

The NAOSH Week Steering Committee — B.C.

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go2

For further information, e-mail:
naoshawards@worksafebc.com

Safety & Health (NAOSH) Week 2012 May 6–12

The effort to create safer workplaces can sometimes be a thankless job. You work hard to develop procedures, educate your workers, and use your influence to create a culture of safety. All of this takes time, dedication, and passion — the passion to make a difference.

North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week offers you a chance to be recognized for the incredible work you already do to prevent workplace injury and disease, and the chance to challenge yourself: to promote safety in a way that no company or organization has ever done before.

NAOSH Week is a uniquely, continent-wide initiative. It began in 1997 when Canada, the United States, and Mexico formed an agreement to dedicate one week a year to raise awareness about the importance of safety at work, at home, and in the community. Since then, safety awareness has grown exponentially — particularly in the workplace — now that we've committed ourselves to a common North American future that means workers going home at the end of the day, unharmed.

The spirit behind this event seems to be catching, given last year's exciting response to NAOSH Week. We received submissions outlining a range of creative activities, including innovative toolbox talks and safety training programs, employee game shows, and elaborate safety fairs. With your involvement, B.C. has become the most safety-attuned province in our country. Last year, with your submissions, two B.C. companies not only won provincial awards, but also took home national NAOSH Week awards.

I don't know about you, but that gives me a sense of pride: that we as a province are leading our country in safety. We have an opportunity to influence the rest of society with our workplace ideals. Our common goal is to continue to promote safety in our cities, our province, our nation, and our world.

This year, we're giving you another opportunity to do B.C. proud, while earning well-deserved recognition for your safety submissions, during the NAOSH Week awards luncheon in the fall of 2012. The NAOSH awards committee has big plans and fun surprises to offer you at the latest awards banquet. We want to celebrate your achievements among your industry peers — and, we're even going play some golf! (Now, who would want to pass up that opportunity?)

Once you have a plan for NAOSH Week, we encourage you to fill out the submission form in the guide, or go to www.naosh.ca or WorkSafeBC.com to submit details of your event. You don't have to be a large organization to submit or to win. Submissions are judged on the size of your company and which industry it represents, so all submissions are accepted and valued. If this is your first time making a submission, don't worry: the planning guide and NAOSH website offer plenty of ideas to get you started.

Just remember, you're already a winner for putting safety at the top of your agenda.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tanya Steele'.

Tanya Steele, President
NAOSH Week Steering Committee — B.C.