



# Fisheries Safety Association

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### ↔↔ NOTICE of AGM ↔↔

The Fisheries Safety Association of NS Annual General Meeting is to be held **March 22, 2012 in Halifax at the Future Inn, 30 Fairfax Drive, (Bayers Lake) from; 10 - 11 am.**

To register for this event, please call (902) 742-7521 or email [info@fisheriessafety.ca](mailto:info@fisheriessafety.ca).

**All FSANS Members are encouraged to attend and participate.**

### FSANS is on the Road!

Drop by our exhibit table or take in a safety presentation at these upcoming shows;

- FSRS 19th Annual Conference, Feb 24-25 in Truro
- 2012 Gulf NS Harbour Authority Information & Training Session, Mar 27-28, St.FX, Antigonish
- Safety Services NS 30th Annual Health and Safety Conference, Mar 28-30, Halifax

## 2012 WCB Rates

Rates for sectors within our industry for 2012 have been released. The rates are based on past indicators of safety performance and cost management over several years. The strides we make today to improve in these areas do not show up for 3 to 5 years. If industry does nothing to address the issues, we will likely face a continued upward trend in rates. As it stands, the rate for the processing sector continues to improve, in large part due to the excellent prevention measure and programs by the processing member firms. Aquaculture stays relatively the same.

However, harvesting sees a significant increase in the 2012 rate, attributable mainly to the number of fatalities and serious injuries in recent years. The numbers indicate the need to work together in a concerted effort to bring about an across-the-board downward trend. Directly we must do more to **protect workers from injury and manage accident costs.**

NEW RATES	2011	2012	Change
SIC 311 Salt Water Fishing	\$7.50	\$7.85	↑ 4.67%
SIC 321 Aquaculture	\$5.70	\$5.71	↑ slightly
SIC 1021 Seafood Processing	\$3.73	\$3.17	↓ 15% <b>Good Work!</b>

## NS Fisheries Sector Council Training Initiatives

We live in an increasingly regulated world and going fishing is not as simple a task as it may have been years ago. Transport Canada Marine Personnel Regulations which came into effect on July 1, 2007 and continue to be phased in, indicate that fishing vessels must have on board and employ a certified master. Vessels at sea for extended periods of time where the Master rests must also employ a second qualified person to keep deck watch.

The NSFSC has received funding from the NS Department of Labour and Advanced Education which is being used to help fishermen pay for the training they need to meet the requirements. Under the current project which started September 13th, 2011 the NSFSC is able to pay half of the training cost of authorized courses. Information regarding the program has been distributed through various industry associations throughout the province. Courses currently eligible for funding include MED-A1, ROC-MC, SVOP and SEN-L. To date approximately 400 fishermen have taken advantage of this program. If you would like more information on this initiative, please call 902-742-6167.

## First Aid Kits Now Available!

Through an arrangement with St. John Ambulance we are now able to offer first aid kits to FSANS Members at substantially reduced prices. The #3 kit meets the minimum requirements for a worksite with up to 49 employees (Other sizes available upon request).

According to the Occupational H&S Act; An adequate number of first-aid kits must be provided by an employer... The kits must be placed near the work area, be easy to reach and available at all times.

Contact the Fisheries Safety Association of NS office to arrange to get yours today!



For more information on first aid requirements, please visit:  
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/lae/healthandsafety/docs/FirstAid.pdf>

## Them's the BRAKES!

Do you have a vehicle with air brakes? If so, you may be interested in attending one of the 8 **Air Brake Adjustment Education Sessions** being conducted throughout the province between Feb 21 - Mar 2. The 4-hour course is \$80.

Contact the NS Trucking Safety Association tollfree at 1-888-329-9660, email [safety@nsts.ca](mailto:safety@nsts.ca) or visit their website: [www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca).

## Contact Us

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## Managing Injury Costs

The best way to avoid costs associated with a workplace injury is to prevent the injury from occurring in the first place. Safety does pay, and makes good business sense. **For every dollar put into prevention, there is a 400% return on investment** (OSHA).

Even should an injury or loss occur, the focus must remain on prevention. A comprehensive accident/incident investigation must be conducted as soon as possible following the event to identify all probable causes and contributing factors. Each of these findings must be followed up, and appropriate corrective measures implemented to prevent it from happening again: RE-action becomes PRO-action.

Meanwhile, the injured worker must be treated effectively and managed with attention to timely rehabilitation, and early and safe return to work.

## Administrative Penalties Regulation

The Health and Safety Division of the Department of Labour now has the power to assign financial penalties following a workplace inspection where a violation of a health and safety law is found. And it will often make no difference whether the identified contravention is corrected immediately. Once the Order is issued, the Administrator may impose a fine. The intent of this system is to act as a deterrent: to encourage compliance with OH&S law. The result so far has been less than desirable, at least for those that have been penalized. Employees, supervisors and employers are at risk under this scheme. The best way to avoid a penalty is to ensure you and your employees follow required health and safety practices.

To get more information on administrative penalties, search Knowledge Base at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/lae/kb/>  
For help with your health and safety program, please contact the Fisheries Safety Association of NS today!