



What is Partnerships in Injury Reduction?

Everyone wants, and deserves, to have a workplace where they are free from sustaining injury, illness (physical and mental), fatality, loss of income and loss of social status. And it's everyone's responsibility to help create, and maintain, these safe environments. With this focus the Alberta Government works with over seventy partners who are committed to promoting and improving safety and health in Alberta.

These Partners, consisting of corporations, labour organizations, industry associations, community-based organizations, educational institutions and health & safety associations help the Government of Alberta develop and implement measures to improve safety and health, and provide incentives for those who participate and continually improve their work environments. Through superior performance and industry leadership organizations can apply to become a Partner and help guide our province's quest for better workplace safety. The efforts also help to improve the safety and health of non-employees, such as visitors and the general public.

Partners in Injury Reduction (PIR) have developed a series of Standards that help establish minimum requirements for effective Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems. These Standards are administered through associations known as Certifying Partners (CP). There are 13 Certifying Partners in Alberta who are instrumental in the planning and development of improved expectations for safety and health in workplaces. A Certifying Partner helps administer the Certificate of Recognition (COR) program. The COR program means that an employer's occupational health and safety management system is audited against the set of Standards developed by the Partners in Injury Reduction. Certifying Partners cover every industry in Alberta, so any employer has an option available and can select the CP best suited for their business needs. The Continuing Care Safety Association (CCSA) is a Certifying Partner and participates in improving work sites and related activities for all persons.

Certifying Partners use the base Standards developed by PIR when providing guidance and support to employers. These Standards implement Quality Assurance systems and set requirements for the Certifying Partner and employers who participate. Certifying Partners have some flexibility which components of the Partnerships program are implemented for the industry/industries they represent. However, every Certifying Partner program must ensure their program components meet the standards and specific content criteria required by PIR.



The Standards include:

- Types of Audits and alternate compliance methods available to the Certifying Partner and their member employers
- Audit quality assurance expectations of both the Certifying Partner and member employers
- Types of Certificates of Recognition available to member employers
- Training required to be available to member employers through the Certifying Partner
- Health and Safety Auditor qualifications and expectations
- Dispute resolution processes made by Certifying Partners
- Various additional tools and resources to support and guide both the Certifying Partner and member employers.

The CCSA administers the Standards by:

- Providing information to prospective member employers and guiding them through the COR process;
- Supporting existing member employers in improving their safety & health management systems, businesses, employees & communities; and
- Helping to build the health care profession to better serve the people of Alberta.

Up Next The Changing Face of Alberta OHS and PIR Standards

- Alberta OHS changes and how they impact the CCSA Audit Instrument