Provincial Industry Associations:

- Independent Contractors Business Association (ICBA)
- BC Construction Association (BCCA)
- BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association (BCRB)
- Construction Labour Relations (CLR)
- Canadian Home Builders Association (CHBA)
- BC Ready Mix Concrete Association (BCRMCA)
- BC Sand, Stone, and Gravel Association (BCSSGA)

Regional Industry Associations:

- Vancouver Regional Construction Association (VRCA)
- Vancouver Island Construction Association (VICA)
- Southern Interior Construction Association (SICA)
- Northern Regional Construction Association (NRCA)

Phase 2 Report Creation (October/November 2016)

Phase 3 Report Delivery and Communication (December 2016)

Next Steps and Your Involvement

In August and September 2016 we will be meeting with representatives of each industry association in order to develop the most appropriate communications strategy for that association. Our goal is to get ‘face time’ with as broad a cross section of industry as possible, including both large and small employers, and management as well as field level staff and workers.

Some communication options that associations may consider are:

- Convening a focus group or sub-committee
- Selecting specific employers for involvement
- Communicating an information package to members for their individual participation
- Hosting webinars or video meetings for their membership

Consultant Qualifications

For 4 years, QSP Leadership has been working exclusively to find the latest developments in construction safety emerging from around the world, and in applying them with construction employers here in BC. It is clear that industry leaders are expecting modern answers to modern problems, and many are feeling that the conventional approaches are insufficient to measure up to modern safety expectations.

As principle consultant, Jeffery Lyth has an excellent relationship with WorkSafeBC, the BCCSA, as well as many construction industry associations and individual employers. Specific experience includes:

- 24 years of experience in construction safety in BC
 - Started as an I.F.A. III and one of the original Vancouver CSO's
 - 10 years as a member of the COCA Board of Directors (representing BCCA)
 - 7 years as Health and Safety Manager for a large General Contractor
 - Holder of CRSP designation
 - 3 years as Board member of the former CSABC
 - Pioneered the first use of a computerized Tower Crane anti collision system in Canada
 - Consultant to the Canada/China Migrant Labour Occupational Safety & Health Project
- 4 years as Senior Safety Advisor to the BCCSA
 - Founded the Prime Contractors Technical Advisory Committee (PCTAC)
 - Instrumental in influencing COR as safety pre-qualification standard for BC Hydro
 - Early initiator of what became the Silica Control Tool App project
 - Brought the Safety Climate Tool survey to BC in 2012
 - Initiated a causal review of ladder falls statistics in construction
 - Participated on Health Canada's Globally Harmonized System (WHMIS 2015) Current Issues Committee
 - Bill 14 seminars using Theatre Sports
 - First 'Mental Health First Aid' course for construction in BC

Contact Information

Stakeholders are encouraged to contact Jeff with any questions or comments.

Jeffery Lyth
QSP Leadership Inc.
778-834-0872
jeff@qspleadership.com