

February 2016

# CSO News Update

## NEWSLETTER FROM THE MANAGER

Hello everyone:

This is just a quick message to bring you up to speed on several topics:

### 1. Upcoming CPD Events for 2016

With our commitment to support your Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities, ASTTBC is again partnering with our accredited training providers to bring a series of four CSO specific CPD events. The first was Feb 11, sponsored by Coast Eagle Safety Consulting and held in Abbotsford.

The second CPD session will be hosted in April by ER Plus Risk Management. This year BCIT is sponsoring two CPD events, one in June and one in September, both of which will be webcast live around the province. The June event will include an opportunity for you all to interact directly with members of your Construction Safety Certification Board in a "meet your Board" segment.

ASTTBC is proud to be associated with all our accredited training providers: *Care Institute for Safety, BCIT, ER Plus Risk Management and Coast Eagle Safety Consulting.*

### 2. Alberta NCSO Designation Eligible for CSO Certification

You may have read recently in the Journal of Commerce, the BCCSA is proposing to offer a version of the Alberta "NCSO" designation in BC, sometime in 2016. We understand this is to replace the current Construction Safety Specialist (CSS) designation they offer, and aimed to help reduce the variety of terms now in use for construction safety designations in Canada. ASTTBC applauds the BCCSA for this initiative and we wish them well. This move by BCCSA in no way impacts your certification as a CSO(P), CSO or RCSO. The fundamental elements of accountability, standards of ethical

practice and mandatory continuing education remains the distinction between your Certification awarded by your professional association - ASTTBC - and a designation (CSS / NCSO), issued by an industry association.

### 3. Interprovincial Mobility of Designations

Under terms of the Federal Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) and the BC / Alberta interprovincial Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA), jurisdictions issuing designations of a similar nature in either province are bound to recognize those in the other province. So this means that a certified CSO(P), CSO or RCSO working in Alberta, may request the Alberta Construction Safety Association to grant their equivalent, ie NCSO if that provincial designation is required. Of course this also means that safety practitioners who hold the NCSO from Alberta are eligible to apply for ASTTBC certification within the CSO Certification Program. The condition for both scenarios is that the applicant must demonstrate an understanding of appropriate Provincial regulations. ASTTBC is now accepting applications from a number of practitioners holding the NCSO designation. They will of course be required to meet all ASTTBC registration standards before being awarded certification.

### 4. New CSO Website

A completely redesigned CSO website is now under construction with an updated look and much improved functionality. Watch for this within the next few months.

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Manager Construction Safety Registrations