



February 22, 2010

Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) Stakeholder Representatives

Dear Stakeholder:

**Re: Establishment of Advisory Councils**

At this point in the evolution of the IHSA, you would have received various pieces of correspondence and information updates pertaining to the progress both internally -- merging the three founding safety associations (Construction Safety Association of Ontario, Electrical & Utilities Safety Association, Transportation Health and Safety Association of Ontario) -- and externally with respect to stakeholder outreach and engagement.

It is regarding the next step in the outreach effort, and following on the heels of our first stakeholder engagement session earlier this month, that we extend a further opportunity to participate in the development of IHSA. For those that were in attendance, or were advised of what transpired at the February 9<sup>th</sup> session, you will be aware that critical to our governance process is the establishment of the various Advisory Councils. These councils were proposed and adopted by the Transition Board during the amalgamation process. The objective was to ensure that a mechanism was in place to provide for industry/sector perspective and advice, thus ensuring that IHSA remains informed and relevant in relation to the safety needs of our new expanded client base. We believe the emphasis we place on remaining client-focused and responsive and knowledgeable in relation to our broader client's safety requirements has been underlined in previous communications and on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, the Advisory Councils (six in total - representing the segments of IHSA) will provide a more immediate function; it is through these bodies that a permanent Board of Directors will be selected. The establishment of the Advisory Councils will provide a forum for eventual Board members to be either nominated and/or sanctioned. Structurally, the Councils will be bi-partite (in keeping with what had been the established governing practice of the three founding organizations) and reflective of their rate group composition. For example, in the case of the Electrical Advisory Council, participation will consist of individuals representing rate groups 704, 830, 833, 835 and 838.

The date and time selected for the Electrical meeting is Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Centre for Health and Safety Innovation (CHSI), 5110 Creekbank Road, Mississauga. It is by way of your role as an important stakeholder in the electrical sector that we extend this invitation for you to attend.

The process we have undertaken in envisioning and developing a governance model and eventual governing body is deliberative and considered. It was the vision of the Transition Board that, when seeking synergies, we ensure we do not sacrifice what has been proven to be effective in the past. The most effective way to ensure that objective, therefore, is to carefully establish the organization by seeking input and assistance from the stakeholder community. In addition to the above-stated characteristics of this process, it has also been educational in that much as been gleaned from the interaction to date.

Hopefully, the meeting on March 31<sup>st</sup> will provide a cornerstone by which we can determine potential levels of engagement and subsequent involvement. The meeting will provide an opportunity for interested parties to be briefed on the governance process to date and the rationale directing that process.

In conclusion, we trust our efforts in this regard have been thoughtful and with the understanding that, when merging three distinct organizations into one, there may in some circumstances be concerns regarding displacement. We can only offer that we will make all efforts to be inclusive while operating within the structure of this new amalgamated prevention entity.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

If you are able to attend please respond to Nell Geddes at [ngeddes@ihsa.ca](mailto:ngeddes@ihsa.ca) or by phone at 905-212-7932.

Sincerely,



Michael Burke  
Vice President, Client Services