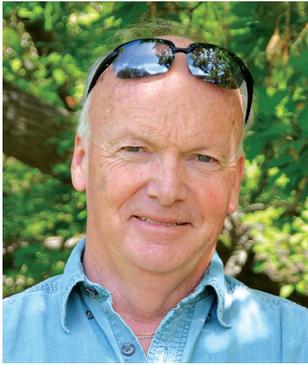


# FOREST SAFETY

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## BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson, Roger Harris, a Leader in

# Forestry Safety is Stepping Down at the End of 2023

The BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson is a critical part of the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC). As part of their mandate, the Ombudsperson investigates safety concerns and provides recommendations for improvement to industry stakeholders, including employers, workers, governments and regulatory bodies.

The Forest Safety Ombudsperson has become a trusted resource for forestry workers and industry stakeholders alike. The office is committed to providing a safe and confidential environment for the discussion of safety issues by facilitating open and honest dialogue between parties and helping to ensure that all concerns are addressed in an impartial and timely manner.

As the work of Roger Harris in the role of BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson begins to wind down, we wanted to know how Roger has perceived his role and how he will reflect back on his time as Ombudsperson.

### Q. Tell us about the history of the BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson position?

In 2005, the number of fatalities in the BC forest industry suddenly ballooned to 45. Both the government at the time and the public said enough is enough and compelled the BC government to make changes to improve safety outcomes for workers and their families.

The government brought together industry players to start to address the unacceptable safety situation within the forest sector. The group included senior leadership of the major licensees, Logging Associations, unions, WSBC, MOF and the silviculture Industry. The intent of meeting was to move beyond tackling safety on a company-by-company basis, but rather approach it collectively as an industry problem.

This decision eventually led to the establishment of the BC Forest Safety Council, an industry association entirely

Welcome to the Spring edition of Forest Safety News, covering news about safety topics in forestry. This is YOUR safety newsletter. We look forward to your input and feedback! Email the editor at [editor@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:editor@bcforestsafesafe.org) or call 1-877-741-1060.

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focused on improving safety outcomes in the forest sector. But almost immediately there was a challenge. The safety concerns the BCFSC needed to focus on required every party at the table to be able to feel free to candidly raise issues and concerns. The dynamics of the forest industry is that at each level, one group held an economic leverage over one or more of the other groups. This leverage became a barrier to having those open conversations and the Council soon recognized a need to find a way to overcome this problem.

This led to the creation of the BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson – a neutral confidential office, that could be engaged by any of the participants in the Council or the general public to raise issues and concerns in a way that protected their identity. The Ombudsperson was provided the flexibility to utilize a number of tools in addressing concerns between parties including, facilitation, mediation, arbitration or the use of a broader formal report.

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## Q. How did you become the BC Forest Safety Ombudsperson? What was your interest in it?

The short answer is I was approached by the BCFSC, but suspect my experience in the industry may have played a role in that request. I've worked in the forest sector most of my life on Haida Gwaii, Vancouver Island and along the west coast. I have been an employee in the bargaining unit, worked for the union, a supervisor eventually managing major licensee operations, owned and operated a phase contracting business and been involved in the development of forest policy as the Minister of State for Forest Operations in BC – a 360-degree perspective of the business. I have also experienced the worst side of the industry when my wife's brother was fatally injured, working as a choker man when he was only 18, as well as go through my own recovery from a serious falling accident. So, I have a deep connection to BC forestry and a strong determination to keep safety top of mind – when the opportunity to take on the role was offered it felt like a perfect fit.

## Q. Since the inception of this role in 2006, how has industry changed and your role with it?

This is two somewhat different questions. For the first, how has industry changed; from my perspective the changes from 2006 to 2023 have been dynamic. The term I would use is the forest sector has “professionalized” itself. No longer are we in a time when training was ad hoc, where many people got there training by moving from one company to the next, learning a little more each time until they were competent enough to hang onto a job. There now are clear industry wide standards for training, supervision and certification for many of the occupations within the forest industry. Companies must now become Safe Certified in order to even operate in the industry, so this professionalism has captured both occupations and institutions. There has been a cultural shift on the ground where safety is no longer a program but rather a way of doing business and fully incorporated into the daily operation of

the business. Maybe most satisfying is people for the most part feel free to raise and talk about safety issues and that is a dramatic shift from 2006 and speaks well for even greater improvements in safety outcomes for workers and families going forward.

For the Ombudsperson role, as the industry has evolved so has the role of this office. When I first started the single greatest barrier to advancing safety outcomes was the inability for the industry to have an honest conversation with itself. There was a “cone of silence” whether it was licensee, contractors, owner-operators or employees, there was fear that if they raised an issue that there would be repercussions – most people are surprised when I tell them the first item brought to my office was from a major licensee who feared that if they raised a particular safety related issue, the Ministry of Forest would withhold their cutting permits – so this intimidation whether real or perceived existed at every level.

At the start, the office was a gateway for industry complaints which initially were predominantly from workers and contractors. As I worked through them it became apparent that in a few cases mediation or facilitation could work, where the parties did not have concerns around being identified, but that for the majority it was difficult to provide the peace of mind that their identity could be kept private in that process. So, I needed to shift our office into finding a more effective method of responding to issues that also encouraged people to continue to come forward. As a result, I started to use broader subject matter reviews as a tool to raise issues and provide recommendations – in this way I owned the issues, not the individuals or entities that raised them. It had the added benefit of allowing me to bundle issues in way that let people know that their issues were not unique, but in fact were being experienced in every region of the province.

I take a lot of pride in all of the reports this office has put out. The test of any report is both in how many of the recommendations eventually were

adopted and in its ability to survive the test of time. I believe our office's reports have done well on both fronts and been a positive contributor to improving safety outcomes in the industry.

The review “Not Out of the Woods” in 2007 spoke specifically to the need for certification, training and recruitment within our industry, something that is now foundational for the BCFSC and its programs. The “Safe Companies” report was helpful in taking a flagship initiative of the BCFSC and providing guidance on how to improve that process. It also raised the need for WSBC and BCFSC to work out the roles each played when the certifying body is not the regulator. The “Khaira Incident” review shown a light on a very tragic situation, but also brought about the need for the province to pre-qualify companies as a way to sort out the good performers from those like Khaira.

“No Longer the Road Less Travelled” in 2008 and “Helicopter Emergency Medical Services” in 2017 have been the two reports that even today are still being referenced by governments, media and other professional associations as documents that contain valuable insights and recommendations. Both of these reports; one on resource roads the other on emergency medical transportation services have the combined benefit of not only improving safety outcomes for forest workers and their families, but as they continue to be implemented, that benefit also extends to the general public.

Finally, the report on “Phase Congestion” introduced new terminology and understanding to when a worksite shifts from being an integrated and complex worksite to one that is now congested, putting workers at risk. I think this report will have the most lasting impact into how harvesting operations are managed and the need to ensure that the people responsible for managing integrated sites have the training and tools necessary to take on the role.

So, as I look back at what has been accomplished and think about what is about to come, it's probably the reason

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why I feel it's time for me to move on. Not because I've outgrown the job but it's time for the next phase to take shape and allow the role to shift with it.

If there has been one dynamic that I was wrong about, it was the speed by which this industry would be able to make a cultural shift – my generation had an acceptability that accidents were inevitable because the nature of the work was dangerous – I thought it would take a generation to shift this culture - I have been impressed and delighted by which the next generation of people employed in this industry have shifted the cultural so quickly and dramatically to one where any accident is now unacceptable.

## **Q. What do you think the BC Forest Safety Ombudsman role will look like after you?**

I think the role of mediator or facilitator or negotiator or whatever you want to call it has changed since I started in this role. Very few inquiries that come through the Office are in need of that.

When I think about the role, I see it shifting, because I see the source of enquiries shifting from a complaint driven model to one where the office is a resource within the BCFSC, when there are internal issues that require a different set of eyes. I also see the public as becoming more involved, so the office needs to have a form and credibility to respond to those enquiries as well.

There still needs to be a place that people can go to when they're having difficulty discussing and resolving issues around the table. There may still be key concerns between operators or licenses and regulators that will require consideration especially when they're not quite sure how to handle or there is a difference of opinion or how they should pursue an item. So, I do see value in maintaining the office.

If it was another individual, I would suggest it be a generalist who can remain impartial with the ability to keep the lens pointed at worker safety, if not that, then perhaps a stable of subject matter experts that the BCFSC can call on to tackle the challenge at hand.

Whatever the outcome, the office needs to have credibility with regulators, industry and the public with the ability to remain impartial and maintain individual confidentiality.

Forestry still remains one of the most dangerous industries in the province. The conditions and environments people work in are much more diverse than any other industry. It continues to need a lot of attention from every organization involved and everyone needs to stay diligent and keep on their toes. There are a lot of learnings to be had from previous problems but there are also new challenges that are being thrown in too. We need to celebrate the successes but also be vigilant to a shifting landscape. The Phase Congestion review is a great example of a problem that never existed in 2006 but emerged as

a result of changing economic forces that influence how forest companies manage inventories in an ever-changing commodity market. Who knows what the next "Phase Congestion" will be; possibly a greater focus on mental health and the forces that influence that; as we peel each layer to get to zero, something new and unthought of will emerge.

This role has been a fabulous opportunity for me. It's allowed me to participate and contribute to something that is very close to my heart. It has allowed me to work for and with so many people who have never wavered in their goal of ensuring everyone gets home every night. It is one of the high points in my career and I'm thankful to have been given a chance just to be part of something that I think is pretty special. 🙏





## What's New

Here is the latest on what we have to offer since December 2022. Find direct links to safety alerts, industry-specific resources, industry information and more to download and/or share with employees, industry and safety peers. And make sure to follow us on social media to stay up-to-date with the latest news. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

**2023 Training Calendar** – Our 2023 Training Calendar is now fully loaded and offers both in-classroom and online courses. We also provide requested training bringing courses directly to your preferred location at a convenient time that works for you.

**BCFSC FIRS App** – Forest Industry Reporting System is a FREE resource available to all BCFSC Members. [Register for access.](#)

**Emergency Extraction Video** – On March 15th, check out the latest video on the BCFSC YouTube Channel from the Trucking and Harvesting Advisory Group (TAG). This new video focusses on emergency extraction procedures and how extraction drills could help keep your crews safe.

**Small Employer OHS Training** – New employers looking to gain their SEBASE or ISEBASE SAFE Companies certification can now access an updated Small Employer Occupational Health and Safety online training course. This new course explains how to build an effective safety program AND how to successfully complete the SAFE Companies audit. [Click here](#) to find out more.

**BCFSC Webinar – If You Want To Change Your Culture, You Need To Change Your Questions.** Thursday, March 16, 2022 from 2:00pm – 3:00pm (PST). Register for this valuable webinar on the art of asking versus telling by utilizing open-ended questions. Hosted by facilitator Shannon Overland. Principal Consultant at Dekra Insights.

**2023 Interior Safety Conference (ISC)** – The ISC returns as part of the Interior Logging Association's Conference. Admission to ISC is free with refreshments and lunch provided. Thursday, May 4th, 2023 from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the Coast Kamloops Hotel and Conference Centre in Kamloops, BC. Visit the BCFSC website to register.

**Safety Alerts** – Alerts provide timely information on incidents and issues which cause, or result in, serious or fatal injuries. The alerts we send by email and post on our website are intended to raise awareness and educate industry so we can learn from each other's experience and effort. Here are the latest alerts from BCFSC and industry.

- **BCFSC Safety Alert of the Month** – Avalanche Safety
- **Industry Alert** – Close call with Firewood Cutters on Resource Road
- **Manufacturing Weekly Safety Alert** – Click on the link to see the latest weekly alert

To subscribe to our safety alert emails – [Click Here](#)

## Industry Links

**Road Safety at Work** – visit Road Safety at Work for resources, webinars, workshops and news relating to road safety for you and your employees.

**WorkSafeBC Announcements** – check here for the latest information on WorkSafeBC policy and regulation updates, resource development, risk advisories and more.

**WorkSafeBC Enews** – subscribe to Insight; WorkSafeBC's policy, regulation and research division e-Newsletter, Health and Safety Enews, Young Worker Enews and more.

**WorkSafe Magazine** – WorkSafeBC publishes *WorkSafe Magazine* six times a year to inform, inspire and provide practical tips on a range of topical occupational health and safety matters. It's free to [subscribe](#) and available online. 📄



# Prioritizing Safety: How One Contractor Adjusted their Operational Planning and Safety Protocols after a Severe Weather Event

In the wake of severe weather events, it is crucial for companies to review their operational planning and safety protocols to ensure the safety of their workers and equipment. A prime example of such a review comes from SkinnyChicken Enterprises Ltd., a prime road and bridge building contractor for Teal Jones. In December's Forest Safety News, they shared their harrowing experience when their equipment was stranded 40km up a resource road when an atmospheric river wiped out their site access. Thanks to a successful rescue strategy and a week-long operation to get the equipment down the mountain safely, owner Eric Phibbs knew he needed to adjust his operational planning to prevent such incidents from happening again.

Working collaboratively with Teal Jones' Forest Professionals and Professional Biologists, Eric reviewed every area of his operation, including bridge work, road and culvert construction, and water channel management. The aim was to revise pre-work planning strategies to ensure future projects were built with reinforced structures, proper salvage planning, and erosion prevention strategies. New flood risk standards were used with considerations for rising rivers and waterways also taken into account. Revised measures were put in place to ensure safe access to work sites for SkinnyChicken and Teal Jones crews and also to ensure projects remained intact in case similar incidents occurred in the future.

The review process was thorough and comprehensive, with Eric and the Teal Jones Team taking a close look at their operational planning and safety protocols. The result was a set of revised global strategies and protocols with individual work plans that focused on project type. The strategies were tweaked first and foremost with safety in mind, followed by efficiency and regulatory compliance.

An example of the successful implementation of these revised plans came during a bridge replacement project last year, where SkinnyChicken Enterprises received updated drawings based on the revised flood standards from Teal Jones Team. The project also had to

consider the waterways and culverts and planning was required to help eliminate future log jams that can cause incredible damage to bridges and access roads.

Eric's extensive experience working in remote areas of the East Anderson area allowed him to provide critical insights that helped to revise pre-work plans. "I was very accustomed to seeing the impact of the runoff from rivers and waterways had during spring break up, or as we call it, freshet. By sharing my experience, we were able to revise our pre-work plans knowing that my crew would be able to complete the project with reinforced structures that could handle the runoff and leave the structure intact." Eric explains.

"Once the project was underway with the revised plan, we were under a deadline to complete the project. The bridge had been washed out but there was still water everywhere. We knew the window of opportunity could change with a heavy rainfall or a quick rise in temperature that could cause the snow pack to melt faster. The water was already running high. We had to be ready for anything. I purchased a Unimog, an amphibious extreme terrain vehicle, and installed a fully equipped Emergency Transport Vehicle (ETV) Brutus Box. Not only could the Unimog carry the crew across rivers and over the rugged terrain safely but it also kept our medical supplies close at hand at the work site. Just knowing we had a fully equipped transport at the ready to get someone out if an incident occurred was well worth the investment. I knew the guys had peace of mind knowing it was close by at our remote site."

SkinnyChicken Enterprises has completed countless road and bridge building projects with zero injuries. The crew's commitment to safety is an excellent example of a company dedicated to getting their crew home safe, every day. Even with their extensive experience in road, culvert and bridge building, timber salvage, and wildland firefighting, they go into each project knowing there is a unique set challenges they will need face to complete the job safely.

"Because we work in very remote areas where things can change quickly, we go over and above with safety training" says Eric. "Each crew member has been trained with S100 Wildland Firefighting and Occupational First Aid Level 1, with at least three crew members trained at Level 3. Everyone has their WHMIS and Ground Disturbance Training as well."

Because of their solid track record, over the years Teal Jones has recruited Eric to help coordinate and manage Phase Congestion on several projects. His job was to make sure everyone was in the right place and knew what was going on and could safely travel through the site to get where they needed to be.

"We've been doing this for a long time, and we know the risks not just to our guys but to everyone on site. It takes a lot of equipment and people to get these jobs done so Phase Congestion is a big concern on a work site." He explains. "There are a lot of moving pieces with a lot going on, and it takes a lot of coordination and communication to make sure everything is flowing, and everyone is working together."

The collaborative partnership between SkinnyChicken Enterprises and Teal Jones has resulted in a solid working relationship between the two companies. Their flexibility to adjust operational planning and safety protocols due to hazardous conditions has helped them successfully complete road and bridge building projects efficiently and effectively together. By prioritizing safety, the companies have demonstrated their commitment to getting their crews home safely every day, even in the face of severe weather events. The lessons learned from this experience will serve as a valuable resource for forestry companies to follow when faced with similar challenges. 🌲



# Weather Events and Worker Safety

BC is experiencing the effects of climate change. Temperatures are increasing, sea levels are rising and variable and extreme weather events are becoming more frequent. Scientists expect these changes to accelerate and intensify in the years and decades ahead. Understanding and managing these risks is necessary to protect BC's workers, tenure holders and infrastructure within the forest sector.

The increased frequency and magnitude of weather events compels Woodlots and Community Forests to re-examine existing safety plans and/or develop new safety plans to address the potential for increased risks to worker safety.

Licence obligations are defined in [Part 2, Division 4, Section 25 of Workers Compensation Act](#). Specifically, Owners, Woodlot Licensees and Community Forest Agreement holders, must provide and maintain the land and premises in a safe manner. The owner must know, control and communicate any health and safety concerns at or near the workplace, that could result in a person being harmed by a condition or use of the workplace.

**The owner must also ensure a plan is in place to address the hazards.**

Further responsibilities for worker safety are also provided in the following sections of the Workers Compensation Act.

- Section 21: [General Duties of Employers](#)
- Section 22: [General Duties of Workers](#)
- Section 23: [General Duties of Supervisors](#)
- Section 24: [Coordination at Multiple-employer Workplaces \(Prime contractor\)](#)

Specific bulletins describing these responsibilities have been developed by the Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Association Safety Committee (WLCFASC) and are available on the [association's website](#).

## Weather Related Worker Safety Issues and the Development of Safety Bulletins

The WLCFASC will be developing resources to inform and support tenure holders, association members and workers to better understand and address the elevated risks associated with a changing climate and associated weather events.



The following table provides an overview of topics and overall priority:

Weather Event	Priority	Topic
Locally Significant Rainfall	1	Safe work practices as it relates to significant rainfall events, specifically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to rainfall shutdown procedures</li> <li>• Development of rainfall shutdown procedures</li> <li>• Additional management implications of significant rainfall events (e.g., post event road inspections, communication, potential contract considerations and signage)</li> </ul>
Wind Events	2	Safe work practices as it relates to significant wind events, specifically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard assessment (road edges, block boundaries, partial cuts)</li> <li>• Safe work practices</li> <li>• Management options</li> </ul>
Extreme Heat	3	Safe work practices as it relates to extreme heat as well as considerations related to the associated issues of wildfire and smoke.
Extreme Cold and Snowfall	4	Safe work practices as they relate to extreme cold and heavy snow accumulations. Bulletins will include info related to cold weather shutdown protocols and emergency warming.

These resources will be developed on a quarterly basis and made available through the WLCFASC communications channels as well BCFSC's dedicated WLCFASC webpage.

### Resource Links:

- [Preliminary strategic climate risk assessment - Province of British Columbia](#)
- [Safety – Federation of BC Woodlot Associations](#)
- [Safety Publications – British Columbia Community Forest Association](#)
- [BCFSC Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Agreement Safety Committee \(WLCFASC\)](#) 

# Reducing Risks in BC Forestry: WorkSafeBC's High Risk Strategy in Focus

In October 2022, WorkSafeBC presented an overview of their Forestry High Risk Strategy, a comprehensive approach to reducing serious injury and fatal injury rates in the BC forestry industry, during the annual BCFSC trainers meeting. The strategy focusses on five key areas of forestry operations, and two regional focus areas, that are most prone to high risk and aims at raising awareness and promoting safe practices among workers and employers.

The five high-risk areas in the forestry operations identified by the WorkSafeBC Forestry High Risk Strategy included manual tree falling, log transportation, cable yarding, mechanized harvesting on steep slopes and silviculture. The two regional focus areas are dry land log sorts and shake block cutting. Using injury rate and incident data, WorkSafeBC identified these target areas as high potential to cause injuries with a need for increased focus to identify safe practices are being utilized. Within each area of risk, there is an inspection focus that is tailored to the type of operation.

Manual tree falling, for example, has a focus on the inspection of falling cuts, danger tree windfall assessments, first aid procedures, PPE, hearing tests, bucking and falling procedures, training programs for new fallers and emergency response planning. Log hauling, on the other hand, focuses on safe driving practices, loading and offloading of loads, cab guard use, secure objects, bunks and stakes, three-point contact procedures, and strategies to reduce Musculoskeletal (MSI) injuries.

The inspection focus for the remaining high-risk areas include:

- Cable Yarding: clearing the turn, yarding angles, landing the log, cab extraction, safeguarding equipment, equipment maintenance, guyline positioning, workers/supervisors training and phase integration
- Steep Slope Mechanized Harvesting: maintenance plan and lockout, three-point contact procedures, steep slope assessment plans, rollover/tip over controls, cab extraction, lockout procedures, traffic control, safe

operation of traction assist and tethered equipment, phase congestion and ERP planning

- Silviculture: ERP planning, planning and conducting operations, driver training and policies, MSI risk assessment | program management | and education for workers, proper planning and integration of silviculture activities with a focus on road access and emergency evacuation and phase integration
- Dry Land Sorts: procedures for marine operations, ERP planning specifically focusing on safe access, emergency procedures and drills and working in confined spaces, MSI (sprains and strains) reduction, strategies to reduce falls from both elevation and same level
- Shake Block Cutting: ERP planning, MSI reduction (over exertion and repetitive motion), safe work procedures focussing on working with and around airlift operations

To help manage the risk in these key areas, WorkSafeBC officers use principles of the high-risk strategy as a guide during site inspections by applying a back-to-basics inspectional approach to determine a course of action. This process helps them determine the knowledge and capability employers and workers have to identify hazards, assess the risks and implement suitable compliance controls to keep work sites operating safely.

Understanding the gaps in knowledge, expertise and safety protocols amongst employers, supervisors, and workers is an important piece of the process. A good example of assessing risk is learning more about a supervisor's knowledge and expertise using a sliding scale to determine the risk level based on risk factors such as weather conditions, experience, production pressure, site conditions and terrain (ie. a falling operation is likely to have more than 150 risk factors). Health and safety programs and the involvement of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee may also be reviewed as part of the assessment process.

The presentation also provided insights into how companies and workers can use a focus on safety as a starting point when

identifying hazards and developing risk assessments, then ensuring there are good communication strategies in place by proactively putting safety first.

WorkSafeBC's Forestry High Risk Strategy is a good model of a proactive approach to reducing the risks of injury and fatalities in the BC forestry industry. By focusing on high-risk areas and working with employers, supervisors and workers to promote safe practices, the strategy aims to create a safer and more secure work environment for all. 🌲

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## Workers' Compensation Changes puts Injured Workers First

Courtesy of BC Gov News – Labour Press Release

Amendments to the Workers Compensation Act will better support workers in British Columbia.

These changes will restore fairness for workers injured on the job and their families and bring BC in line with other provinces in providing benefits for injured workers.

“People injured on the job need to know that there is a workers’ compensation system that meets their needs,” said Harry Bains, Minister of Labour. “With these changes, we’re making sure that workers are properly supported when they need it most.”

The changes build on improvements to the system this government has been making since 2018. The new amendments make several important changes, including ensuring employers accommodate and re-employ injured workers when they are ready to return and requiring WorkSafeBC to pay interest on delayed benefit payments due to a review or review decision.

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In April 2019, the Ministry of Labour launched a review of the workers' compensation system, led by Janet Patterson. Her report, released in August 2020, provided recommendations for system-wide and structural changes to achieve a more effective system for workers.

"Injured workers need somewhere to turn if the Workers' Compensation Board doesn't treat them fairly," said Owen Goodwin, an injured worker. "Making sure there's a fair practices commissioner for workers, a re-employment obligation and protecting our compensation from being eroded by inflation are good steps in the right direction with an important focus on injured workers."

As well, in August 2020, government made important amendments to the Workers Compensation Act that better support injured workers and their families and enhance WorkSafeBC's ability to investigate workplace incidents that result in a worker fatality or serious injury.

Since 2018, WorkSafeBC has also taken an active role to better support workers and treat them with fairness and respect.

Once the legislation passes, WorkSafeBC and the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal will develop the necessary policy and program updates to fully implement the changes.

Review the [Workers Compensation Act amendments](#). 📄

## 2023 Interior Safety Conference (ISC) Returns as Part of the Interior Logging Association's Conference

The ISC is an annual industry-driven safety conference covering topics of interest to the forest sector as well as a trade show with targeted safety products and services. The ISC is held in partnership with the Interior Logging Association's (ILA) Conference and will be held on May 4, 2023 as part of the 3-day ILA Conference in Kamloops.

## Membership with the BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC)

All companies who pay for their BCFSC contribution through a special assessment collected by WorkSafeBC, can apply to become BCFSC members. By becoming a member, you can nominate Board Members and vote for nominated Board Members to fill vacant roles.

To be eligible for BCFSC membership, companies must belong to one of the following WorkSafeBC Classification Units (CU's):

Rate Group	Classification Unit	Description
GL	703002	Brushing and Weeding or Tree Thinning or Spacing
DR	703003	Cable or Hi-Lead Logging
DR	703004	Dry Land Sort
GL	703005	Forest Fire Fighting
DR	703006	Ground Skidding, Horse Logging, or Log Loading
DR	703008	Integrated Forest Management
DR	703009	Log Booming or Marine Log Salvage
DR	703011	Log Processing
DR	703012	Logging Road Construction or Maintenance
DR	703013	Manual Tree Falling and Bucking
DR	703014	Mechanized Tree Falling
DR	703015	Shake Block Cutting
FW	703016	Tree Planting and Cone Picking
DR	703019	Helicopter Logging
DI	732044	Log Hauling
IA	714022	Sawmill
HV	714019	Pressed Board Manufacture (Wood Pellets and MDF)

Becoming a BCFSC member does not involve any additional effort on your part unless you choose to become more involved.

Board members will be nominated and elected by BCFSC members for two-year terms. Efforts will be made to ensure Board members are qualified to serve on the BCFSC Board of Directors by representing industry sectors and/or having industry skills and experience needed to participate on the Board.

As a BCFSC member in good standing, you will be entitled to attend, speak and vote at the Annual General Meeting, elect the Directors and serve on Board Committees. To apply for membership, email us at: [membership@bcforestsafe.org](mailto:membership@bcforestsafe.org) 📧

Thanks to sponsorships from industry, admission to ISC is free with refreshments and lunch provided.

### Interior Safety Conference

**Date:** Thursday, May 4th, 2023 - 8:00am to 4:00pm

**Location:** [Coast Kamloops Hotel and Conference Centre, Kamloops, BC](#)

**ISC Conference Registration** – visit the [BCFSC website](#) to register today

**Coast Kamloops Hotel Booking** – book your room under ILA 2023 Delegates

BCFSC staff provides administrative support for the conference. For more information, contact Tammy Carruthers at 1-877-741-1060 or email [tcarruthers@bcforestsafe.org](mailto:tcarruthers@bcforestsafe.org)

For more information on the **Interior Logging Association's Conference**, May 4 – 6, 2023, visit [www.interiorlogging.org](http://www.interiorlogging.org) 📄