

News Release

For Immediate Release

FREEZE TO NEW INJURY MANAGEMENT/RTW COR CERTIFICATIONS

New Westminster, B.C., January 2, 2013 — Following a review by WorkSafeBC there is a temporary freeze to any **new** Injury Management (IM) / Return to Work (RTW) COR certifications.

NEW IM COR CERTIFICATIONS

Employers have until June 30th, 2013 to conduct their certification audit. Employers intending to conduct a certification audit must notify the BCCSA **by February 20, 2013**. Please email cor@bccsa.ca with your WorkSafeBC account number and contact information.

EXISTING IM COR CERTIFICATIONS

Employers already IM/RTW COR certified should continue to use the existing IM/RTW audit document to conduct and submit their Maintenance or Recertification audits based on their regular audit schedules.

Earlier this year WorkSafeBC undertook a complete review of the Certificate of Recognition Program. At the conclusion of the review, it was determined that COR is positively associated with injury rate reduction, but further evidence is required on RTW outcomes. This has resulted in a freeze on NEW Injury Management/RTW certifications being issued until further analysis. The BCCSA will continue to work with other Certifying Partners and WorkSafeBC to revise and improve the Injury Management/Return to Work Certificate of Recognition Program.

In the meantime, the best way for an organization to have a positive impact on the lives of their workers, and the bottom line on their Experience Rating Assessment, is to have a fully functioning Health and Safety Management and Injury Management/Return to Work System. We believe our Health and Safety and IM/RTW Audits are providing an effective and appropriate review, assessing components of safety systems on three levels: 1) does it exist, 2) is it good, and 3) is it followed. We know that the organizations that have become COR certified through us do, in fact, have a strong commitment to injury reduction and worker health and safety.

The Certificate of Recognition Program is a foundational program for many Health and Safety Associations in B.C. and across Canada. COR has been an industry tool for improving safety management systems and has been a cornerstone in building a safety culture across B.C.

We will continue to communicate with our members and naturally aligned organizations as further information is available.

The BCCSA is BC's provincial construction safety association working for and with industry to reduce injuries and improve safety for over 40,000 construction employers and 180,000 workers in British Columbia. Our programs, training and services focus on injury prevention and creating or enhancing a culture of safety on construction sites. For more information visit us at www.bccsa.ca.

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