

WHSC Level 1



“To build solidarity through education and action, to remove hazards from the workplace and to enhance worker well-being,” this is the goal of the newly revised WHSC Level 1 program. It is essential training for worker health and safety representatives who want to exercise fully their legal rights and responsibilities and then go one step further, to expand their skills as union activists in ongoing efforts to improve workplace health and safety.

NATION-WIDE APPLICATION

This revised foundational training program now covers health and safety legislation for every jurisdiction in Canada. The program can be easily delivered to a mixed audience of participants from different Canadian jurisdictions, or locally to health and safety representatives in any part of Canada. Participants will be able to share and build upon their existing knowledge and experience through the program’s greater emphasis on participant-centered activities. Throughout the program workers will compile a personal toolbox of resources and priorities for workplace change.

CONTINUOUS BARGAINING

Two other major themes underpin this program’s revisions. First, to meet their goals employers continuously and unilaterally make changes, often exposing workers to new hazards. The Level 1 program recognizes the need for worker representatives to remain ever vigilant to these changes and to seek worker protection and solutions through continuous bargaining. Every conversation or meeting with the employer is viewed as an opportunity for worker reps to meet the union’s health and safety goals. Second, this program further exposes employer-sponsored, behaviour-based safety programs and rightly maintains the focus of a hazard-based approach.

The new Level 1 consists of the following 10 modules:

- Staying Alive While Earning a Living
- Body in the Workplace
- Toxic Substances
- Principles of Control
- It’s the Law
- The Myth of Worker Carelessness
- Worker Representatives
- Making Work Fit the Worker
- Looking at the Workplace
- Investigating and Reporting.

TRAINING

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