



March 9, 2009

Dear Members,

As you are aware, a review of the prevention system has taken place with proposed changes to the system being developed by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB). This was initiated for a number of reasons:

- ▶ To identify opportunities for greater efficiencies in program and service delivery to meet the needs and requirements of Ontario workplaces, employers, and workers.
- ▶ To ensure that the right people are in the right roles and have the appropriate tools to provide consistent services to all workplaces.
- ▶ To ensure that all activities align with the objectives and targets of the WSIB Prevention Strategy and *The Road to Zero*.

On February 19, the WSIB Board of Directors approved the business plan for the re-alignment of the Ontario health and safety system as presented. The next phase of this work will now begin. The approved business plan is available from the WSIB or any of the organizations on this letter.

Ontario's 12 health and safety associations (HSAs) will merge into four new associations. One of these new associations will include FSA (Farm Safety Association), IAPA (Industrial Accident Prevention Association), and OSSA (Ontario Service Safety Alliance). Our assurance to you during this period of change is to remain committed to our high level of service and focus on assisting you our members and customers.

As a result, the leadership of each of these organizations has been meeting to discuss the transitions that will need to take place within and between our associations in order for our new organization to be successful. We have been discussing a number of transition areas including human resources, operations, client services, and product development. Soon, staff from each of our organizations will be participating on these and other transition committees.

As we begin the process of transition, we recognize that events and issues are shifting but we want to assure you that we are working collectively to set priorities and gauge the key issues while maintaining our focus on front-line service and improving prevention outcomes.



This is a significant time in our history and the history of health and safety in Ontario. We feel it is important that we take leadership and begin the process by talking, sharing, and planning together. We know that you will also have valued contributions to make to the new organization and we collectively look forward to your support.

We are committed to communicating with you consistently throughout the transition and as more information becomes available, we will share this with you in a timely manner. And, we welcome your comments and questions, which can be sent to the CEOs of each of the organizations by email (addresses listed below).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Anderson".

Dean Anderson  
President and CEO, FSA  
danderson@farmsafety.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Birrell".

Nicole Birrell  
Chair, Board of Directors, FSA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen P. Shaw".

Maureen Shaw  
President and CEO, IAPA  
mshaw@iapa.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Novak".

Lance Novak  
Chair, Board of Directors, IAPA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Mills".

Elizabeth Mills  
President and CEO, OSSA  
emills@ossa.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Vala-Webb".

Gordon Vala-Webb  
Chair, Board of Directors, OSSA