

2023 Annual Report for WorkSafeBC

ENERGY SAFETY CANADA BC

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1.0 Executive Summary

Energy Safety Canada (ESC) is pleased to present the following report on the delivery of 2023 activities in British Columbia (BC). ESC's Fort St. John office provides the energy industry in BC with safety resources and training.

ESC had several new initiatives in 2023, including outreach to employers new to ESC's 5 funding Classification Units (CUs), exploring naturally aligned sectors to potentially bring into the organization's funding portfolio, an education campaign to increase awareness of musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs), and a multifaceted approach to tackling the issue of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) in industry.

The extensive wildfire season in Northeastern BC posed significant challenges in 2023 as industry pulled its attention away from some of ESC BC's initiatives to support managing the fires.

ESC continued its support of regional industry employers through 19 employer consultations to help companies improve their safety performance, providing training and workshops, Certificate of Recognition (COR) information and services, and additional safety resources and best practices.

ESC hosted several events on key industry issues including Employers' Advisers, Human and Organizational Performance (HOP) and a BC regulatory update.

Focused on strengthening relationships with key industry stakeholders, government and the health and safety community, ESC met with regulators to stay up to date on legislative changes and issues, participated in industry meetings and provided numerous presentations to industry groups.

ESC will expand its industry awareness campaign in 2024 by addressing health and safety topics in mental health and hazard management, putting on its first full-day, in-person safety conference since 2014, and continuing its successful employer consultation program. These and other planned activities will ensure consistent safety improvement in Canada's energy industry.

2.0 Results of the 2023 Health & Safety Association Workplan

2.1 INDUSTRY SUPPORT SERVICE

ESC offers one-on-one consultations to help industry employers identify potential areas for improvement and provide education on solutions. Other supports include online meetings, telephone consultations, data reports and presentations on relevant safety topics.

In 2023, ESC met with 19 BC employers for one-on-one support meetings—some initiated by employers and some selected through analyses of historical injury data statistics, prior interaction with ESC and regional activity level. These meetings resulted in increased awareness of ESC's resources and services and established or strengthened working relationships with the employers.

2.2 NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS (NIHL) CAMPAIGN

The goal of this initiative was to raise awareness of industry's high rate of NIHL and promote resources available to help employers manage this hazard.

In collaboration with 2 WorkSafeBC (WSBC) staff, an occupational hygiene specialist and an occupational audiologist, ESC conducted on-site visits with a number of different employers considered to conduct some of the loudest activities in the energy sector. Noise measurements were taken, recorded and shared with the employers.

The information was meant to be compiled and shared during an in-person workshop, along with other resources and complimentary hearing protection fit testing as an educational awareness tool. However, uptake for the workshop was not sufficient to proceed, and it was postponed indefinitely.

ESC's *Eliminating Hazards of Noise Pollution* bulletin was distributed in fall 2023, outlining regulatory requirements for noise assessments and providing numerous links to additional resources. The resources, such as posters and complimentary foam earplugs, were available in the lobby of the Fort St. John office throughout 2023 to highlight the NIHL campaign.

2.3 OUTREACH TO NEW MEMBERS

ESC connected with employers who joined 1 of ESC's 5 funding CUs within the past few years to ensure they were aware of ESC's products and services, as well as contact information for the Fort St. John office. A total of 183 *Welcome to Energy Safety Canada* information packages containing a comprehensive overview of ESC's resources, including training, COR, the online knowledge hub and company support services, were mailed to these employers.

2.4 EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANSION

The intent of this initiative was to explore opportunities to collaborate and share resources with naturally aligned industry sectors not currently under an HSA umbrella. ESC approached the Mining Association of BC with an offer to share online resources and explore areas of mutual interest. In addition, ESC reached out to the BC Construction Safety Association to discuss collaboration opportunities in support of the pipeline construction CU.

2.5 MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURY (MSI) AWARENESS & EDUCATION INITIATIVE

MSI-related claims have steadily risen in BC, according to WSBC injury data. This initiative focused on sharing MSI data to emphasize the importance of assessing ergonomic workplace hazards, using industry-specific examples to illustrate where they typically occur.

ESC offered 2 workshops facilitated by a kinesiologist who used images of typical industry activities to help employers recognize hazards in their own operations. Employers were provided with a resource overview from WSBC and other organizations, and a customized symptom survey to distribute to their employees. After information related to pain and discomfort experienced during work activities was collected from their workers, the results were summarized and shared with each employer, providing a useful tool for addressing ergonomic risks within their organization.

2.6 SAFETY PRACTITIONER MEETINGS

ESC regularly hosts meetings for those in health and safety roles on emerging issues in BC's energy sector on topics such as regulatory updates, information about new ESC tools, training and resources, and other subjects relevant to industry employers.

The following Safety Practitioner meetings were held in 2023:

HOP for Critical Controls | April 20, 2023

Presented by WSBC representatives, this in-person workshop introduced 13 registrants to the science of human and organizational factors in relation to managing critical safety controls.

Human and Organizational Performance (HOP): What is It and Why Should You Care? | June 6, 2023

ESC presented a full-day, in-person workshop aimed at instructing its 49 attendees on HOP—a safety philosophy steadily gaining importance and recognition in the world of health and safety. Informal discussions followed the presentations, allowing participants to leave with actionable items to begin or further the implementation of HOP in their own organizations.

Employers' Advisers Workshops | July 11, Dec 5 & 6, 2023

ESC partnered with the Employers' Advisers Office to bring several in-person workshops to industry stakeholders on various topics including Claims Management, Incident Investigation, Stay at Work/Return to Work, Due Diligence and Hazard Identification. Each workshop had 10-15 participants.

WorkSafeBC Regulator Update | December 8, 2023

WSBC's 2023 presentation, once again delivered in partnership with ESC, provided an update on industry injury statistics and WSBC's industry-focused initiatives, as well as an overview of incidents and compliance issues. The webinar had a total of 111 registrants.

3.0 Organizational Capacity Activities

This section follows the required reporting elements outlined in ESC's approved HSA 2023 Initiatives Workplan.

3.1 IDENTIFY TRENDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Using WSBC's provincial injury data, ESC identified BC employers to include in its 2023 employer consultation program. In support of ESC's MSI initiative, the Data and Analytics department generated reports and charts for workshop use to illustrate the impact of MSIs on industry's overall injury rates.

The annual regulator update presented by WSBC provided a progress update for the Oil and Gas Initiative as well as WSBC's priorities, guiding the development and implementation of ESC's delivered initiatives in 2023.

In 2023, ESC strengthened its ties with the BC Energy Regulator, participating in a review that evaluated industry's response to the devastating wildfire season. ESC offered support to the BC Wildfire Service in its

efforts to enhance training provided to wildland firefighters who may work in regions where oil and gas facilities are present.

3.2 ESC BC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ESC BC's Advisory Committee includes representatives from industry trade associations and individual BC employers and meets quarterly to review injury statistics, provide insight and support for the HSA workplan and budget, and share updates from industry associations and BC employers. A representative for LNG Canada joined the committee in 2023, offering the emerging liquified natural gas (LNG) sector's perspective.

3.3 ENHANCE TRAINING FOR BC EMPLOYERS

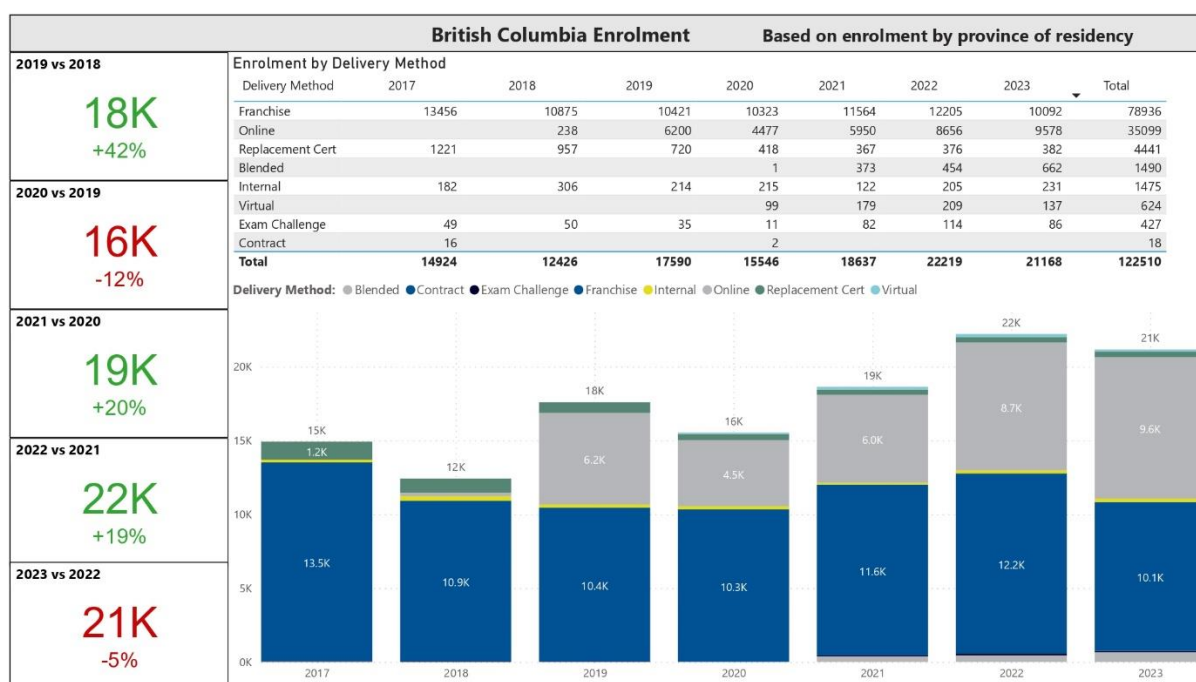
3.3.1 SUPPORT ESC TRAINING PARTNERS

ESC conducted outreach visits with 7 Authorized Training Providers (ATPs) in Northeastern BC. These meetings promoted more consistent training delivery, early identification of improvement opportunities and increased adoption of ESC's standards. Discussions around potentially expanding course offerings and sourcing additional instructors to meet demand were also held.

3.3.2 TRAINING COURSE DELIVERY

Energy workers provide an essential service to industry, and it's critical they receive the training needed to work safely. In 2023, ESC offered courses such as Incident and Accident Investigation, Hazard Management, Certified Health and Safety Auditor Program, and Safety Program Development in BC. ESC continued offering several instructor-led virtual courses and self-directed online courses to improve training accessibility for workers. The number of students accessing online courses is now almost equal to traditional classroom delivery.

Figure 1: ESC BC Enrolment Year-Over-Year (2017-2023)



H₂S Alive® continued as ESC's most in-demand course offering, with nearly 8,000 students completing the course in BC in 2023. As of December 31, 2023, ESC's top 5 courses in BC were:

1. H₂S Alive
2. Common Safety Orientation (CSO) | Online
3. Fall Protection
4. Confined Space Entry and Monitor | Online
5. Wood Buffalo Wildlife Awareness | Online

3.3.3 TRAINING SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

ESC supports local stakeholders through the sale of training materials, access to a student computer lab for online courses and exams, providing replacement certificates and having a classroom available to rent. In 2023, 35 individuals used the student lab, the classroom was rented 7 times by ATPs to deliver industry training courses, and over 380 replacement certificates were issued out of ESC's BC office.

4.0 Outreach Activities

4.1 OUTREACH

The following outreach activities were conducted in BC by ESC in 2023:

Northeast BC Producer Roundtable

Consisting of key safety personnel from owner-operators in Northeast BC, the group met 4 times in 2023 to discuss topics such as exposure control plans, confined space legislation, concerns with green workers in industry, unsafe driving on industry roads and fit for duty apps. The Roundtable appreciated the opportunity to meet informally and share concerns, best practices, resources and information. This group provides a good forum for ESC to promote new products and services, build relationships with producers in the region and request input and support for local initiatives.

Ryder Logistics Group Safety Conference Calls

Biweekly meetings allowed ESC to increase its presence in and share safety information with employers in the transportation sector. ESC presented several topics in 2023, including mental health, line of fire, learning from normal work, heat stress and the 4 Ds. ESC drew on subject matter experts from Ryder to assist with developing logistics-related initiatives and participated in a conference Ryder organized for its members to deliver a presentation on HOP.

Industry Events

ESC took part in numerous BC industry outreach activities in 2023:

- Attended the BC Natural Resources Forum in Prince George as delegates
- Participated in WSBC's *HOP for Critical Controls* workshop delivered to a local producer
- Participated in Xplorefest, a career exploration opportunity for high school students—brought virtual reality headsets for students to safely explore different energy careers
- Delivered a presentation on ESC's activities and resources related to process safety at the Wood Pellet Association Symposium in Prince George
- Participated in the trade show held at the Western Conference on Safety in Vancouver
- Participated in the CKNL Trade Show in Fort St. John

SA&C Support

ESC's BC office hosted a workshop on Formal Hazard Assessments. Current and potential COR and Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) holders were offered the opportunity to book one-on-one meetings to discuss questions or concerns regarding their audits, the new COR audit software and other topics.

4.2 TRAINING & INFORMATION BULLETINS

ESC regularly issues bulletins as part of its ongoing communication with industry. Training bulletins offer information on upcoming courses offered at the Fort St. John facility while information bulletins provide updates on regulatory changes, workshops and industry events. In 2023, 9 bulletins were sent to subscribers interested in BC-based training and informational updates. The BC distribution lists gained 331 new subscribers in 2023, for a total of 2,819 subscribers.

5.0 2024 BC Wildfires

The 2023 wildfires were a major event in Northeastern BC, including the extensive Donnie Creek fire in the region between Fort Nelson and Fort St. John—home to one of the largest natural gas resources in North America—from mid-May well into fall. As a result, industry and ESC BC operations struggled to maintain regular activity during the worst of the fire season.

After the discovery of the Donnie Creek fire on May 12, much of the rural area north of Fort St. John was on evacuation alert or order. The Stoddart Creek wildfire was discovered on May 13, and though it was smaller than Donnie Creek, its closer proximity to Fort St. John resulted in more homeowners and businesses leaving the area. Many energy-based companies took immediate and drastic action to shut in facilities, remove equipment and pull out workers from regions impacted by evacuation orders.

The city of Fort St. John was placed on evacuation alert on the evening of May 15, the first day of a 5-day auditor course offered at ESC BC's office. After conferring with senior management in Calgary, ESC promptly reached out to the students and instructors—many of whom were not from the area—informing them the course was cancelled, to allow them to return home and prepare for a potential evacuation order. The auditor course could not run in Fort St. John again until early October due to several factors including impacts of wildfires still burning in the area.

ESC cancelled attendance at a WSBC conference on May 17-18, as Fort St. John's airport temporarily closed due to high levels of smoke, creating a missed opportunity to promote ESC to WSBC prevention officers in Southern BC.

Heavy smoke concentrations forced ESC to close its doors in BC at certain times as the overwhelmed HVAC system could not adequately filter the smoke particles entering the building. Staff did their best to continue providing service to industry while working remotely.

Industry's attention was pulled away from nonessential activities such as optional training, causing a greater decline in ESC activity through the BC office during traditionally slower summer months.

6.0 Corporate Highlights

ESC remains dedicated to upholding its position as a workplace safety authority, consistently striving to develop the necessary skills, resources, network and thought leadership.

Working towards this goal in 2023, ESC:

- Continued sharing thought leadership insights to influence and change industry's views to a new, more effective way of thinking
- Partnered and consulted with subject matter experts from around the world to understand global best practices in safety
- Showcased its thought leadership and HOP expertise with 2 articles on workplace strategies based in the HOP philosophy:
 - o The Importance of Critical Steps Within Human and Organizational Performance
 - o Put After-Action Reviews in Action Today

In 2023, ESC offered 1 blended course, 14 instructor-led virtual courses, 19 self-directed online courses, and 28 classroom courses across Canada. The organization added 4 new courses with updated and modernized content to provide more in-depth training to the workforce:

- Field Ergonomics
- Gas Detection Awareness
- Special Oilwell Operator
- Wood Buffalo Wildlife Intermediate

ESC's commitment to safety extends beyond training, utilizing data trends, incidents and industry feedback to continue developing its library of publicly available safety tools and resources.

In 2023, ESC published 2 safety alerts, 5 safety bulletins, 5 reports and hosted 8 webinars with over 1,150 attendees in total. Additionally, 2 new videos were released, Energy Wheel Awareness and Confined Space Incident 3D Re-enactment Video, gathering over 9,200 views combined.

ESC has 5 active communities of practice (CoPs) to promote peer learning between organizations, ensure industry stays up to date on trends and provide a space for participants to share ideas relevant to their specific areas of interest.

- Human and Organizational Performance (HOP)
- DROPS Canadian Chapter
- Life Saving Rules/Potentially Serious Incidents (LSRs/PSIs)
- Pipeline
- Process Safety

In spring 2023, ESC hosted the annual Executive Summit and Energy Safety Conference, formerly known as the Petroleum Safety Conference. This year saw 925 delegates, 92 trade show exhibitors and 13 sponsors come together to exchange knowledge and ideas about aspects of HOP and their impacts on industry safety. Attendees who participated in the post-event survey gave the conference an overall rating of 4.4 out of 5, with 90% saying they were extremely satisfied with the conference speakers.

There are incredible opportunities right now for shaping the future of Canada's energy industry. As industry evolves, so does its workforce, and it's industry's responsibility to ensure new workers have the right training and tools to perform their work safely. Safety is not simply a want—it's essential to build credibility, attract talented workers and ensure continued public support.

7.0 Priorities for 2024

7.1 BC PRIORITIES

ESC will work to deliver objectives detailed in its 2024 BC workplan:

- One-on-one consultations with companies needing support within the 5 funding CUs
- Delivery of 2 safety practitioner meetings providing individuals in health and safety roles an opportunity for professional development and networking
- Targeted mental health awareness campaign for energy workers
- Full-day, in-person safety conference in Fort St. John
- Hazard Management campaign to improve hazard identification and effective controls

7.2 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

ESC will continue supporting industry on its journey to improve safety standards with HOP as a cornerstone of its efforts, translating it from theory to actionable strategies with tangible impacts in the field.

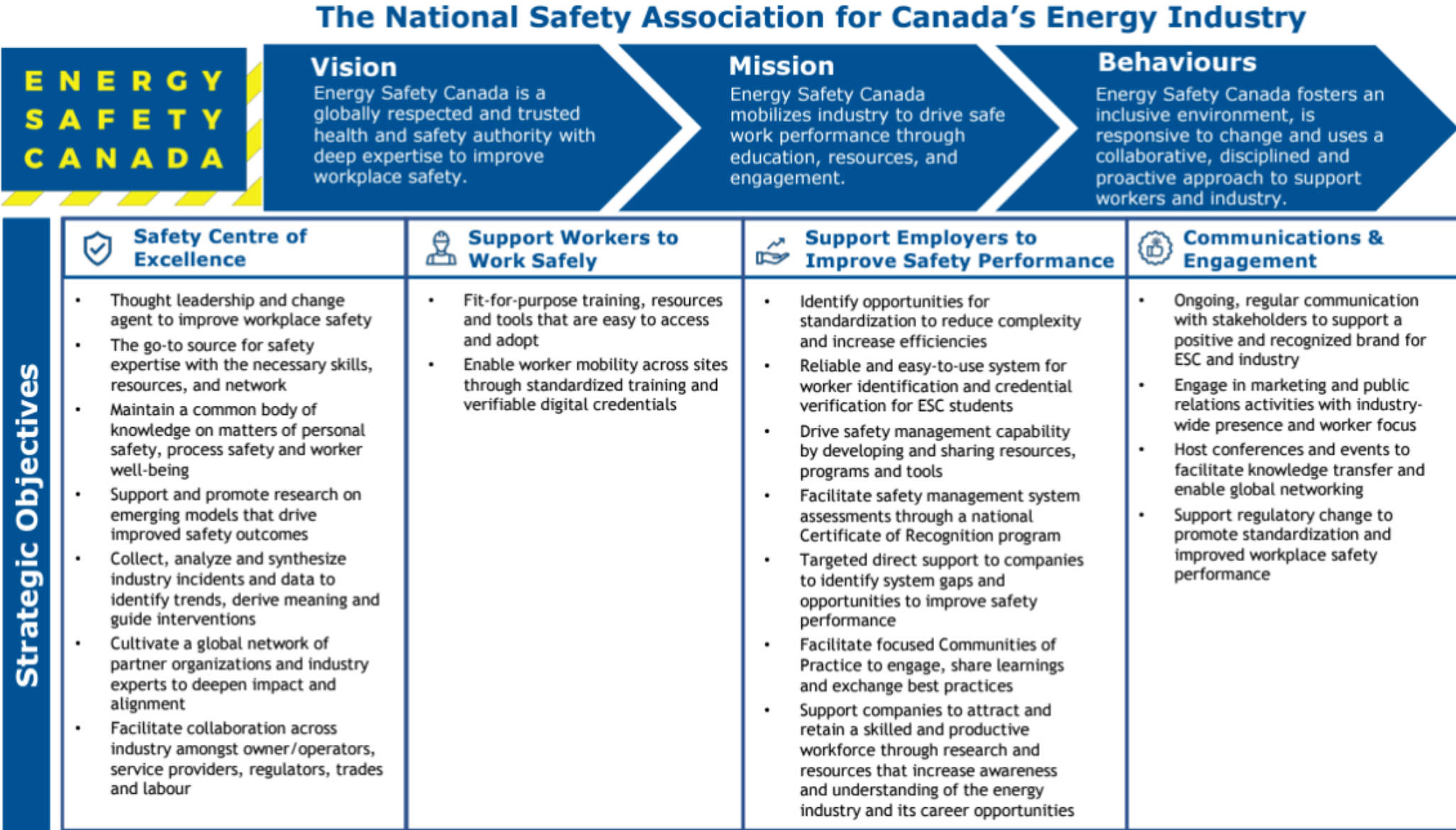
The organization will redesign its website to give users better access to information and resources, continue engaging with experts to further its collective knowledge and provide high-quality training programs and safety resources.

ESC's New Issues Proposal process remains an integral part of the organization's commitment to addressing emerging challenges and trends within industry. Actively collecting key issues and insights allows ESC to identify potential areas of development and improvement, and ultimately ensures the 2024 workplan remains relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of the energy industry.

8.0 2023 Unaudited Financial Statement

ESC 2023 Revenue & Expenses (12 months)

Revenue	Budget	Actual
WSBC funding	620,000	620,000
Other revenue	1,000	1,260
Total revenue	\$621,000	\$621,260
Expenses	Budget	Actual
Salaries - Direct & Head Office support	275,520	266,164
Benefits - Direct & Head Office support	60,480	59,953
Consultants & contractors	10,000	6,282
Accounting & legal fees	-	-
Advertising & sponsorships	16,000	19,178
Board expenses	3,000	183
Building maintenance & repairs	23,000	16,433
Telecommunications & freight	8,000	6,030
Conference registrations & meetings	11,500	3,570
Furniture & equipment	3,000	7,157
Leasehold improvements	-	-
Office supplies	4,000	5,526
Property taxes & general insurance	1,000	-
Publications & materials	4,000	1,500
Rent - Office	134,000	130,723
Technology	40,000	38,966
Training - Staff	3,000	2,734
Travel	23,000	23,797
Miscellaneous	1,500	1,021
Total expenses	\$621,000	\$589,218

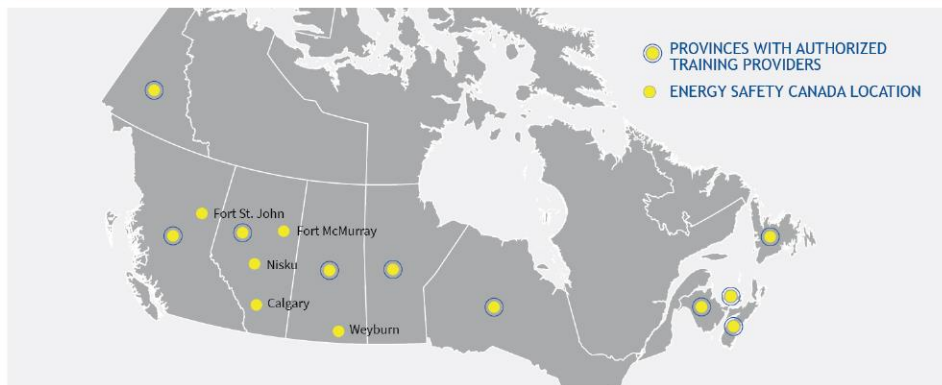


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