



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of Ski Lifts Advisory Council Meeting on October 10, 2012

Minutes of the Ski Lift Advisory Council (SLAC) meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held in Boardrooms 1433 and 1434, 14th Floor, Centre Tower, 3300 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario at 09:30 a.m. on the 10th of October, 2012.

Present: John Ball, Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance (CSIA), Ward Bond, Bond Ski Lift Installations/Loch Lomond Ski Ares, Murray Frankcom, Leitner-Poma Canada Inc., Dolly Gerrior, Consumers Advisory Council (CAC), Bruce Haynes (Chair), Ontario Snow Resorts Association (OSRA), Martin Kimble, Horseshoe Valley Resort Ltd. Craig MacDonald, Caledon Ski Club, Dave Mathewson, Mount Pakenham Ski Area, Kevin Nichol, Gougeon Insurance Brokers, Radu Petrut, Teora Engineering and Services Ltd., Mark Rutherford, Brimacombe, Rob Sheridan, Blue Mountain Resort, & Guy Stewart, Canadian Ski Patrol System – Ontario Division.

In attendance: Michael Beard, VP of Operations (all items except item 19), Bernadette Celis, Communications Advisor, Public Education (item 14 only), Roland Hadaller, Director, Elevating and Amusement Devices (all items except item 19), Judy Harrison, Project Coordinator (item 8 only), Maram Khalif, Council Coordinator (all items except item 19), Rob Kremer, Engineer (item 11 only), Jim Palmer, Regional Supervisor (all items except item 19), David Scriven, Interim President and CEO (all items except item 19), Joshua Sorman, Advisor, Training and Certification (item 15 only).

Guests: Mohamed Awad, Policy Advisor, Ministry of Consumer Services (MCS).

1. Constitution of Meeting

B. Haynes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:39 A.M. He also introduced three new members: Mark Rutherford, Guy Stewart and John Ball.

2. Council Chair's Report

As part of the advanced materials for this meeting, council received the Chair's report to the President and CEO regarding council's key activities over the past year, which was treated as read.

B. Haynes shared the success of Ontario Snow Resorts Association's (OSRA) Fall Education Seminar and its Fall Education Week Training on September 18 – 19, 2012.

He also informed the council that Toronto Ski, Snowboard & Travel Show will commence on Thursday, October 11, 2012. Information is on OSRA website.

3. Approval of Agenda

Council approved the agenda of October 10, 2012 meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Council approved the minutes of March 28, 2012 Ski Lift Advisory Council meeting as drafted, as being a true and correct record of that meeting.

5. Review Action Items from Last Meeting

R. Hadaller reviewed the outstanding action items from previous meetings with council, noting that all were completed.



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6. TSSA President & CEO's Report

As part of the advanced materials for this meeting, council received a report from the Interim President and CEO, David Scriven, regarding TSSA's key activities over the last quarter, which was treated as read.

7. Follow up from council engagement and evaluation survey results – action items

As part of the advanced materials for this meeting, council received a document containing all the action items as a result of subsequent in-camera meetings for the council, which was treated as read. All the action items related to the council engagement and evaluation survey (2011) were completed and council were satisfied with the follow ups.

The Chair noted the layout of the agenda and assigning categories to some council members was a result of the survey conducted by ERIN Research Inc.

8. Input Industry Trends and Issues

As part of the advance materials for this meeting, the council received a briefing note illustrating the next steps for industry input/trends and matrix containing all the issues and trends that have been collected so far and their status, which was treated as read.

M. Beard and J. Harrison provided a background introduction of this item noting this discussion will be useful for the TSSA's strategic planning sessions. There were no more issues to bring forward at this meeting. Council will provide updates on lessons learned after the ski seasons.

The Chair requested to cross-reference any other issues from other councils that may relate to the Ski Lifts Advisory Council such as aging devices and user behaviour for discussion in future meetings.

ACTION: J. Harrison will cross-reference with other councils' issues that may be related to the ski lifts industry's issues at the next meeting.

9. Priority Safety Issue: Enhance consistency among regulators

M. Kimble provided an introduction of this priority safety issue. He indicated that the council chose to spearhead this initiative; however, it was becoming challenging to gain momentum and move forward with their approaches with the Ministry of Labour which regulates workplace safety.

He informed council that support was needed from TSSA when approaching other regulating bodies. Though there were no urgent issues to tackle at the moment and this was an anticipation of having plans in place.

A high level discussion ensued on ways to approach MOL; reasons behind such an approach; and what other organizations or government ministries might be involved.

It was also noted that MOL responded to Consumers Advisory Council's request regarding incident reporting guidelines and procedures. Relationship and contacts between MOL and TSSA were well established.

A further discussion ensued around the need to ensure there must be specific, systematic issues or concerns for an improvement prior to approaching MOL. MCS offered to facilitate engagements if it was determined there were systematic issues at hand.



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10. Safety Compliance

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, R. Hadaller provided an update regarding ski lift safety compliance. The compliance report was broken down into monthly cycle as per council's previous request.

Periodic inspection results from 2004/2005 to 2011/2012 were presented noting both passed on first visit and follow ups were trending upwards. It was noted that the ski industry is seasonal with the industry's activities being concentrated in few months within each year.

Information on periodic inspection outcomes from Nov.2011 to Jul.2012 was also presented. Occurrences overview indicated no observable trends over the measured periods (2007/2008 to 2011/2012). The primary contributor to occurrences due to external factors continues to be 'failure to follow user instructions'.

A brief discussion ensued around type of orders i.e. administrative or public safety and the number of orders issued by inspections which were noted as very minimal.

ACTION: The PowerPoint presentation for safety compliance (October 10, 2012) will be sent to council.

11. Incident Reporting Guideline 214/09

As part of the advanced materials for this meeting, the council received the revised Incident reporting guideline for 224/07, which was treated as read.

R. Kremer provided a detailed update on the revised Director's guideline document (214/09) posted on TSSA's website on July 5, 2012.

He reiterated to council both these documents were living documents and council's input and feedbacks were greatly appreciated and were taken into consideration. He acknowledged R. Sheridan's feedback on the last few reviews.

12. Enforcement/Inspections/Reporting

D. Mathewson informed council there was no update at this time. However, he noted that any new update will be included in the TSSA Ski Lift Update Newsletter. He also informed council that he will be providing updates on this category moving forward and welcomes any industry enquires.

13. Priority Safety Issues: TSSA technicians/inspectors availability to enhance inspector's role in more safety promotion

J. Palmer indicated that the industry requested to have more information on the regulatory requirements of the TSS Act and regulations and TSSA inspectors have been presenting the information when resorts do their internal training and orientation prior to the start of the ski season; however, there have been challenges with inspectors' availabilities and scheduling.

He reported to council that he was currently working on centralizing this initiative by developing a standalone safety promotion presentation that can be provided to all resorts for their internal training and orientations.

A brief discussion ensued around extending this initiative to colleges in 'train the trainer' programs. J. Palmer confirmed he already has been involved with some college training and will continue to do so.



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14. Priority Safety Issues: Ski lifts safety public education program end of season update

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, B. Celis provided an update on TSSA's ski lift public education activities for the upcoming 2012/2013 winter season.

She informed council that, based on favorable results from the last ski season, TSSA will continue with its approach to focus on engaging new skiers and snowboarders. This includes face-to-face interactions at various Ontario ski hills to deliver safety messages near and around beginner lifts, with ski school beginner students and through weekday school group programs.

TSSA will also look to its current partnerships with the Canadian Ski Patrol and the Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance (CSIA) on working together to further promote lift safety and overall ski safety with new skiers/snowboarders.

Such activities will be delivered in the most effective and efficient manner possible, given this fiscal year's resource limitations on TSSA's overall public education initiatives.

High level discussion ensued around PACE ski injury prevention program, endorsed by the Canadian Ski Patrol, which TSSA will continue to explore ways to assist this program, subject to resources availability.

15. Training and Certification Advisory Board (TCAB)

J. Sorman informed council the TCAB has not met since the previous meeting in January of 2012, in which updates were provided at the last council meeting.

J. Sorman provided an update on issues that were raised since the last meeting. The examination banks for the SLM-C certificate of qualification were identified as inconsistent by the TCAB membership; as such the bank was reviewed to ensure uniformity to the applicable codes and regulatory information. In parallel the Code Adoption Document (CAD) was amended May 1, 2012 which prompted a detailed review of the examination banks for all SLM classifications. TSSA utilized in-house technical resources to ensure the examination banks were in alignment to the CAD, which was completed in July of 2012.

J. Sorman also provided an update on the total number of certified mechanics in the Ski Lift Industry as shown below:

SLM-A	– 74
SLM-B	– 106
SLM-C	– 19
SLM-F	– 32
<u>SLM-T</u>	<u>– 120</u>
Total:	351

High level discussion ensued around SLM certification, and will be further discussed at the next TCAB meeting, an update will be provided at the next council meeting.

16. Mechanics/Licensing/Training /Education

K. Nichol informed council that since individual councils members were assigned to categories within the industry, he has received a few calls mostly regarding SLM and passports as noted under TCAB discussions.

Further discussion ensued around the scope of SML certifications and it was reiterated this topic will be discussed at the next TCAB meeting.



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17. Engineers/Submissions

M. Frankcom introduced an issue related to the design submissions and its process at TSSA. In respect to council's perspective, there were no options for rush, normal or for long term submission processes at TSSA. He also noted there were inconsistency issues with the time a design was submitted and when it was completed. He also noted the industry would like a specific time lines for certain submissions due to the adjustments and modifications needed to be in place. He reiterated that without a specific deadline, the industry was incurring unnecessary cost and labour to resolve the delayed installations and contracts with their customers.

He also informed council that there were communication issues with follow ups on required information and general responses on specific submissions in which he highlighted at the meeting.

M. Frankcom provided a detailed list of all the submission he was personally aware of and was involved with.

ACTION: M. Frankcom will follow up on this issue with R. Hadaller and R. Kremer offline and to seek resolution. M. Frankcom and R. Hadaller to report on the resolution of these issues at the next council meeting.

18. Questions on Information and Other Business

Membership: B. Haynes informed council that as of this meeting, all sectors were filled. In regards to council whose term expired at the meeting, they all agreed to serve another three year term as follows: W. Bond, M. Frankcom, D. Gerrior, B. Haynes (Chair), C. MacDonald, D. Mathewson, & R. Petrut will be renewed for three more years expiring October 2015.

K. Nichol was also renewed for three more years expiring March 2015.

The new members, M. Rutherford, G. Stewart, & J. Ball will also serve for three years expiring October 2015.

19. In Camera

Council members met in camera without management.

20. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 12:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2013.