

# The AIHA Connection

The Alberta Local Section Newsletter

Fall 2010 Volume: 14 Issue: 2

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#### **President's Message** ... from the desk of Diane Radnoff

This past week I watched a number of documentaries about 9/11. No doubt about it, it was a life-changing event for all of us—I am sure that you remember exactly what you were doing when you heard. I was in Malaysia when it happened and I remember clearly coming back to North America the following day. As I walked through the airport in Hong Kong, all of the television sets were tuned to CNN and the airport was silent as people watched the screens. Eerie.

But what strikes me the most about this event is the lack of discussion about occupational health and safety, particularly for the workers involved in the rescue and cleanup operations. There were more scenes than I could count in the documentaries showing rescue workers with no protective equipment or not wearing it properly. And years later, many of these workers are suffering health effects and have yet to get compensation. The idea seems to still be acceptable that some workers do not need the same protection as others, particularly those in the emergency response, rescue and health fields. We would not consider it acceptable for a worker to enter a confined space to rescue someone else without the proper protective equipment (even though this still happens), why is it then acceptable for a firefighter, paramedic, nurse, etc. to be unprotected while doing their job? An emergency situation is particularly the time when responding workers need to be protected. How can they do their job and protect the public if they are not protected? And where are the documentaries and news reports on the health of the workers who responded to 9/11? (Michael Moore notwithstanding) It seems that the conspiracy around 9/11 gets more press than this. This tells me that our profession still has a lot of work to do. As we move towards the 10th anniversary of 9/11 we need to step back and take a look at how we work and how we protect the people who protect us.

Have a safe and healthy fall!



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#### Calendar of Events 2010 - 2011

November 8 - 12

Alberta H&S Conference and Trade Fair, Edmonton November 9

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Alberta AIHA Fall Social, Edmonton

December 2

Alberta AIHA Fall Symposium, Calgary

March 17

Professional Development Conference, Calgary

March 18

Alberta AIHA Annual General Meeting, Calgary

May 14 - 19

AIHce 2011, Portland, OR

#### Fall Symposium

#### MSDSs - more than just a pretty piece of paper

Executive Royal Inn, Calgary December 2, 2010 8:00 - 4:30

#### Objective:

- 1. To discuss the role of the material safety data sheets in hazard communication.
- 2. To understand legal requirements in Canada for MSDSs.
- **3.** To examine the process of developing a compliant MSDS. Target Audience:

Persons working in Alberta in the fields of industrial hygiene, health, safety, product stewardship who may be call on to interpret, evaluate, or write material safety data sheets for their workplaces.



# From the Editor's Quill:

Reflecting on the 9/11 tragedy, I don't think our emergency responders are ever fully prepared for events of such magnitude. I can report that once the effort became more organized, the recovery workers did have the proper PPE.

learned my safety stripes dogging firefighters, police, construction workers and one poor man of God to wear respirators in the pit. I also met more than a few OSHA safety and hygiene professionals combing the site and sampling data for potential hazards.

In retrospect, I've submitted a few photos I took of Ground Zero.

~ Angela Bianco

# VISIT THE AIHA-ALBERTA WEBSITE

#### http://www.aiha-ab.com

The AIHA Albeta Local Section website seeks to provide information on a variety of issues for both the membership and the public at large.



Searching in the Shadow of Tower I

2010 ALBERTA AIHA FALL SOCIAL

November 9, 2010; 4:30 pm

The Westin Edmonton Hotel Lounge 10135-100 Street, Edmonton

**Appetizers on the Alberta Local Section** 

#### Past President Submission

AIHA Alberta members,

I hope that everyone got some summer holidays in as it looks like the fall weather is fast approaching. As the past president, I wanted to continue to extend my requests to the Alberta AIHA Local Section membership to provide the executive with feedback (constructive in nature – all feedback is appreciated!).

This is your association and we want to support your needs as best as we can.

If you would like to have a direct impact, please consider becoming a member of the executive. The Local Section will be having its annual general meeting (AGM) in early 2011. This will be an opportunity for you to get involved. I can personally say that I have enjoyed the experience and it is a great way to meet new contacts within the provincial occupational hygiene "world". Consider taking the leap like I did – you won't regret it!

Hopefully, I will see many of you in the fall at the Alberta OHS Conference and the Local Section Social!

#### Ryan



**Cutting Down Structural I-Beams for Hauling** 

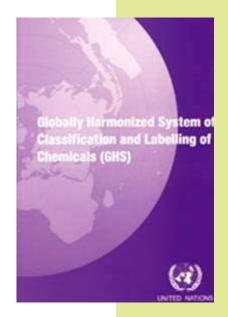
#### GHS Right Around the Corner?

by Diane Radnoff

For the past few years we have heard again and again that the WHMIS legislation was to be revised and GHS was coming; first by the end of 2008, then by the end of 2011. Well, GHS may actually be happening by the end of 2011. Over the few years, there have been many meetings related to the content of the new legislation.

Following the release of the OSHA GHS proposal last fall, the federal, provincial and territorial committees met to discuss the differences between the potential US and Canada legislation and come to agreement on the requirements for the Canadian GHS legislation. These agreements were then discussed at the Current Issues Committee (a tripartite committee with representation from government, labour and industry) and consensus was reached on most issues.

As early as this fall, Health Canada may start to publish the discussion documents on their website for public comment. The goal is to revise the federal WHMIS law and have the revisions published as early as next September in the Canada Gazette. Changes may be proposed to both the Hazardous Products Act and Controlled Products Regulations.



For more information on GHS, go to:

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/intactiv/ghs-sgh/index-eng.php

or

http://http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh-eng.php

To be kept up-to-date on what is happening, subscribe to WHMIS News on the Health Canada WHMIS website at:

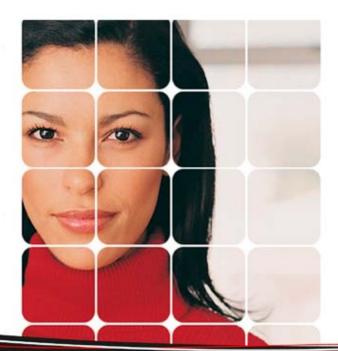
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-tra-vail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh-eng.php







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# embership Director's Update By Jodi Howick

The membership of the AIHA Alberta Section is currently 204 with 17 new members. We have had very good response this year with due payments - thank you for that. Those of you who haven't paid yet can expect a notification from me in your inbox shortly.

If you move or change jobs, please ensure that you forward your up-to-date contact information to me as soon as possible. The information is for AIHA use only for our newsletters and e-mail distributions as well as the annual Membership Directory. Also please ensure that your contact information is correct when you submit changes.



I have a number of "Lost Sheep"; if you are on this list or know the whereabouts of someone who is please let me know so I can get them back into the flock.

Lost Sheep: Dave Aryiss, Renee Hanif, Barry Kwong, William Lawson, Scott McLachlin, Marie-Louise Ruetz, David Wytrykush, Betty Yung

Hoping that this finds you well

Jodi





Workers Clearing Debris at Heights >30 Feet

#### 2010 CROSS CANADA OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE SALARY SURVEY



The 2nd **Cross Canada** Occupational Hygiene Salary Survey is Available

LOOK FOR IT ON THE AIHA-**ALBERTA WEBSITE** 

http://www.aiha-ab.com

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# 9th Annual Alberta Health & Safety Conference and Trade Fair

### SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE

Edmonton, Alberta

November 8 - 10, 2010



2010 REGISTRATION BROCHURE

presented by HEALTH & SAFETY CONFERENCE SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Follow link for full details and an interactive registration form: http://hsconference.com
If you have some spare time, please consider joining us at the AIHA-AB Booth.
Contact Katey Zhu at YZhu@epcor.ca to sign up.



## 9th Annual Alberta Health & Safety Conference and Trade Fair 2010 DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

DELEGATE	INFORMATION						
LAST NAME			FIRST NAME				
COMPANY					TITLE		
ADDRESS	CITY, PROV				POSTAL CODE		
PHONE				FAX	•		
EMAIL				May we release your c	ontact information to o	ur	
	NAL DEVELOPMEN	T COURSES (see web	site for more ir	Exhibitors?			
CHECK THE PDC COURSES YOU							
WISH TO ATTEND	CE DETAILS					\$	-
CHOOSE		payment must be rec'd by Se	en 10, 2010)		_	¢	455.00
	- Monday, Novembe		p 10, 2010)			Ф	455.00
8:00 - 11:00			\$	_			
11:00 - 1:00	Fun Run - sponsored by 3M Canada & The Running Room  Delegate Check In (Delegates are on their own for lunch)					Ψ	_
1:00 - 2:45	Keynote Address - Micha		- ,				
3:00 - 4:00	Choose your session						
Welcome Re	ception - 4:00 - 6:00 p	om (included with Full Regis	tration)				
	I would like to order	extra Reception Ticket	S (\$ 20/ticket)	Number of tickets		\$	-
SCHEDULE	- Tuesday, Novembe	er 9					
8:00 - 8:30	Registration & Trade Fair						
ICE SAFI	ETY WORKSHOP						
8:30 - 10:00	Choose your session						
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break in Trade Fa	ir Area					
10:30 - 11:30	Choose your session						
11:30 - 1:00	Lunch & Trade Fair Viewi	ng					
1:00 - 2:30	Keynote Panel Discussion						
2:30 - 3:00	Coffee Break in Trade Fa	ir Area					
3:00 - 4:00	Choose your session	CHOOSE FROM DROP DOW	'N		•		
SCHEDULE	- Wednesday, Nover	mber 10					
7:30 - 8:00	Registration & Trade Fair						
8:00 - 9:30	Choose your session						
9:30 - 10:00	Coffee Break in Trade Fa	ir Area			Subtotal	\$	455.00
10:00 - 11:00	Choose your session				GST (87485 3419)	\$	22.75
11:00 - Noon	Lunch				TOTAL DUE	\$	477.75
Noon - 1:00	Choose your session	CHOOSE FROM DROP DOV	VN	~	Payment Type -	. nlease ch	9200
1:15 - 3:00	Closing Ceremonies & Ke	eynote Address - Meg Soper			CHEQUE / MONEY	•	<b>▼</b>
CREDIT CARD INFORMATION					Please remit your cheque to HSCSA, BOX 38009, CALGARY, ALBERTA, T3K 5G9 to complete your registration		
Card Number		Carunoiuei Nama				,	
Expiry Date	Name				THANK YOU FOR YOUR REGISTRATION! Fax completed forms to (403) 206-7099		