

GOVERNMENT SCREENINGS

VOLUME 15 / ISSUE 1

THE PUBLICATION OF THE **BRITISH COLUMBIA STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- | | |
|---|---|
| MAY 26th
<i>AGM, Langley, BC</i> | SEPTEMBER 20th
<i>Meeting in Kelowna, BC</i> |
| JULY 28th
<i>Meeting in Victoria, BC</i> | NOVEMBER 8th
<i>Screenings Deadline</i> |
| AUGUST 8th
<i>Screenings Deadline</i> | NOVEMBER 24th
<i>Meeting in Langley, BC</i> |

SCREENINGS is published by the BCSSGA as a service to its members. Statements expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the BCSSGA or its sponsors.

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BCSSGA Mission Statement

TO ENCOURAGE the formulation of government policies that support investment in the sustainable development of British Columbia's aggregate resource.

TO PROVIDE a network for the effective exchange of information within the aggregate industry throughout British Columbia.

TO COMMUNICATE the economic importance and environmentally responsible nature of the aggregate industry to the public and to government.

TO PROMOTE the exchange of information between the various mining-related associations throughout Canada.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

BCSSGA Committees	2
Water Sustainability Act	3
Highlights from March 30 Meeting.....	4 & 20
Highlights BCSSGA's January 28 Meeting.....	4
B.C. Streamlines Land and Land Title Acts	5
Independent Contractors and Businesses Association Upcoming Courses	6 - 7
BC Road Builders' - 2015 Betty Spalton Scholarship Winners!.....	8
In Memory.....	8 - 9
Settling Pond Eliminator	9
54 th Annual Mine Safety Award Winners	10
Mine Rescue Training Format.....	10
Public Participation in the EA Process	11
New Penalties Strengthen Compliance and Enforcement for Mining.....	12
BCSSGA's Safety Training Site.....	20

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MEMBERSHIP Has its Benefits!

CHECK OUT THESE FANTASTIC PROGRAMS
AVAILABLE TO BCSSGA MEMBERS.



WILSON M. BECK
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With over 30 years of construction insurance experience, Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services Inc. has a client portfolio that includes general contractors, developers, construction managers, civil contractors, and virtually every sub-trade that services the construction industry. We have the expertise to discuss emerging industry issues with underwriters such as silica exclusions and pyrite exposures and provide general liability extensions such as Rip and Tear coverage.

For information, please contact
Nikki Keith, CAIB – Vice President
nkeith@wmbeck.com or 604-437-6200.



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For more information please contact
Tom Castonguay – email tom@icbabenefits.ca
or call directly at 604-832-2029.

THE NEXT DEADLINE

for new material is
August 8th

SCREENINGS is always looking for useful information to pass on to our members! If you would like to write an article in 2016, or if you are an advertiser who would like to update your ad, the deadlines for 2016 are: **August 8th & November 8th**. We look forward to your input!

BCSSGA COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE NAME	CHAIR	OTHER MEMBERS
Action Committee	Scott Boshart	Bob Esau, Ted Carlson, Ed Claggett, Chuck Willms
Financial Committee	Barry McLean	
Safety Committee	Paul Allard	Barry McLean, Bob Esau, Urvi Ramsoondar
Safety, Community Relations and Reclamation Awards	John Tiefenbacher	Trevor Ward, Paul Allard to administer
BC Construction Safety Alliance		Andre Balfe, Paul Allard Ex-Officio
Screenings Newsletter	Editor-Paul Allard	Writer: Leah Altizer Proofers: Jeff Watson. We need ideas from everyone!
Technical Training	John Tiefenbacher	Trevor Ward, Paul Allard to administer
Website Design/Maintenance	Paul Allard	Steve Dimond
Scholarships	Bob Esau	Markus Kopper, David Durante – Paul Allard to administer
Membership Recruitment	EVERYONE IN THE BCSSGA SHOULD HELP!	

WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT (WSA)

– GET READY!

A REPORT FROM THE BCSSGA'S SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRED BY BARRY MCLEAN

In 2014 the Province created the Water Sustainability Act. The plan is for it to be implemented between 2016 and 2018, governing the estimated 20,000 nondomestic groundwater wells in the Province of BC.

In early summer 2015 BCSSGA established a subcommittee to review in detail the Act and all available documentation. The subcommittee has a great cross section of perspectives: Sophie Mullen (Lehigh), Darren Brown (Lafarge), Derek Holmes (Burnco), Kirsten Wilson (Jack Cewe), Brian Butler (Butler Brothers) and Barry McLean (Valley Gravel). Since this time we've also received assistance from Ken Carrusca (Cement Association of Canada), and great support from the BCSSGA President, Scott Boshart (Woodbrook Aggregates).

While the annual license fee has received some public debate, the BCSSGA's subcommittee's attention was directed to the other possible implications of the Act, including the cost of reports and studies that may be required to acquire a license.

BCSSGA received a presentation from the Ministry of Environment (MOE) at the Nanaimo meeting in July 2015, and members of our subcommittee have met with Minister Mary Polak, and with Ministry of Environment staff in Victoria. Nothing in those contacts has been particularly alarming, however we remain very concerned that there will be unintended consequences arising from the new regulations.

Some key elements to be aware of:

- Provided a well owner applies for a license within the first three years, the Act intends to apply "First in Time, First in Right", indicating that original drill logs or other evidence will be of value.
- Applications will have a First Nations referral process
- The WSA contemplates a "decision maker", with great latitude in power and responsibility. MOE staff were reassuring in that the decision maker will be primarily educated in science and government policy, rather than a political appointment.

- The WSA contemplates notifying neighbours of an application. MOE staff were reassuring in that this would be only when another party was clearly affected, or if many others could potentially be affected there may be a public notification.
- The WSA contemplates a public hearing if one objection is received. Is this for all applications? Will this apply to the 20,000 existing nondomestic wells in the province?
- When purchasing a property with a well and a license, you may require additional time to remove subjects. Each license has a stated purpose, and if your purpose is different the use of that well may not be a given.

Here's a worst-case scenario: A Mines application appears to be going according to plan, despite some neighborhood concerns. You need a water well for the scale house and/or to keep the dust down on the crushing operations. A concerned neighbour objects on the basis that the project will cause their domestic well will go dry. (Or, maybe they just don't like your project). How will this concern be resolved and at whose expense?

The MOE has recently released a number of regulations, which include application requirements, fee schedules, special regulations for dam safety, etc. Note that a number of sensitive streams have been identified, and proximity to those may result in a requirement for additional studies in the area.

This article provides only some highlights of the Water Sustainability Act, and some of the BCSSGA's identified concerns. It is not a thorough explanation of the WSA, and does not address all potential concerns affecting the members of BCSSGA as raised by the subcommittee. All well owners in the province of BC should monitor the Province's web site for new information, and for information pertaining to their particular geographic area: <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/watersustainabilityact/the-proposal>

Applications can now be made online through FrontCounter BC, and we look forward to feedback about the process from applicants.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BCSSGA MEETING MARCH 30, 2016—MEETING, LANGLEY

LUNCH SPONSORS:

- ~ Caterpillar Financial Services
- ~ Elrus Aggregate Systems
- ~ Foreman Equipment
- ~ ICBA Benefit Services
- ~ Regal Power Transmission Solutions

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- ~ Rolly Thorpe & Jim Dunkley – MEM
- ~ Brian Weeks – Consultant
- ~ Chen Mei & Patrick Dobbryn – Lafarge Canada
- ~ Bruce Witwer - Great West Equipment.

Update on the Fraser Valley Regional District Soil Removal Bylaw

Scott Boshart

- We are looking for Executives of producer companies to get involved with the meeting with the Minister. The purpose is to improve communication with the Minister and Staff.
- The Act is permissive, not mandatory, so there is no clear conflict.
- BCSSGA's board will continue to update members.

National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association Video

Scott Boshart

- Options for creating a better public image were discussed, including: creating a video/ad, working with community and other organizations, updating the website, building a better rapport with Victoria, holding round table meetings, hosting open houses, school tours, and improving social media presence.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM BCSSGA'S JANUARY 28TH, 2016 MEETING

Location: Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP, 550 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

LUNCH SPONSORS

- ~ Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP
- ~ Chuck Willms

Fines Recovery Solutions Inc.

Brian Weeks

Diamond Equipment Group has developed a system to clean the dirty water produced by conventional crushing plants.

More information is available at <http://diamondequip.com/products/fines-recovery.htm>

Ministry of Energy and Mines

Peter Robb, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mines

Currently familiarizing himself with the issues of the industry and looks forward to working with BCSSGA.

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations: Natural Resource Permitting Project

Mike Hykaway, Business and Regulatory Lead, Natural Resource Sector Transformation Secretariat

A copy of the video Mr. Hykaway presented can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XybwnSAL4Fo&feature=youtu.be>

Haver & Boecker: Particle Size Analysis

Thomas Moeller

For more information, see <http://www.haver-partikelanalyse.com/en/>

Fraser Valley Regional District: Soil Removal Bylaw

Scott Boshart

A letter was sent to the Ministry from BCSSGA. The association will continue to work on this topic including a petition to the Minister.

Water Sustainability Act

Barry Maclean

Changes to the act have been delayed to Spring of 2016 for implementation. The regulations mean members will need an application to drill. There will be a three year phase in period. The process is much more limited than previously anticipated.

B.C. STREAMLINES LAND AND LAND TITLE ACTS

GREIG BETHEL, MEDIA RELATIONS, MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS

Bill 25, introduced March 25, 2015, will make it easier to regulate and manage low-impact community, recreational, industrial and commercial activity on Crown lands, streamline fees for transactions under the Land Title Act and allow non-Canadians to register as land surveyors.

Proposed Land Act changes will streamline application processes and give government authority to identify low-impact activities - like camping, organized events and aggregate testing - that are exempt from the application process. This will result in approximately 125 fewer permits issued each year. As well, government will be able to close areas as required and create special application requirements for sensitive or high-use areas.

OTHER CHANGES INCLUDE:

- Updates to the public notification guidelines to bring the legislation in line with current practice and better accommodate online technologies.
- New regulations that consolidate the amount for payment of fees, rents and royalties, making it easier for users to pay and government to collect.

Government has not substantially reviewed the Land Act in 40 years, and many of the existing provisions are out-of-date. In updating the act, the Province consulted with municipalities and regional districts, First Nations, industry, user groups and conservation organizations. Proposed changes to the Land Title Act will improve customer services by combining provincial fee categories based on common customer themes and eliminate obsolete categories. The fees are also re-calculated so the highest fees are for the most-complex services, such as those provided by the surveyor general, and the lowest fee is for the least-complex service, such as a title search.

OTHER CHANGES INCLUDE:

- Eliminating the fee differences between online and face-to-face services, as most of the business for the Land Title and Survey Authority is already online.
- Including new fees for Surveyor General Services for statutory right of way and covenant designation that allow organizations and individuals to hold a statutory right of way or covenant.



Financial institutions, notaries public, the Law Society of BC, registry agents, the Union of BC Municipalities, the Association of BC Land Surveyors and the First Nations Summit were consulted on the changes.

Proposed changes to the Land Surveyors Act will allow the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors to register land surveyors who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents. As with other professions, many land surveyors are approaching retirement age. This change will help the Province avoid labour shortages in the future. The association sets professional standards and certifies professional land surveyors in the province.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND BUSINESSES ASSOCIATION UPCOMING COURSES



Please visit www.icba.ca/training for more courses. If there is a particular course or instructor you would like to see offered, please contact Sabine Just at sabine@icba.ca.

HR Essentials for Small and Medium-Sized Construction Businesses

APRIL 25, 2016 - Burnaby

MAY 2, 2016 - Kelowna

MAY 4, 2016 - Prince George

Many small business owners and supervisors handle Human Resources (HR) off the side of their already full plates. If this describes your role, HR Essentials will give you high level discussions of the basic HR functions and an overview of legal guidelines and suggested practices. Participants will leave with information, discussion and sample templates to follow when they return to work.

Construction Law

APRIL 25-26, 2016 - Prince George

MAY 9-10, 2016 - Burnaby

The Construction Law course is designed for participants to develop an understanding of contract law as it relates to construction. The learners will build practical skills and learn how to effectively and proactively deal with conflict situations and avoid litigation. The course will also review other construction related law such as the builders' liens, collecting debts, bonding, insurance, environmental law and safety law. This course is Gold Seal certified.

Proposal Development Workshop

APRIL 27, 2016 - Prince George

MAY 2, 2016 - Kamloops

MAY 26, 2016 - Burnaby

This course provides an overview of the key factors that separate proposals that win from those that do not. This course addresses proposals in response to a formal Request for Proposals (RFP), Request for Qualifications (RFQ), Request for Information (RFI) from vendors, proposals prepared to address a potential business opportunity as well as less formal estimates and quotes. This course is suitable for anyone involved in the proposal development process. This course is Gold Seal certified.

How to be a Better Manager

APRIL 28, 2016 - Prince George

MAY 11, 2016 - Victoria

MAY 27, 2016 - Burnaby

As a manager there are likely several 'unwritten' expectations of you, from getting things done right the first time to being a role model for the team. Learn about the processes and tools you should have in place in order to effectively manage your team and meet the expectations of those you report to. This one-day workshop focuses on you as a manager and the skills you will need to be successful in your role. You will leave this course with an action plan for being a better manager. This course is Gold Seal certified.

How to be a Better Foreman

APRIL 29, 2016 - Prince George

MAY 26, 2016 - Victoria

MAY 27, 2016 - Burnaby

Many great tradespeople take a foreman position and fail. Not for lack of skills or drive but simply for lack of guidance on how to be a great foreman. This one-day course gives participants the fundamentals of field leadership, organization, crew morale, efficiency, and productivity. This course is Gold Seal certified.

Managing Employee Terminations (Breakfast Session)

MAY 11, 2016 - Burnaby

Dismissing employees is the toughest job an HR professional faces, so it's essential to learn to manage terminations properly. HR professionals are the ones on the front lines that have to deal not only with the legal aspects of terminations, but also with the practical aspects of letting someone go. Make sure you have all the information you need to deal with this challenging part of HR's responsibilities.

Incident Investigations

MAY 13, 2016 - Burnaby

WorkSafeBC's amendment to Bill 9 includes two major changes to the requirements for employer incident investigations. First, section 175 of the Act has been amended to require an employer to undertake a

preliminary investigation within 48 hours of the incident. Second, section 176 of the Act is amended to require an employer to submit a full investigation report to WorkSafeBC within 30 days of an incident. At the end of the sessions participants will have an understanding of the requirements for investigating incidents, the tools required to undertake an adequate investigation, methods involved in successful interviews, identifying incident causes and completing incident reports.

Writing Effective Letters, Scope Documents, Reports, and Proposals

MAY 16, 2016 - Victoria

JUNE 6, 2016 - Kelowna

JUNE 27, 2016 - Burnaby

Potential clients often judge you based on whether you can clearly articulate the services you provide. Clients may skim your documents, so you need to ensure that your content is organized and that your key points stand out. Your writing ability is important! This course is focused on helping you to write more effectively. You'll learn to tailor your writing for your audience and purpose. You'll apply the strategies required for effective scope documents, letters, and reports. This course is Gold Seal certified.

Understanding Project Management

MAY 30-31, 2016 - Nanaimo

This course is designed to provide an understanding of the elements of project management while providing a broad range of hands on experience addressing project challenges. This course will highlight your personal project management strengths and blind spots. At the end of this course you will have a more comprehensive knowledge of managing projects as well as a personal project management techniques plan. This course is Gold Seal certified.

Change Order Management

JUNE 7, 2016 - Burnaby

OCTOBER 19, 2016 - Prince George

NOVEMBER 10, 2016 - Kelowna

Changes are an inevitable part of the construction process but if not managed well, change orders can cause unnecessary project disruptions and lead to cost increases and schedule delays. This course will provide participants with best practices for successfully navigating this complex project management challenge. This course is Gold Seal certified.

ICBA'S ANNUAL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

DATE

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2016

LOCATION

Delta Burnaby Hotel & Conference Centre
4331 Dominion Street
Burnaby, BC V5G 1C7

Complimentary Parking in South Parking Lot

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Thursday, April 28th, 2016

EVENT DESCRIPTION

Following last year's sold out Annual Industry Outlook, we are pleased to host a new panel of key experts from industries that drive BC's diverse economy. For many of British Columbia's industries, 2016 is projected to be a landmark year for balanced, steady growth, seizing new opportunities to grow our economy and building prosperity for our province.

These leaders will provide brief and crisp overviews of their sector for the year ahead as well as details about what to expect in 2017. Their unique and informed province-wide perspective on capital expenditure will allow you to take advantage and plan for opportunities arising this year and next.

CONTACT & SUPPORT

For more information contact 604-298-7795

CONGRATULATIONS TO BC ROAD BUILDERS' 2015 BETTY SPALTON SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

2016 APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW

Submitted by Parveen Parhar, Communications and Membership Manager, BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association



The Betty Spalton Scholarship Fund was established by the BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association in 1999 to provide financial support to individuals obtaining educations in fields associated with the road building and heavy

construction industries. As one of the goals of this fund is to encourage diversity in the industry, preference is given to females and/or members of minority groups.

The fund honours Betty Spalton, an industry and Association leader who died after a brief illness in 1999. Betty began her career with BC's Ministry of Transportation and Highways. She later served as District Highways Manager in McBride and went on to become President and General Manager of the Okanagan South (Penticton) Division of Argo Road Maintenance. As an active member of the BC Road Builders' board of directors, she headed the maintenance sector and was an acknowledged expert in maintenance policy, standards, business management and construction in general.

The Association proudly awards up to two scholarships each year, and wishes to congratulate 2015 winners: **Travis Arcand** and **Isobel Irvine**.



Travis, who is from Mission, learned in high school that he was interested in pursuing a career in the trades. He is taking the Welding Foundation course at the University of the Fraser Valley and is studying to take the entrance exam for the Operating Engineer's (IUOE) Heavy Equipment Program.



Isobel, who is from Kamloops, is in her second year at the UBC-Okanagan Campus working towards a Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering. Last year, Isobel completed a co-op term with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Traffic Engineering Department where she learned about the science of road and traffic systems.

The BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association is now accepting applications for 2016. Please encourage any of your employees, family or friends who may be eligible to find out more about the Betty Spalton Scholarship Program (information is on our website at www.roadbuilders.bc.ca/education_fund.php).

IN MEMORY OF DAVE SMITH – PARTNER – THURBER ENGINEERING - 1941 TO 2016

It is with a very sad heart that we announce the untimely death of Dave Smith, on March 8, 2016. Dave died at home while convalescing from a recent operation.

Such a kind and generous man, he was dearly loved and will be sorely missed by his wife of 43 years Lin, his children Ewan, Jenny and Mairi. Also missed by his brothers Brian and Roy.

Dave was a long-time member of the BC Stone, Sand & Gravel Association and provided his services to the association many, many times over the years to help the association with the many projects it has taken on.

Dave was a well-respected professional and will be truly missed by all of his friends and acquaintances at the BCSSGA.

A memorial service was held for Dave on Thursday, March 31, 2016.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN FOREMAN



John was born and raised in Belfast, Northern Ireland. A true adventurer, he moved to Canada with his wife and two young sons in 1976. Shortly thereafter he started selling Powerscreen equipment in Ontario, where to this day his old customers still ask about him.

John moved west to British Columbia in 1984 to set up his own Powerscreen dealership, Powerscreen of Canada Western Ltd.

John was a true pioneer in the mobile screening and crushing market and was the first to start selling track mounted screening and crushing equipment in BC and Alberta.

John was a founding member of the BC Stone, Sand and Gravel Association, formerly known as the Aggregate Producers Association of BC., and was instrumental in setting up the first ever edition of the Association's newsletter "Screenings". The first sample of the newsletter was a simple 8.5" X 11.5" piece of paper folded in half. John was proud of that 4-pager. John was a very strong advocate for the

aggregate industry in British Columbia.

An avid musician, John had a passion for playing the drums and enjoyed performing with his classic rock band as well as with his local Chilliwack Rotary club band. John was also an avid collector of classic British cars and was always keeping an eye out for a gem that need polishing, especially Jaguars.

A proud Rotarian, John also worked with his local Chilliwack club assisting with their many fundraising activities that supported not only his local community but also their many causes throughout the world. Most of all John cherished his family and loved spending time with them whether holidaying in Mexico skiing of Hemlock Valley or relaxing by the oceanside in Gibsons. He especially enjoyed spending time with his seven grandchildren.

John has left a lasting legacy in the equipment industry in British Columbia with Foreman Equipment Ltd., which is now run by his two sons Adam and Ryan, and many long serving employees that shared his vision for growth and outstanding service to the industry.

John will be sorely missed.

SETTLING POND ELIMINATOR

SUBMITTED BY BRIAN WEEKS

Fines Recovery Solutions Inc. (FRSI) has recently announced that after five years of development, they are now marketing a new system for cleaning the dirty water from aggregate wash plants or large construction projects. Many plants still use wet settling ponds to allow the fine particles in the dirty water to settle out. As everyone who uses them knows, settling ponds do not work very well; they are inefficient; they take a lot of space; they are costly to empty, while creating lethal safety risk to employees doing the cleaning; and they pose an environmental risk if containment failure occurs. Furthermore, the sloppy mud removed from a typical wet settling pond is hard to handle and never really dries out below its crust.

The FRSI package eliminates the need for wet settling ponds. This automated process provides immediate recycling of about 93% of the input water. Less than 7% of the water which would previously go to the settlement pond accompanies the mud. Better yet, most of that water is bound up in the mud to help stabilize it. Typically only about 2% of the input water is seen as clean drain water from the mud storage area. Thus the storage area handles essentially dry material with no risk of a wet breach of the containment perimeter.

The incoming slurry (presently up to about 1500 usgpm per unit) is treated with a food grade flocculant to

precipitate the fine particles in a small thickening silo. This generates the immediate return of most of the process water with little to no sediment. What makes the FRSI package unique is the addition of another patented food grade chemical to stabilize the mud. This "binder" makes the mud reject water during process handling and later makes it resistant to reabsorption of water when the mud is exposed to rain and snow melt. From the thickening silo, the mud can be pumped up to 1000' to a final or interim location. If necessary, within a few days of placement, the mud can be handled as a dry material by loader or excavator for simple relocation by truck.

FRSI provides a complete package including the mechanical, electrical and electronic hardware, chemicals and dispensing pumps together with an automated control system. The control system provides for local or remote operation, alarming, historical trending and data logging. It responds to changes in the incoming slurry flow rate and density to optimize chemical use to meet the water and mud quality levels chosen by the supervisor. The plant does not require a full time operator; has a footprint of only 40' x 70'; and requires only 40 HP of electricity.

For further information, please contact John Tiefenbacher at 604-930-2300.

Photo Credit: Sherry Yundt, S. E. Yundt Limited

54TH ANNUAL MINE SAFETY AWARD WINNERS



Al Hoffman, P.Eng., Chief Inspector of Mines, would like to congratulate the following recipients of the 2015 Mine Safety Awards:

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Plateau Construction Ltd. – *Harper Ranch Quarry*

CertainTeed Gypsum Canada Inc. – *Windermere*

Jack Cewe Ltd – *Treat Creek*

Mainland Sand and Gravel Ltd. – *Jamieson Quarry and Maple Ridge Quarry*

Teck Coal Limited – *Quintette Coal Operations*

HCA Mountain Minerals (Moberly) Ltd. – *Moberly Silica*

STEWART / O'BRIAN AWARD

Allard Contractors Ltd. – *Pit D*

Mainland Sand and Gravel Ltd. – *Cox Station*

Walter Energy – *Wolverine Mine*

Walter Energy – *Willow Creek*

Walter Energy – *Brule Mine*

LafargeHolcim – *Central Aggregates*

LafargeHolcim – *Earle Creek*

EDWARD PRIOR AWARD

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – *Copper Mountain Mine*

Huckleberry Mines

JOHN ASH AWARD

Gibraltar Mines Inc. – *Gibraltar Mine*

LARGE UNDERGROUND MINES AWARD

New Gold Inc. – *New Afton Mine*

Congratulations to all recipients!

MINE RESCUE TRAINING FORMAT

DORAN JONES, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR, MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES

With the implementation of the new Western Canada Mine Rescue Manual, that is now available on the British Columbia government website, it is the expectation all mines in BC will develop their training materials for a Basic Mine Rescue Certificate (both surface and underground) based on the new manual, effective immediately. This does not exclude any additional training a mine may require for specific emergencies based on its Mine Emergency Response Plan (MERP).

Inspectors throughout the province, who conduct mine rescue examinations, will now be using material that has been updated, and is based on the new manual. A database of level entry surface and underground exams are now at their disposal, and

available for them to use. Interim exams, also based on the new manual, have been distributed to mine rescue trainers recently, to use at their discretion, to monitor a student's progress during their course.

It is the expectation to continue to work on developing material that will determine how an advanced certificate is issued, and if an advanced manual to accompany it, is warranted. Some of the ground work is already underway with discussions amongst different mines and mine rescue associations, in collaboration with both the BC government and the territories.

For more information, contact **Doran Jones** by email Doran.Jones@gov.bc.ca or phone 250.387.0559.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE EA PROCESS

Public consultation is an important and mandatory aspect of environmental assessments in British Columbia, based on the principle that those affected by proposed projects should have an opportunity to provide input to the assessment. As part of all environmental assessments, the Environmental Assessment Office provides information for the public and seeks input to inform our work of assessing proposed major projects for potentially significant adverse environmental, social, economic, health and heritage effects.

Public consultation is set out in the BC Environmental Assessment Act and Public Consultation Policy Regulation as a responsibility of both the Environmental Assessment Office and project proponents.

The Environmental Assessment Office is reviewing its public consultation procedures, with the aim of clarifying and improving the experience and outcomes of public consultation in environmental assessments. The Environmental Assessment Office engaged with stakeholders and the public in the initial phase of our review, and invited the public to an online discussion in 2015. We have prepared a report summarizing what we have heard from the public and stakeholders, and the next steps in the public consultation review process.

If you are interested in submitting a comment on a project with an open public comment period or for a copy of the Phase One Report, go to <http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/participation.html>



Day of Mourning

Last year, 122 B.C. workers died. Now, 122 families mourn. Let's make our workplaces safe and healthy.

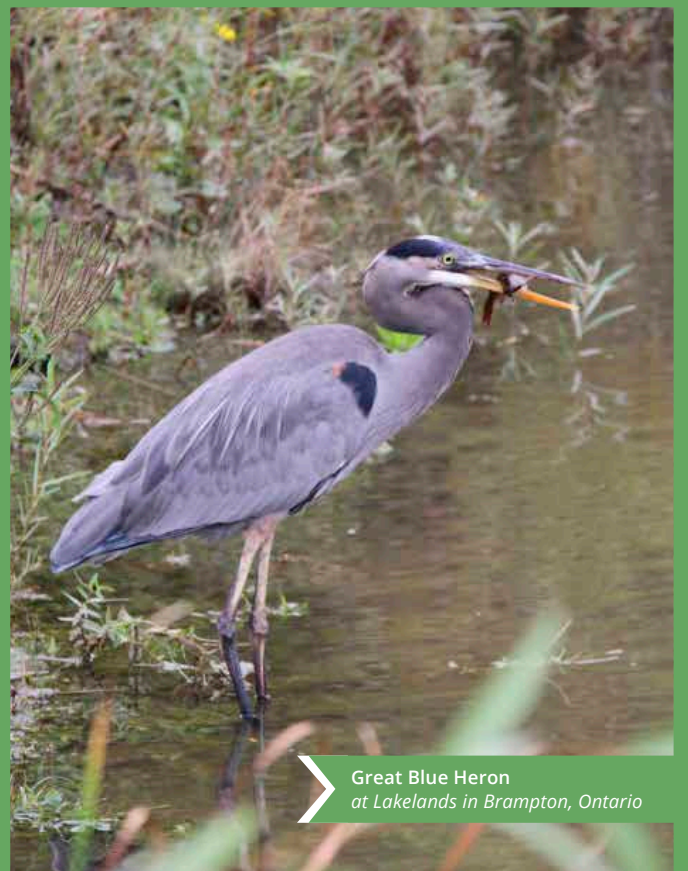
Thursday, April 28



dayofmourning.bc.ca



WORKSAFE BC



Great Blue Heron
at Lakelands in Brampton, Ontario

Photo Credit: Sherry Yundt, S. E. Yundt Limited

NEW PENALTIES STRENGTHEN COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT FOR MINING

SUNTANU DALAL, MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES

On February 25, 2016, Minister of Energy and Mines Bill Bennett introduced amendments to the Mines Act that will strengthen government's regulatory oversight of the mining industry and give the ministry additional compliance and enforcement tools.

The proposed changes will enable government to include administrative monetary penalties as an additional compliance and enforcement tool under the Mines Act. Currently, compliance and enforcement tools under the act are limited to shutting down a mine through the cancellation of a permit, issuance of a stop-work order, or pursuing prosecutions.

Administrative monetary penalties can be imposed for contraventions without involving the courts. This type of penalty is already used by other ministries and has proven to be an efficient and effective compliance tool.

Existing penalties available for court prosecutions under the act will also increase under the amendment. The maximum penalties will be raised from the current \$100,000 and/or up to one year imprisonment to \$1 million and/or up to three years imprisonment.

These changes to the Mines Act will bring it in line with the other provincial natural resource legislation, including the Environmental Management Act (EMA), the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and the Oil and Gas Activities Act (OGAA), all of which include administrative monetary penalties and more severe penalties for court convictions.

The amendments are part of government's ongoing actions to implement the 26 recommendations of the independent panel and the chief inspector of mines following their respective investigations into the Mount Polley tailings storage facility (TSF) failure. Work to implement a number of these recommendations is either substantially underway or complete, including improving corporate governance, improving professional engineering practices and strengthening current regulatory operations.

Immediately following the failure at Mount Polley, the chief inspector of mines ordered inspections and third-party reviews of TSFs at all permitted mines in B.C. The inspections and reviews did not identify any immediate safety concerns and are available online at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?>

In addition, last January, in response to the independent panel's recommendation to strengthen current regulatory operations, the chief inspector of mines ordered mines to confirm whether foundation materials similar to those at Mount Polley exist below any of their dams. This work was completed in June and no immediate risks or safety concerns were identified.

As well, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (APEGBC) is developing new guidelines to improve professional engineering practices for dam site characterization assessments. These new guidelines will be released by summer 2016.

In response to the independent panel's recommendation to improve corporate governance, the Mining Association of Canada (MAC) last year initiated an independent, multi-stakeholder expert task force review of its tailings management requirements and guidance documents under its Towards Sustainable Mining program. Last December, MAC released the final report from this task force and is working to implement its recommendations.

The Province also committed to implement a new requirement that all operating mines with TSFs in British Columbia establish Independent Tailings Dam Review Boards. This is being addressed as part of the ongoing code review. These boards will support improved engineering practices by providing third-party advice on the design, construction, operation and closure of TSFs.

Remaining recommendations from the independent panel and the chief inspector of mines are being addressed through the ongoing review of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia. The tailings storage facility portion of the Code Review is expected to be completed in this spring, and revisions could be legally in force by mid-2016. Government will also work with industry and professional organizations to ensure recommendations directed at them are implemented. It is anticipated this work will be completed by spring 2017.

A complete list of the recommendations from the independent expert panel and the chief inspector of mines is available here: www.gov.bc.ca/minecodereview

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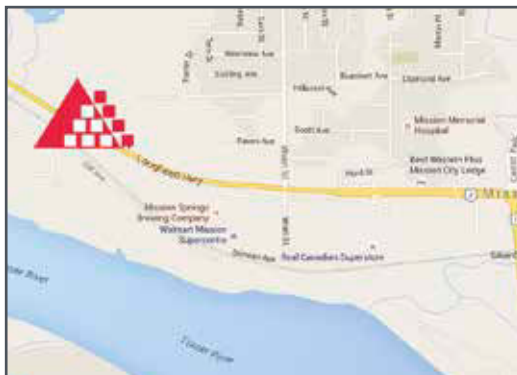


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As a participant in the course, you are part of an innovative program that will help improve the safety of aggregate production in British Columbia. We are excited to offer this program and to provide you with supporting materials and resources.



Topics include hazard identification, hazard assessment and hazard control. The cost is only \$24 per participant and you will be able to review the course at any time for one year from your enrolment date.

Please go to <https://bcssga.trainingden.com> to find out more information about the Hazard Awareness Training course and to enrol.

con't from page 4

Review of new monetary fines policy initiated by Ministry of Energy & Mines

- The Minister has introduced legislation to allow for administrative penalties. MEM does not know what this looks like yet. We are waiting for legislation to be passed, and the membership will be updated as more information is released.

Update of the Water Sustainability Act

Barry McLean

- The Act was Enacted Act several years ago.
- BCSSGA has a sub-committee due to concerns that when members apply for a mines permit access to water might be prevented by the local community.
- In order to maintain your historical rights, companies must get wells registered within the next three years.
- Members were encouraged to read the Act. Contact Paul if you need assistance to find it online.

Support of Ladies World Class Fastball Competition

Nikki Keith

- Surrey will host the WBSC XV Women's World Softball Championships on July 15th to July 24th – Largest World Championships ever held. 31 nations will be competing at the event - this event is the single largest, single sport sporting event in Canadian history. Surrey has forecasted an economic benefit to the City to exceed \$22 million. There are lots of sponsorship and volunteer opportunities available. See www.surrey2016.com for more information.

- Nikki Keith is heading the efforts to help fund the Ugandan Women's National Team to come to Canada for the World Championships. - Need to raise \$35k before the middle of May.
- Online donations can be made at www.commonwealthgames.com – click on the Pearl of Africa Icon – all online donations will receive a tax receipt. All cheques can be made out to Commonwealth Games Foundation of Canada – and sent to Nikki Keith.

Membership Update

Paul Allard

- Associate membership dropped by 5%; Producer membership should increase slightly.
- 95 members total
- BC Road Builders to support the BCSSGA in ensuring that available aggregate reserves are not sterilized by development or government, and that they remain available for both the BCSSGA & the BCRB&HCA members.
- Jack Davidson & Paul Allard met to discuss the recreation of some form of the Aggregate Committee within the BC Road Builders. BC Ready-Mixed Concrete Association is also interested and will participate in discussions to make sure we are involved.

Shift Boss Course

- Looking to rewriting the requirements and materials. Contact Rolly Thorpe for more information Rolly.Thorpe@gov.bc.ca