



SafeCare BC: Summary of Accomplishments - 2015

SafeCare BC was established by the continuing care sector in 2013 to create safe workplaces for employees by:

- promoting a culture of safety
- providing health and safety education to employers and employees
- promoting safety leadership and collaboration with stakeholders across the sector
- establishing industry-specific health and safety programs and management systems
- promoting effective and collaborative return-to-work and stay-at-work initiatives

While SafeCare BC is still a very young organization, we are already making a positive impact on the safety of continuing care staff and the quality of seniors care in BC.

More than 850 employer representatives, front-line workers and seniors care partners attended 25 SafeCare BC special events and training workshops over the past year and, according to a recent province-wide survey, 75 per cent of our members report that they have changed or are changing how they work as a result of their engagement with SafeCare BC.

Here are some examples of other accomplishments over the past year:

Sector Leadership

- establishing Technical Advisory Committee of industry leaders to help guide the development of training programs and develop policy templates for violence prevention, safe resident handling and infection control
- releasing comprehensive Injury Trend Report in collaboration with WorkSafeBC to provide a baseline that will help measure the future impact of SafeCare BC programs and services
- initiating the first meeting of provincial safety associations which took place in conjunction with the Canadian Alliance for Long-Term Care (CALTC) in Prince Edward Island
- organizing a province-wide summit focused on preventing workplace violence
- adding a home support representative to SafeCare BC's Board of Directors
- appointing a Director of Programs and Sector Services to develop, coordinate and deliver a diverse range of workplace health and safety programs





- introducing first province-wide member-survey to help guide SafeCare BC training and awareness activities for 2016
- maintaining interactive and informative web-site that received over 42,000 page views in 2015 and social media platforms with nearly 400 followers and nearly 1,500 posts

Training Opportunities

- organizing 6 dementia care forums in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Society of B.C.
- hosting 7 violence prevention workshops for SafeCare BC members across the province
- organizing 3 safety culture and 3 safe resident handling sessions for long-term care staff
- launching PEER Resource network pilot project with WorkSafeBC in that featured 2 small groups of 5-7 care providers sharing best practices and return-to-work procedures
- developing a comprehensive training module in partnership with the BC Federation of Labour focused on providing Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees across the province with access to relevant, quality education and training opportunities
- establishing a new audit tool that employers can use to assess gaps in their safety system and build monitoring capacity within their own organization

Awareness

- Teleforum with SafeCare BC members as part of province-wide awareness campaign to end-bullying in the workplace
- hosting high-profile safety workshops at BC Care Providers Annual Conference for over 400 attendees
- province-wide teleconference with SafeCare BC members in association with the introduction of Bill 9 which expands WorkSafeBC's power to deal with non-compliance and increase an employers' work place health and safety obligations
- leading province-wide Be Care Aware campaign in October which included the distribution of safety kits to SafeCare BC members
- organizing a series of well-attended public forums that included presentations on person-centred care and the establishment of an innovative 'dementia village' model in Europe
- publishing success stories featuring BC Care providers implementing best safety practices

