

IMPORTANT CHANGES

On December 13, 2019, the Government of Alberta announced changes to the requirements for health and safety committees (HSCs) and representatives.

Key changes include:

- Employer-based, rather than site-based, requirements for HSCs and HS representatives.
- Elimination of the Part 1 prerequisite HSC/HS representative training.



NOTE: Employers have until January 31, 2020 to comply with the changes.

Those parties where a collective agreement exists will not be subject to the new rules until the agreement expires.

WHAT CAN SUPERVISORS DO?

- Ensure you communicate to workers that they have the right to participate in work site health and safety.
- Support the rights of workers.
- Ensure you know the 2019 requirements.
- Establish an HSC or HS representative if work lasts more than 90 days, dependent upon number of workers.
- Where an HS representative is present, ensure that person is accessible to workers.
- Know how to contact the health and safety committee members, where one exists.
- Complete the mandatory training if required.

WHAT CAN WORKERS DO?

- Know your rights: the right to know, to participate, and to refuse dangerous work.
- Bring up health and safety issues or concerns to your supervisor or applicable HSC or HS representative.
- Participate with the HSC where one is established.
- Be familiar with the HSC, take the time to read committee meeting minutes.

REFERENCES

- [Alberta work site health and safety committees and representatives](#)
- [Online training for H&S co-chairs and representatives](#)