



# Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of the Ski Lift Advisory Council

Meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Minutes of the Ski Lift Advisory Council meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held by teleconference at 9:00 a.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

**Present:** John Ball, Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance (CSIA); Ward Bond, Bond Ski Lift Installation; Tom Cavers, Beaver Valley Ski Club; Brian Edwards, Edwards Colwill Insurance Brokers; Jay Jackson, TSSA's Consumers Advisory Council; Kevin Nichol (Chair), OSRA; Bradley Redwood, Canadian Ski Patrol System; Mark Rutherford, Brimacombe; Dave Mathewson, Mount Pakenham Ski Area Murray Frankcom, Leitner Canada. Craig MacDonald, Caledon Ski Club; Robert Sheridan, Blue Mountain Resort; Sarah Simons, Kenney Engineering Inc. Christine Simpson, Consumers Advisory Council.

Dan Brazier, Chief Financial Officer; Alexandra Campbell, VP, Communication & Stakeholder Relations; Viola Dessanti, Director Strategic Analytics; Angelina Brew, Advisory Council Coordinator; Viola Dessanti, Director, Strategic Analytics; Roger Neate, Director Elevating and Amusement Devices; Rob Kremer, Engineering Manager, Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Program; Kristian Kennedy, Manager, Government Relations; Mueni Kithuka, Stakeholder Relations Advisor; Denis Lapierre, Inspector, Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Program; Dean McLellan, (Interim) Director, Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Program; Nameer Rahman, Policy Advisor; Bonnie Rose, President & CEO (Chair); Phil Simeon, Director, Regulatory Policy;

**Guests:** Richard Hustwick, Senior Policy Advisor, Technical Safety Unit, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS); Mitchell Thibault, MGCS, Policy Advisor, Technical Safety Unit, MGCS

**Regrets:** N/A

## 1. Constitution of Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and thanked everyone for joining the teleconference.

### ▪ Safety Moment

For the safety moment, K. Kennedy spoke to radon safety. Health Canada has a webpage on radon safety. Exposure to radon is a growing concern with so many people working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2. Approval of the March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Agenda

Council adopted the March 24, 2021 agenda as presented.

## 3. Approval of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of November 3, 2020 minutes as presented. Rob Sheridan noted he was at the last meeting, and should not be categorized under "Regrets." Also, Murray Frankcom's affiliation needs to be changed to Leitner Poma. The minutes were adopted with those changes.

**Action:** A. Brew to update M. Frankcom's company information in the Council's membership matrix.

**Action:** A Brew to update R. Sheridan attendance in the November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes.



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### 4. Review of Action Items from Last Meeting

R. Neate reviewed the action items. He noted that there are some action items outstanding. The 20/20 (OASIS) item will stay live as it is yet to be implemented in the ED/AD/Ski program. On unseated passenger issue, it was part of incident reporting, R. Neate noted. It is therefore done.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 5. Chair's Update

K. Nichol spoke to this item and treated it as read. He noted that it has been an exceptionally difficult year for the ski industry. He thanked TSSA for the assistance in the waiving of fees. It was very much appreciated by the sector and speaks to the cooperative relationship with the sector.

A. Campbell noted that the funding relief is coming via government. TSSA is facilitating it. K. Nichol noted that operators do not always know the details; they see it coming from TSSA, but they appreciate the bigger picture.

There were no other questions or comments from Council.

### 6. TSSA President & CEO's Report

#### ▪ Strategic Priorities

B. Rose treated her report, circulated to Council prior to the meeting, as read. She did note that the OASIS portal went live in March 2021 for The Boilers and Pressure Vessels Program.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 7. Outcomes-Based Regulator

P. Simeon provided Council with an update on the progress being made on TSSA's transformation to becoming an outcome-based regulator. There were two items of focus: compliance standards and enhanced authorizations process.

These two tools are about rewarding good actors and achieving safety outcomes. He provided a snapshot on progress on rolling out the outcome-based regulatory processes. As part of that snapshot, he noted that the ski compliance standard will be rolled out in the near future. P. Simeon detailed the rationale behind enhancing the authorization process, notably improved safety outcomes. P. Simeon also detailed the rationale for compliance standards.

D. McLellan walked through a model ski compliance standard on the screen. He noted that when the working group meets the sector will be asked if it makes sense and if anything is missing. He explained how the process worked for escalators, including 2-3 meetings to review, propose and adjust the compliance standards. He explained that it is a living document that will change over time as the code changes and safety issues evolve.

K. Nichol mentioned that there is a working group proposed, which represents a cross-section of the sector. He asked if TSSA will show the compliance standard landing page content presented at the council



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meeting. D. McLellan confirmed that TSSA will do that. S. Cooke will attend the working group meetings to walk through the process.

T. Cavers commented that there could be compliance issues that cannot be addressed in 14 days. Is there a method to work with inspectors and engineers to take a look at compliance times? P. Simeon spoke to the general policy approach, noting that the compliance standard is focusing on high-risk compliance matters. Because the compliance standard is predictable and the compliance requirements known ahead of time, the sector is in a position to address them. There would likely be no surprises. R. Neate commented that when TSSA reviews all the compliance standards with stakeholders and selects the high-risk items, there will be a consensus. For instance, if safety components are failing on the device, this is an instant hazard and, everyone will agree that the safest thing to do is keep the device shut down until all the parts required to run the equipment are obtained.

K. Nichol added that the working group is broadly representative of expertise and is not just limited to council members. He put out a call for members, in case any additional interest is out there.

There were no other questions and comments from Council.

### 8. CAD Update

P. Simeon noted that six CAD amendments have been under review, three published. He spoke generally about the TSSA approach to CAD amendments and noted that the Ski CAD amendments will be posted in April, adopting the 2019 code. It should be online in the next few weeks and in-force before the next ski season.

K. Nichol noted that bringing code adoption into a more routine process is something council has been encouraging. He is happy to hear that it will not be lagging behind the latest standards released every five years.

There were no other questions or comments from Council.

### 9. Stakeholder Engagement

A. Campbell reminded the council that TSSA is reviewing its stakeholder engagement mechanisms as noted at previous council meetings. TSSA is reviewing the terms of reference and will have it posted for comment in the near future. She noted that TSSA wants councils to focus on providing input on the organization's strategic priorities, as B. Rose's presentation highlighted and as P. Simeon demonstrated with the outcome-based regulator changes. She walked through the changes being contemplated in addition to aligning council agendas with strategic objectives. Concerns were raised at the last council meetings about limiting members' terms and the impact that could have on retaining subject matter expertise. She noted that TSSA will post for recruitment but if there are no new members to be considered, the position will default to the incumbent. When consumer representation was noted, K. Kennedy introduced C. Simpson as the new consumer representative. The chair welcomed Christine to the meeting.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 10. Safety & Compliance Report

R. Wiersma commented that there is not much activity in the sector due to reporting periods culminating in November and then in the next quarter due to the pandemic affecting the ski season. Last year there were already a few incidents by this time. It is a unique season for doing this analysis. He did note that the



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inventory of ski lifts shows the high-risk devices have seen a substantial decrease. This is mainly due to a change in the risk formula, which now puts more emphasis on recent inspections. Because there are so few devices in the province, a slight change dramatically impacts the data reporting.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 11. Incidents/Issues Report

There were no incidents of note for R. Neate to report. Council discussed the new incident reporting process. M. Rutherford commented that nobody has reported any negative aspects related to it. There was a fall-from-carrier incident. D. McLellan noted all incident reports go to the Spills Action Centre (SAC).

J. Ball said his only comment with regards to new incident reporting was retraining because employees were familiar with the old form. R. Sheridan noted one shortcoming of the form. D. McLellan commented that he realized after the fact that he did not meet with all supervisors before adoption of the new form. That internal oversight has been fixed. He noted that if members have concerns with SAC, let TSSA know and D. McLellan and R. Chohan will follow up.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 12. Ministry of Government & Consumer Services (MGCS) Report

M. Thibault treated the bi-annual report as read. There was nothing specific relating to the ski sector in the report.

The chair thanked the Ministry for its role in fee relief and in public safety.

There were no questions or comments from Council.

### 13. Business Model (Fee Structure) Update

D. Brazier treated the report as read. R. Sheridan asked about fee relief and licensing renewal. March 31, 2021 they all come due for amusement devices, ski lifts and elevating devices. His site has not received any renewal packages for any TSSA-regulated devices.

S. Ariyaretnam commented that TSSA will be reaching out to device owners to ask them which devices they will be running. Any payment will be issued for devices used last season. That is why the invoices have not been received yet. Only devices that they are planning to operate in the coming season will be invoiced.

M. Rutherford noted there were invoices received after the fee relief notice was sent. Collections agent called him and the collections agent was not aware of the fee relief. S. Ariyaretnam noted the process of fee relief is manual. He apologized for the collections oversight.

R. Sheridan said that he has submitted contractor licences, but has not heard back. Craig MacDonald said they need the contractor's license to do maintenance. R. Neate indicated that regular renewal packages were late going out this year. They should be arriving soon. He recommended they submit renewals as normal.

The Chair has also received calls about invoices for renewal packages.

There were no other questions or comments from Council.



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### 14. Update on Mechanic Licensing

The Chair commented that online courses for certification and continuing education are useful, especially for northern parts of the province. The sector would like to continue it, if TSSA permits it. The sector is seeing more interest in the north than in past years, which likely has to do with not having to incur costs. The association will be developing new course material now that the colleges are not offering courses.

D. Mathewson commented that he set up continuing education for small community-run operations. He plans on having the courses at ski hills. The course will entail going out and analyzing the device and answering specific questions on their equipment. R. Neate commented that the course setting sounds good since it is outdoors and in light of the pandemic, the outdoor settings make sense. D. McLellan asked which northern communities were serviced. D. Mathewson listed Chapleau, Manitouwadge, Terrace Bay, and Bond Lift. D. MacLellan reminded the council that Nanticoke, Dryden and Kenora have sites too.

The Chair asked TSSA when the license and training forgiveness will expire. Is this going to be extended? R. Neate indicated that it depends what the industry is facing. He said TSSA is open to considering flexibility. The Chair indicated that if they go through the effort of putting together courses they want to make sure things will not change. R. Neate offered to take the matter offline to discuss extensions if it is a challenge. The Chair also asked if the TCAB will meet to look at training and certification issues. R. Neate asked if there are any pressing issues since TSSA has a lot on its plate at the moment with strategic projects. The chair said there are issues but as long as exam bank questions are being looked at, he thinks it should be fine.

### 15. Aging Lift Assessment RRG

The momentum was disrupted in December when the sector was preoccupied with the pandemic. An invitation was sent to members of the RRG. A meeting will happen in April.

### 16. Council Administration

#### Membership Recruitment: Manufacturer Sector

K. Kennedy noted that B. Vriens has left the council and M. Frankcom has submitted a letter of interest to replace him. K Kennedy indicated that he and A. Brew will begin the member onboarding and recruitment process.

There were no additional questions or comments from Council.

**Action:** K. Kennedy and A. Brew to administer the new member onboarding process for B. Vriens replacement.

### 17. Questions or Other Business

There were no questions or calls for other business.

### 18. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2 p.m. Council held an in-camera session with Council-only without TSSA staff or guests followed by an in-camera session with B. Rose.