



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of Ski Lifts Advisory Council Meeting on March 26, 2015

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 9:30 a.m. on the 26th of March, 2015.

- Present:** Bruce Haynes (Chair) Ontario Snow Resorts Association (OSRA); John Ball, Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance (CSIA); Ward Bond, Bond Ski Lift Installations/Loch Lomond Ski Area; Murray Frankcom, Leitner-Poma Canada Inc.; Dolly Gerrior, Consumers Advisory Council (CAC); Craig MacDonald, Caledon Ski Club; Dave Mathewson, Mount Pakenham Ski Area; Kevin Nichol, Gougeon Insurance Brokers; Mark Rutherford, Brimacombe; Rob Sheridan, Blue Mountain Resort; & Guy Stewart, Canadian Ski Patrol System – Ontario Division.
- In attendance:** Michael Beard, President and CEO (all items except 11-13); Caslav Dinic, Technical Manager, BPV (item 11), Maram Khalif, Council Coordinator (all items except item 18); Rob Kremer, Engineer (item 8); Jim Palmer, Regional Supervisor (except item 18); Srikanth Mangalam Director, (items 12 and 13), Jessica Myrie, Intake Agent (item 7), Roger Neate, Director (all items except 18), David Scriven, VP Research and Corporate Secretary (except item 18); and Ellen White, Policy Advisor (all items except 18).
- Guests:** Richard Hustwick, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (all items except 18) and Hussein Lalani, Manager, MGCS (all items except 18).
- Regrets:** Radu Petrut, Teora Engineering and Services Ltd.

1. Constitution of Meeting

B. Haynes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

A video on prevention of Carbon Monoxide poisoning was shown as part of the safety moment.

2. Council Chair's Report

The Chair highlighted the upcoming conference for Ontario Snow Resorts Association (OSRA) and trade shows in May 2015 at the Hockley Valley Resort.

3. Approval of Agenda

Council approved the agenda of March 26, 2015 meeting, as presented.

4. Review Action Items from Last Meeting

J. Palmer reviewed the outstanding action items from previous meetings, noting that highlighted items were completed.

The outstanding items were updated as follows:

- Accounting for the total number of riders in Ontario is an ongoing issue. An update will be provided at the next meeting.
- There is a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for developing code adoptions. The process includes consensus around the language and a draft of the Code Adoption change is shared with council before finalization.



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of Ski Lifts Advisory Council Meeting on March 26, 2015

5. Approval of the Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the October 15, 2014 Ski Lift Advisory Council meeting as presented, as a true and correct record of said meeting.

6. TSSA President & CEO's Report

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

TSSA's new external safety award initiative was highlighted. Additional details will be provided under item 7.

7. Introduction of TSSA's External Safety Awards

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, J. Myrie presented the background information on how the external safety awards program was developed.

She provided examples of actions that may be awarded. She also noted that a past incident does not automatically disqualify a nomination. Implementing risk prevention as a result of an incident could be considered for an innovative safety award.

This program is still evolving and changes may be made accordingly.

8. Engineers/Submissions Process

Engineering submissions task group update: R. Kremer reported to council that due to the small number of submissions for this industry, relative to the elevator industry, a separate queue for ski lift submissions has been created. R. Kremer outlined the limits of flexibility on the due date for aging lift assessments. These assessments must be received no later than April 30th following the season in which they were originally due. A brief discussion ensued around how to manage a load test that has been reset within the five-year frame.

9. Aging Equipment

There was no update under this item.

10. Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS)

R. Hustwick provided a high-level overview of the regulatory renewal process. The current priorities were noted as Operating Engineers, Liquid Natural Gas, and Upholstered and Stuffed Articles. He also highlighted that a review of the Ontario College of Trades is now underway led by Tony Dean, a former Ontario senior civil servant.



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Minutes of Ski Lifts Advisory Council Meeting on March 26, 2015

11. Pressure Piping in Snow Making Systems

A member of the industry requested an exemption from Boilers and Pressure Vessels regulation for pressure piping in snow making systems. C. Dinic reported to council that he explored options to deal with this request before an exemption is considered. The issue may be in the inspection process and he is working on finding a solution within the existing process for the inspectors. Council will be notified when an agreement is reached.

12. Ski Lifts Safety Compliance Information

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, R. Neate provided an overview of the status of compliance in the ski lift sector.

External factors were noted as by far the largest predicted risk by causal category under the ski lifts' state of safety portion of the presentation. With very few incidents, the importance of capturing near misses was noted. Council recommended that TSSA have staff provide an incident-reporting seminar at the Fall 2015 ski conference.

13. Risk Based Information Decision Making (RIDM)

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, S. Mangalam provided an overview of the process of using RIDM in the ski lifts sector.

It was clarified that external factors do not influence risk based scheduling approach, which is based on orders issued related to non-compliances identified during prior inspections. The risk associated with each order and how it was determined were further discussed.

The conflict resolution process for challenging orders issues posted on TSSA's public website, was discussed. It was also mentioned that TSSA ombudsman could be accessed to obtain assistance.

14. Enforcement/Inspection/Reporting

There was no reporting under this category.

15. Ontario College of Trades (OCOT)

E. White reported to council with more information on the Dean Review of OCOT, noting that it will focus on the scope of practice of trades and the process and criteria for review panels discussing the classification or reclassification of trades as compulsory or voluntary. TSSA's position is to have no overlapping regulatory oversight within the same industry and this has been communicated to the Dean Review. While it was noted that the formal consultation process to provide a written submission ended March 13, 2015, additional opportunities for input were identified and discussed.

Further discussion clarified that in regards to TSSA requirements mechanics-in-training and the requirements for the apprenticeship program the documentation (skills passport) has in the past been harmonized.



Technical Standards and Safety Authority
Minutes of Ski Lifts Advisory Council Meeting
on March 26, 2015

ACTION: TSSA will share its submission to Tony Dean's review of OCOT with the council.

16. Mechanics/Licensing/Training /Education

K. Nichol reported to council the issue of the current continuing education. Council highlighted the current practice and ways to improve the continuing education in the industry. This issue will be further discussed at the TCAB.

17. Questions on Information and Other Businesses

Membership renewal: K. Nichol renewed his membership for another term. Alvin Weatherevall will replace R. Sheridan who resigned today.

ACTION: A. Weatherevall will be invited to the next meeting.

18. In Camera

Council members met *in camera* without TSSA's staff and guests.

19. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 12:30 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015.**