



FACT SHEET

British Columbia Safety Authority

Corporate Profile

The BC Safety Authority is an independent, self-funded, not-for-profit corporation that:

- Oversees the safety of technical systems for a specific set of industries ranging from electrical and gas to boiler, ice rink, elevator and escalator, amusement ride, ski lift, and railway.
- Spans residential and commercial settings, serving both individuals and businesses.
- Is responsible for administering the provincial *Safety Standards Act*, the *Railway Safety Act*, and related regulations.
- Is responsible for ensuring the ongoing sustainability and relevance of BC's technical safety system.
- Was formed in 2004 to oversee safety services previously provided by the Province of BC.
- Has more than 290 staff who are experts in their field.

Complete List of Industry Sectors

- Amusement rides
- Boilers, pressure vessels and refrigeration systems
- Electrical equipment and systems
- Elevating devices, such as elevators and escalators
- Natural gas or propane appliances and systems, including hydrogen
- Passenger ropeways such as aerial trams and ski lifts, and
- Railways, including rapid transit

Strategy for Safety: The Accident Prevention Model

- Education
- Enforcement
- Research
- Inspection

Our goal is to prevent accidents. To achieve this goal, we have begun to operate following a new Accident Prevention Model. This model puts an emphasis on education and also incorporates enforcement, research and inspection. We believe safety is a right, not an option, achievable through our Accident Prevention Model.

Vision: We inspire safety excellence in British Columbia.

Mission: We partner with British Columbians to enhance the safety of technical systems, products, equipment and work.

Services

All with the goal of preventing accidents, our services include:

- Educating the public about safety issues as well as certifying individuals & licensing contractors
- Supporting clients in the development of equivalent standards agreements, and auditing their safety management plans
- Inspecting technical work and equipment, including collecting information through incident investigation and registering new equipment and designs
- Conducting research, including contributing to provincial and national code development and updating regulations for each industry sector we oversee
- Enforcement, including ensuring that there is a level playing field in being a part of the safety system of BC

Statistics on our Services in BC (for 2008)

- We conducted 293 inspections of amusement rides.
- We had 373 active amusement rides registered with us.
- We conducted 9,578 inspections of boilers, pressure vessels and refrigeration systems.
- We issued more than 65,000 electrical installation permits.
- We conducted almost 41,000 electrical inspections.
- More than 23,000 elevating devices registered with us.
- We completed 2,866 inspections of elevating devices.
- We conducted more than 13,000 inspections of gas installations.
- We conducted 195 passenger ropeway inspections.
- More than 3,000 hours spent conducting safety assessments of the 4 classes of railway operations
- We are one of only 24 organizations worldwide to be accredited by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers as an Authorized Inspection Agency.

Offices

- We have 28 offices serving the public.
- Our corporate office is in New Westminster, and our regional offices are in Coquitlam, Kamloops, Kelowna, Langley, Nanaimo, Prince George and Victoria.
- Information and some services are available by phone at 1-866-566-7233 and through www.safetyauthority.ca.
- www.bconline.gov.bc.ca provides access to e- services for gas and electric permits.

Senior Management

- Harry Diemer: President & Chief Executive Officer
- Trevor Fedyna: VP, Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer
- Phil Gothe: VP, Stakeholder Engagement
- Shelley Milne: Corporate Secretary & VP, Legal and Policy:
- Catherine Roome: Chief Operating Officer
- Diane Sullivan: VP, Human Resources

Corporate Governance

- We are governed by a Board of Directors with 13 members, three of whom may be appointed by the Minister responsible for the *Safety Authority Act*.
- The Board Chair is Peter Cook.
- The Board oversees the conduct of the business, and ensures that all major issues affecting the business and affairs of the organization are given proper consideration.
- A Governance Manual guides the Board and defines best practices.
- Each Director must sign a disclosure statement and comply with the BC Safety Authority's Conflict of Interest Code.
- In 2008, there were four Board committees:
 - Finance and Audit Committee
 - Governance and Human Resources Committee (also serves as the Nominating Committee)
 - Regulatory Review Committee and,
 - Strategic Issues Committee

**For more information,
visit www.safetyauthority.ca or contact:**

Ariela Friedmann
Leader, Corporate Communications & Media Relations
British Columbia Safety Authority
778-396-2131
ariela.friedmann@safetyauthority.ca