



Talkin' SAFETy with Mike Sexton:

## Treating sub-contractors like employees reaps safety and performance benefits



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Hi all,

It's been a while since I've done a column as we are giving all of the Safety Advisors a chance to share their vast knowledge and observations from the field.

In this issue, I want to talk about the benefits of treating your sub-contractors like your employees, as much as possible. Doing this has several benefits. Everyone feels part of the team, and if everyone is getting the same information, things always run smoother. I was a supervisor for a company in two different divisions where our contractors generally worked side by side with the company employees. Since everyone worked together, quality, safety and production were at their peaks.

We recently had one of our Safety Advisors doing some Site Visits near the central part of the Province. The majority of the contractors visited worked for the same Prime Contractor (PC). All spoke so highly of this PC and they were treated like employees, like team members. They talked about the level of communication, including supplying documentation to make their own SAFE Certification paperwork so much simpler. They felt really happy to go to work and do a top notch job.

To quote the brilliant Mr. Murphy of Murphy's Laws: "If you try to make everyone happy, nobody will like it", but if the majority of people are happy, you have a high quality, high producing, and safe workplace. 🍀

## Check these simple steps to submit an audit

1. Who will perform the audit? - Is the person a Permanent Employee? Have they taken the appropriate auditor training or refresher training in the last three years?
2. Gather the company's safety documents.
3. Get the audit form for the size of the company from the BCFSC website: <http://www.bcforestsafesafe.org/safeco-audits>
4. Answer every question. If a question is blank it scores zero. Passing is 80%. If score is above 70% but less than 80%, the company has the opportunity to address the deficiencies.
5. Review and include Corrective Action Log (CAL) from last year's audit.
6. Submit completed audit with supporting documents via upload: [App.bcforestsafesafe.org/upload](http://App.bcforestsafesafe.org/upload) For assistance, call toll-free **1-877-741-1060** or email [audits@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:audits@bcforestsafesafe.org). If sending a paper audit, keep sheets loose. No staples, tabs, or paperclips.

Following these steps means faster processing = SAFE faster! 🍀

## Tyler Bartels joins BCFSC as Regional Safety Advisor in Prince George



Tyler Bartels.

The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) has a network of Regional Safety Advisors to assist contractors and companies who have safety questions or concerns, are looking to develop safety programs or want to prepare for SAFE and COR certification.

Safety Advisors are located and provide these services in the Thompson/ Okanagan, Cariboo/Chilcotin, Bulkley Valley/north coast and Prince George/north-eastern BC. Regional Safety Advisors focus on providing practical and straightforward safety-related operational advice, support and assistance to all types and sizes of forestry companies. If they don't know the answer to any question, they know who will know and connect you.

Think of the Safety Advisors as your personal team of experts, ready to provide information and help you solve safety issues to maintain a safe workplace. In addition to providing face-to-face meetings, we also offer consultation via telephone or email, or even text.

Tyler Bartels has joined SAFE Companies, succeeding Graham Venechuk who has left the BCFSC to pursue other opportunities. Tyler is a regional Safety Advisor and is based out of Prince George. He has more than 10 years of experience working in the forestry industry, in many different areas from log hauling, harvesting, silviculture and manufacturing. For the past seven years Tyler has been actively involved in building safety programs, delivering safety training, and conducting SAFE Companies audits across BC as a SAFE Companies External Auditor.

In the past he has also supported SAFE Companies as a contractor doing desktop quality assurance audit reviews. Having a Safety Advisor in the Prince George east region will help us to better serve the northeast part of the province.

If you'd like to reach Tyler, please call him toll-free at **1-877-741-1060** or email him at [bartels@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:bartels@bcforestsafesafe.org). To schedule an appointment with an advisor in your area, please feel free to contact them directly or call the 1-877 number above and our receptionist will transfer your call to them. 🍀