

A Message from the Chair of the Board



Left: Larry Bird; Right: George Marshall

On July 20th, 2010 the SHSA Board of Directors met with staff for our second quarterly meeting of the year. This was a chance for us to look at the progress made on our ambitious 2010 to 2012 strategic plan which ultimately has targeted a reduction in claims that we believe will result in a savings of between \$0.75 million to \$1.5 million in direct costs for our industry and up to \$7.5 million in total costs for our industry. I am pleased to report that the SHSA is ahead of pace to achieve this goal and is in fact exceeding this target!

All this has been achieved in a transitional year for the SHSA. We have a new CEO, George Marshall, who has worked with his team to make the SHSA one of the most effective safety associations in the province. We have new safety advisors (David Walker and Alison Zoerb) who bring a fresh perspective and innovative ideas to the table. We have seasoned professionals (Larry Glow, Cathy Davidson and Shannon Pockaj) who have a proven track record in generating positive change in health and safety practices for employers. They are committed to making a difference for the businesses and workers in the service and hospitality sectors and to making all of our lives a little bit safer. The SHSA Board of Directors is proud of the accomplishments of this organization.

But our work is not yet done. We are in a growth phase in this province and that means many new individuals entering the workforce. This also means an increase in the likelihood of injuries as well as the costs (both financial and through human suffering) associated with those injuries. The Board has challenged the staff to expand their programs and services in 2011 so that we are in a better position to meet your evolving needs. This means that the SHSA will be working with even more employers on a one on one basis to improve their safety systems as well as hosting more safety training events which allow you to get your staff trained in important safety related matters at a subsidized rate.

Ultimately, improving the safety culture in this province takes leadership. That's why I stepped forward and ensured that the SHSA endorses the CEO Charter Program in Saskatchewan. I will work with the new CEO to ensure the SHSA takes a leadership role in this program and I want to encourage all leaders within our industry to come forward this year and commit to putting an end to tolerating unsafe workplaces in this province.

~ Larry Bird, Chair of the Board