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President's Message ... from the desk of Tracey MacDonald

Greetings All!

I look forward to working with the executive this year to continue the excellent work of the Alberta AIHA local section. Congratulations to the new members of our executive:

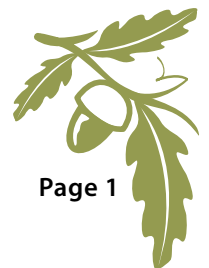
- Yvonne Gazzard – President Elect
- Lana Appelt - Secretary
- Corrine Paul – PR Director
- Molly Chen – Membership Director
- Varun Sharma – Maintenance Points Director

The position of Education Director has been filled by Michelle Kutz.

There are a few things I'd like to bring to your attention:

- Alberta Human Services is going to be reviewing the Occupational Exposure Limits starting in May this year. Moira Botham has generously volunteered to represent the Alberta AIHA on the OEL review committee. As the review progresses, the executive will keep members informed of significant changes and ask for feedback on issues that require input.
- Alberta Human Services is developing a competency profile for Industrial Hygiene services. Alberta AIHA has been asked to comment on the profile; the executive will likely be asking members for feedback during the review process.
- The Alberta AIHA has purchased the webinar subscription from National AIHA. We hope that all members are able to take advantage of this great opportunity. Anyone wanting to host a webinar, please let us know!
- We are working on scheduling a ventilation course for the fall PDC. Tentatively, the course will be on Industrial Ventilation System Maintenance and Troubleshooting.

Tracey



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Calendar of Events

- September 17 - 21
UBC Comprehensive IH Review, Vancouver
- October 24 - 26
Alberta H&S Conference and Trade Fair, Edmonton
- October 27 - 31
AIHA Fall Conference, San Antonio, TX
- November 28
Professional Development Course, Calgary
- May 18 - 23
AIHce 2013, Montreal



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From the Editor's Quill:

AIHce 2012 Indianapolis topped my expectations. The weather was characteristic of summer in the Midwest: hot, humid and windy. The people were exceptionally friendly and the conference center was conveniently nestled amongst hotels, shops, restaurants and sports stadiums. The keynote speakers were exceptional, the PDCs & sessions were informative. People were raving about the program app at the Expo. As always, it was the networking opportunities that captivated me. For AIHce 2013, in Montreal, let's show those Americans what revelry looks like!

~ Angela Bianco



Awards Fun at the Last AGM

Barry Kwong accepting the Award of Excellence from Mike Phibbs.

Moira Botham thanking Diane Radnoff for her contribution as AB AIHA President.

Draw Prize Winner: Grace Bowditch won a free attendance to 2012 Alberta Fall Health and Safety Conference!





2012 AB AIHA FALL PDC

INDUSTRIAL VENTILATION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND TROUBLESHOOTING

November 28, 2012

Watch your emails for the brochure and register online.


<http://www.aiha-ab.com>



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Recognize this booth and these members?
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Review of the Spring Symposium:

We had a great turnout for the spring symposium with 58 participants and displays from five different vendors; great opportunities for networking and information sharing.

There were four different presenters with great information. Thierry Page gave a presentation on odour perception, measurement and modeling. Really interesting information – learned that the scent of jasmine and the stench of a pig farm are a result of the same compound – indol.

Quadra Industrial provided information on use of robotics for cleaning vessels. Dr. Warren Kindzierski presented information on community exposures in the Wood Buffalo region.

Diane Radnoff from Alberta Human Services presented the latest data and interpretation of the recent silica monitoring project they had undertaken. The main conclusion from the presentation was that the government is not going to require adjustment of the silica OEL for extended shifts.

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Diesel Exhaust Makes Headlines

In case you have not already heard, the International Agency for Research on Cancer has just classified diesel exhaust as a group 1 carcinogenic – same level as tobacco and asbestos.

<http://www.iarc.fr/en/media-centre/pr/index.php>

Workers with the some of highest exposures include truck drivers, toll booth workers, miners, fork-lift drivers, railroad and dock workers, garage workers and mechanics. Farm workers may also spend a lot of time around diesel exhaust.

Diesel exhaust is believed to play a role in other health problems, such as eye irritation, headache, asthma and other lung diseases, heart disease, and possibly immune system problems.



Pro-asbestos advocacy group shuts its doors

Robert Hiltz, Postmedia News April 30, 2012

A decades-old pro-asbestos lobby group, currently funded by the Quebec government, will be shutting its doors after notifying the federal government of its plan to dissolve.

NDP MP Pat Martin — a longtime critic of the asbestos industry and former miner himself — said the closing of the institute signals the “death knell” of asbestos mining in Canada. “I see it as a real tipping point in the movement to get Canada out of the asbestos industry,” Martin said. He said he first learned of the institute’s intention to dissolve Saturday, International Workers’ Memorial Day — a day of commemoration for workers injured and killed around the globe. “I’ve lost an awful lot of friends and colleagues to asbestos in my time as an asbestos miner and a carpenter in the building trades,” Martin said. “It was very poignant for me to learn that (the institute was closing) on the very day of mourning for injured and fallen workers with the flags at half mast — it was very, very fitting.”

In a number of Asian countries, including India, activists are increasingly holding demonstrations to protest asbestos exports because they say the substance is harming workers. The Chrysotile Institute has long countered by saying that as long as asbestos is handled in a safe and controlled manner, it causes little risk to workers.

Canada’s asbestos industry is centred on two mines in Thetford Mines and Asbestos, both in Quebec — and both currently out of production for the first time in 130 years. Quebec’s Industry Department has offered the Jeffrey Mine in Asbestos a loan guarantee of \$58 million if Balcop Ltd. of Montreal is able to find \$25 million in financing to reopen the mine.

Kathleen Ruff, senior human-rights adviser to the independent research group the Rideau Institute, said the closing of the lobby group sends a signal to the international community that the industry is collapsing in Canada. “It will be noticed all around the world because the Chrysotile Institute has been the key leader in pushing the interests in the asbestos industry around the world,” Ruff said.

The majority of asbestos mined in Canada is exported abroad to developing countries where asbestos regulations are less stringent. More than 50 countries have banned asbestos use. Canada drew international scorn when it moved to block the listing of chrysotile asbestos on a United Nations list of restricted chemicals last June. Listing the material on Annex III of the UN’s Rotterdam Convention would have required “prior informed consent” to be provided by exporting countries.

Once an importing country is informed of the dangers of the material, it could refuse to accept the potentially cancer-causing substance if they felt they would be unable to handle it safely. Under the convention protocol, chrysotile asbestos remained off Annex III because consensus was not reached between attending countries.

The European Parliament has chastised the Canadian government over its asbestos exports — as well as for the seal industry and oilsands development — and issued a news release expressing members’ concerns of the harm the substance caused to miners. The use and processing of asbestos is banned within the European Union. Australia’s Upper House also passed a motion in November calling on its government to apply pressure to Canada to end its asbestos exporting.

The link between exposure to asbestos and other types of cancers is not clear, Health Canada says on its website. However, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, affiliated with the World Health Organization, has concluded after a full review of the scientific research that asbestos, including chrysotile asbestos mined in Quebec, “is carcinogenic in all its forms.”

Recently, asbestos research conducted at Montreal’s McGill University was called into question by a documentary aired on CBC television. Along with the documentary, a letter making similar allegations was sent to McGill officials by doctors, scientists and academics that included McGill faculty on the same day the documentary was aired. Both the letter and the film suggested researchers at McGill received funding from the industry to publish research that would make chrysotile asbestos seem less harmful to health than it is.

The World Health Organization estimates that globally, more than 100,000 people die from asbestos-related illnesses, including cancer, every year.

Membership Director's Update

By Molly Chen

The membership of the AIHA Alberta Section is currently 239 with 5 retired for a total of 244 members. We have 8 new members in 2012; welcome!

2012 membership dues are now overdue. You can pay your dues by cheque, mailed to me, or online at <http://www.aiha-ab.com/membership.php>. The cost for the 2012 AIHA Alberta Local Section Membership Renewal is \$42.80. We are currently at 51% paid for 2012.

Some of you may recall we did a membership list purge a number of years ago and removed members that hadn't paid for two years, we will be required to do that again this year in order to ensure that our records remain up to date so please ensure that you pay your membership as soon as possible as we don't want to lose active members.

As always, I'm looking for ideas on how to bolster our numbers so if you have any creative thoughts on this please forward them to me at the e-mail address below.

I'm happy to announce that everyone is currently present and accounted for. If you move or change jobs, please ensure that you forward your up-to-date contact information to me as soon as possible at membership@aiha-ab.com. The information is for AIHA use only for our newsletters, e-mail distributions as well as the annual Membership Directory.

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer.

Molly (membership@aiha-ab.com)

AIHA 2012 Archived Webinars

You may now access the archive of the April 3rd webinar "**A Risk Assessment Approach to Engineered Nanomaterials**" within the Online Community:

<http://www.aiha.org/volunteers/12APR1WEB/default.aspx>

Or directly @ <http://aihaorg.adobeconnect.com/p4a8d06d32r/>

Don't forget to take the exam and evaluation for credit:

<http://www.aiha.org/education/dl/Pages/WelcomeTo12APR1WEB.aspx>

You may now access the archive of the April 12th webinar "**Today's Global Chemical Regulatory Shifts: Are We Leading, Following, or Remaining the Same?**" within the Online Community:

<http://www.aiha.org/volunteers/12APR2WEB/default.aspx>

Or directly @ <http://aihaorg.adobeconnect.com/p4ehhttdqab/>

Don't forget to take the exam and evaluation for credit:

<http://www.aiha.org/education/dl/Pages/WelcomeTo12APR2WEB.aspx>

AIHA eLearning Subscription

Check out:

AIHA 2012

Archived Webinars, see lower left.

AIHA 2012

Book Club Series, see following page.

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tact Angela Bianco

[newsletter@](mailto:newsletter@aiha-ab.com)

aiha-ab.com.



Industrial Hygiene Certification Course

W-505: CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Golder Associates will be offering the W-505 Control of Hazardous Substances course in Calgary, Alberta from September 24-28. This course is part of the Occupational Hygiene Training Associations (OHTA) internationally recognized Industrial Hygiene Certification Program and is eligible for CIH Certification Maintenance points from the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH).

To register for this course, please contact Thea West at twest@golder.com or (403) 532-5772. Additional course information, can be found here.

For information about our global calendar of course offerings please contact Dave Ayriss at Dave_Ayriss@golder.com, (403) 260-2281 or view our course brochure here. www.golder.com



AIHA 2012 Book Club Series

The Occupational Environment: Its evaluation, control, and management, 3rd edition

The newly revised, two-volume, 3rd edition of "The White Book" includes comprehensive information on hazard recognition and evaluation, physical agents, the human environment, controlling the occupational environment, program management, and much more.

More than half of the chapters have been completely rewritten, while others have been significantly revised and updated to include the most current tools, methodologies, and knowledge available in a single OEHS reference.

Join many of the book authors as well as the editor to get a better understanding of the topics in this essential core reference.

Discussion 4 Dermal and Other Hazards July 2012

- Chapter 19 - Biological Monitoring
- Chapter 20 - The Skin and the Work Environment
- Chapter 21 - The Development of Occupational Skin Disease

Discussion 5 Biohazards and IAQ August 2012

- Chapter 18 - Indoor Air Quality
- Chapter 22 - Biohazards and Associated Issues

Discussion 6 Ventilation September 2012

- Chapter 35 - General Methods for the Control of Airborne Hazards
- Chapter 36 - Dilution Ventilation
- Chapter 37 - Local Exhaust Ventilation
- Chapter 38 - Testing, Monitoring, and Troubleshooting of Existing Ventilation Systems

What's new on your Certification Points (CM)?

Effective November 28, 2011, the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) has discontinued all CM point request reviews for Category 4 Education events beginning in 2012. In the past, the AIHA Alberta Local Section requested an evaluation of the CM points and a corresponding ABIH reference number for each of their educational sessions. ABIH now requires that you to calculate your own CM points based on the ABIH guidance and your participation hours.

AIHA Alberta CM points are published on the local web page including the CM points from CRBOH and Canadian Registered Safety Professional (CRSP). In 2012, we will no longer provide ABIH CM points. As in previous years, you need to keep a close tab of the technical courses and hours you attend plus proof of attendance for those with CIH designations. Visit the web site to calculate your CM points, <http://www.abih.org/members/cat4.html#PtCalc>.

At this time, the current method to calculate CM points is as follows. This may or may not change as ABIH transitions to the new system.

Courses: 0.167 CM point for each hour of technical content, minimum of 1 hour

Conferences: 0.5 point for each 3 hours of technical content

Point types of IH, IH Ethics, Safety, and Management are assigned based on the subject matter (see <http://www.abih.org/general/cmpointrequest.html#definitions>)

In 2012, ABIH will provide additional details to manage the transition, e.g., CM worksheet updates, point calculation tools, and new guidance documents.

As for the CRBOH and CRSP CM point process, there are no changes yet, but we will let you know if there are.

Please contact your AIHA Local Executive members if you have any questions and keep promoting our profession.

Cheers.....
Restita Espiritu
Maintenance Points



Did I mention, we are always looking for newsletter content?

This space is for your state-of-the profession commentary, short article describing OH challenges, PDC review, advertisement or photographs.

Special thanks to Michelle Kutz who gave us last issue's article:

Crystalline Silica Worker Exposure in Alberta

Occupational Hygiene Technician Position

Location: Red Deer
Phone: 403-342-2166
Advert ID: CAN_60990

Job Description

Manpower, in tandem with our client, a well-established Petrochemical company, is currently recruiting an Occupational Hygiene Technician to fulfill an entry level contract position in Red Deer, AB.

This role provides the opportunity to aid business via the following:

- Supporting the ongoing Occupational Hygiene monitoring program the Occupational Hygiene Technician will evaluate chemical, physical and biological hazards in the workplace (e.g. organic vapours, noise, airborne particulates, etc.).
- The Occupational Hygiene Technician will be required to document these activities and write related reports.
- Conduct respirator fit testing.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision.

Key Requirements:

- A technical diploma in Occupational Hygiene is preferred, but not required.
- Experience in conducting Occupational Hygiene monitoring using a variety of equipment is desired.
- Competence in computer usage, including the Microsoft Office suite.

Besides gaining valuable experience with some of the most reputable organizations in the market, you'll gain access to Manpower's comprehensive benefits package including:

- Competitive base salary, including vacation pay program
- Medical benefits program
- Access to Manpower's online training and development center

Apply today by submitting your resume, with the job title in the subject line, to reddeer.ab@manpower.com



Health & Safety Advisor Position

Opportunity available at EPCOR Utilities, Inc. in the Calgary area.

To view the posting, please see the PDF file on my LinkedIn profile page, or www.epcor.com/careers (and refer to IRC25695). The deadline to apply is August 3, 2012.

Best regards,
Nikki Dhaliwal
Advisor, Talent Sourcing
Human Resources
EPCOR Utilities Inc.
www.epcor.ca/careers