INTRODUCTION

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) regulates safety in Ontario in a proactive, prevention-based manner. In order to provide strategic oversight and management of safety regulations and issues, TSSA actively solicits advice from key industry stakeholders within regulated industries through TSSA advisory councils.

To ensure safety services are developed in context, advisory councils provide a forum through which TSSA consults with industry relative to its safety services, gaining valuable input to guide TSSA decision-making and operations.

Composed of stakeholder representatives from TSSA-regulated industries, the advisory councils work with TSSA to:

- support existing safety initiatives;
- identify industry-specific issues;
- collaborate on policies to enhance safety; and
- improve service delivery and customer relationships.


Advisory councils remain important allies in the evolution of TSSA toward becoming the world leader in public safety services.

ORIGINS OF THE SKI LIFT ADVISORY COUNCIL

With the divestiture of the Technical Standards Division in 1996, TSSA became the not-for-profit, self-funded delegated administrative authority under the Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000, assuming responsibility for public safety services in four mandated sectors, including ski lift operations. The Ski Lift Advisory Council was formed in November 2003 to advise on strategic matters affecting the industry.

COMPOSITION

The Ski Lift Advisory Council is made up of 13 representatives from the ski lift industry, including ski resort services, ski lift manufacturers and engineering services, as well as insurance and consumer representatives.
**SKI LIFT ADVISORY COUNCIL’S MANDATE**

The Council’s mandate is to facilitate effective consultation between TSSA and the ski lift industry, providing ongoing opportunities to enhance safety initiatives. The collective mandate of advisory councils is to advise the President and CEO of TSSA on safety services within their respective regulated sectors.

**STRUCTURE**

Advisory council members elect potential members upon recommendation of TSSA and the Council Chair overseen by TSSA’s President and CEO. When openings occur, sitting members are encouraged to submit industry representative names for consideration and a call for nominations is posted on TSSA’s website. Members generally serve for renewable, three-year terms. Members-at-large elect the Council Chair upon the term expiration of the current Chair.

Typically, technical initiatives arising at the Council are delegated to technical committees known as risk reduction groups, and training and certification advisory boards.

**TSSA INVOLVEMENT**

Operating within an advisory role, the council remains industry-led and driven. TSSA provides facilities for regular and technical committee meetings, administrative support to oversee TSSA commitment to council activities, and coordinates TSSA-council interaction.

**MEETINGS**

The Ski Lift Advisory Council generally meets twice each year. Meetings are usually held at TSSA’s headquarters in Toronto.

**BENEFITS TO INDUSTRY**

TSSA’s councils provide industry with a two-way channel of communication. The Ski Lift Advisory Council additionally seeks key stakeholder involvement in the ongoing development of safety solutions impacting the industry. Some of the Council’s most significant achievements are:

- public education initiatives with ‘Look, Load, Lower’/‘Lift, Stand, Leave’;
- development of inspection cycles based on risk management principles; and
- successful communication with industry issues regarding Ministry of Labour inspection and enforcement, ageing ski lift ruling, and various manufacturers’ safety alerts.

**HOW TO JOIN THE SKI LIFT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

TSSA and its partners in the ski lift sector are keen to attract and retain the highest calibre representatives for the advisory council. Should a vacancy exist prior to or upon completion of a renewable three-year term within the council, eligible applicants will be duly considered. Members are selected for their ability to represent a significant portion of the overall spectrum of views impacting safety in the ski lift sector, as well as an ability to plan and implement creative solutions to today’s complex safety issues.

If you are interested in joining the Ski Lift Advisory Council, or know of an ideal candidate, please contact the TSSA Council Coordinator at 416-734-3300.

For further information, please visit the TSSA website at www.tssa.org and click on the Ski Lift Advisory Council link.

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