



# SAFETY ALERT & BULLETIN OF THE MONTH

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## Updates to First Aid Regulations

Updates to the First Aid requirements in the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations are coming into effect on **November 1, 2024**.



Here's what you need to know about these important changes:

- Includes a focus on improving first aid services at less accessible and remote workplaces, which includes most forestry sites.
- A new *First Aid Assessment Process* has been developed to help employers complete both these steps. The assessment must now be done in consultation with workers (the Worker Safety Representative, Joint Health and Safety Committee or other workers). This involves two steps:
  - Step 1. Determining the minimum levels of first aid required
  - Step 2. Looking at the unique characteristics of the workplace and deciding on what additional first aid services are required
- Whereas previously minimum levels of first aid were calculated based on 20 mins travel to a *hospital*, they are now based on 30 mins surface travel time to the nearest *ambulance station*.
- More emphasis is placed on *written First Aid Procedures*. Now is a good time to review and update these procedures to make sure they meet the new regulations.
- The first aid “Level 1, 2 and 3” terminology has been replaced by “Basic, Intermediate and Advanced” and applies to both first aid kits and first aid attendant levels. Both the kits contents and training have changed. However, first aid kits do not need to be replaced, simply adjusted to meet the new CSA kit requirements and current first aid certificates will remain valid until their regular expiration date, after which certification will need to met based on the updated first aid training requirements.
- The minimum first aid requirements for some worksites have changed, especially for typical forestry worksites with lower numbers of workers. This means that you may identify that you need different levels of first aid supplies, transportation and first aid attendants for your site in your new



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first aid assessment. For example, where before you may have needed a Level 1 first aid attendant and a Level 1 first aid kit, you may now need an Intermediate First aid Attendant with Transportation Endorsement and an Intermediate first aid kit.

- Employers are responsible for identifying if any unique characteristics exist on their worksites and implementing additional first aid services *beyond the minimum* to account for these characteristics. For example, if your worksite is very remote, you may need extra first aid supplies to get injured workers to help.
- An annual first aid drill is now required. This requirement is *in addition* to the annual emergency drill already required by regulation.

## FIRST AID REGULATORY CHANGES: A FOREST INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-2:30 PST

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Learn more by registering for our free webinar hosted by WorkSafeBC's Darcy Moshenko and Troy Lockhart. They will explain the rationale behind the updated First Aid regulations and review key amendments to help employers ensure compliance.

### Key components of this webinar will cover:

Determining first aid requirements using workplace class factors

- Assessing first aid needs based on workplace classification factors
- Preparing a written first aid assessment
- Developing and maintaining up-to-date written first aid procedures
- Meeting training and equipment requirements
- Providing resources available to you

### Additional First Aid Regulatory Resources:

- [WorkSafeBC First Aid Requirements](#) – links to updated first aid guidelines, the assessment form, FAQs and other resources
- [Video – Workplace First Aid: OHS Regulation Changes](#)
- [Video – How to Complete a First Aid Assessment](#)

**20 YEARS BC Forest Safety Free Webinar**

**FIRST AID REGULATORY CHANGES:  
A Forest Industry Perspective**

Join our upcoming webinar and get a comprehensive look into the new first aid regulation amendments for forestry operations.

We'll also provide the latest updates on available resources from WorkSafeBC.

Presented by: **WORK SAFE BC**

Thursday, October 10, 2024  
1:30 - 2:30 PST

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