



# Spotlight – Training Services

Instructor-led training is an integral part of the education that the SCSA provides to ensure workers become successful safety professionals in their field.

All SCSA Training Technicians are certified to instruct a variety of courses on industry-related topics at the SCSA training centres in Regina, Saskatoon, and other regions as requested.

## Meet some of our SCSA Training Technicians!

### Bonnie Austman SCSA Training Technician



Being able to share that knowledge and experience is very rewarding, especially when clients express appreciation.

**Started working at the SCSA**  
September of 2013

**Regions you serve**  
Regina and any other areas in Saskatchewan as required by our training department.

**Background in safety/construction**  
I have safety and construction safety experience in both the commercial and industrial sectors. I've worked as a First Aid/ Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)/ Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Instructor, Emergency Medical Technician, Security Guard, Construction Labourer, Certified Emergency Manager, and as a Safety Manager. I've also volunteered with the Red Cross in Emergency Response, and with the Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association.

Throughout my career I've achieved the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1001, a Health and Safety Administrator designation, a National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation, as well as training in Critical Incident Situation Debriefing (CISD) and Critical Incident Situation Management (CISM).

**Favourite safety topic**  
Safety in general. As a safety professional, I have witnessed many accidents throughout my career. Being able to share that knowledge and experience is very rewarding, especially when clients express appreciation for what they've learned and are

able to share that knowledge in their workplaces and at home.

**Favourite safety course**  
Basic Training Techniques is my favourite safety course to teach. It's exciting to see clients come out of their shells. During the introductions they are already nervous about having to speak in front of other people, but by the end of the two-day course, they are able to confidently stand in front of the class and deliver a ten-minute presentation.

**Favourite part of your job**  
I enjoy interacting with our clients as they go through the classes and assisting them in all of the aspects involved with putting their health and safety programs together. Whether it's dealing with their concerns for the Certificate of Recognition (COR™)/ Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) programs, the Leadership for Safety Excellence (LSE) Proficiencies, or the self-audits, it's great to watch their learning experiences becomes a positive one.

**A question(s) you get asked a lot**  
How long would it take me to get my Health and Safety Administrator (HSA) or National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation and what do I have to do to get it?

**Challenges you see in construction safety**  
Having people understand their roles and responsibilities within all aspects of safety. Many people don't realize what their roles and responsibilities are in the workplace. For many years, Saskatchewan was behind in safety, and with all the new construction taking place now, companies are starting to realize how their safety programs effect their employees. As we move forward, we need to ensure that we have all the avenues available to the industry.

**Current goals as a Training Technician**  
To ensure that clients are taking away from the classes what is required of them or their companies to promote and contribute to the safety of their employees.

**Recent accomplishments**  
Receiving my National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation after three years of procrastinating!

## Mark Fesciuc SCSA Training Technician



My favourite part of my job is when I see students actually understand why they need to have safety.

### Started working at the SCSA

October of 2011

### Regions you serve

All of Saskatchewan

### Background in safety/construction

I owned my own home building construction company from 2007-2011. We were going through the process of becoming Small Employer Certificate of Recognition (SECOR) certified because I wanted to make sure the six kids I had working for me went home alive at the end of the day.

### Favourite safety topic

Hazard assessments and control. Safety boils down to one thing and one thing only — hazard assessment and control. Everything we do in safety is based on recognizing hazards and putting in the appropriate controls.

### Favourite safety course

I don't have a favourite course. I enjoy aspects of every single one differently. Leadership for Safety Excellence (LSE) because it helps a supervisor understand his responsibilities; Safety Management because it helps the owner of the company realize they have to be committed to safety; Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) because it's my pet peeve in safety. People don't take it seriously.

### Favourite part of your job

My favourite part of my job is when I see students actually understand why they need to have safety. If I can get one person to come and tell me that it makes sense — that's enough reason for me to do what I do.

### A question(s) you get asked a lot

Why? Why do I need to have a safety program? Why do I need to spend money? Why? Why? Why? And what I say to them is, why not? I had an owner of a company ask me how much is safety going to cost them, and I said a funeral costs about what \$15,000; how much is safety worth?

### Challenges you see in construction safety

Challenges that I see right now are people who are not properly educated and/or not using the training the way it is intended. People are still getting killed on the job. If they have the proper

training and use it, we could go a long way to try and achieve Mission: Zero.

### Current goals as a Training Technician

To make sure we have the best quality safety training available for anyone who needs it. Currently I'm going through and getting my gold seal National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation to further build on my accreditation.

### Recent accomplishments

I ran into someone recently who recognized me from class and approached me to let me know that I had actually saved his life. I had taught him Fall Protection and the day after taking the course, he was working on a site where the roof collapsed. He said he had fell 40 feet, but since he was tied-off properly, what he learned had saved his life. That's huge job satisfaction for me. That's why I do what I do.

## Brent Sweeney SCSA Training Technician



My favourite class ... is any class where I can see the moment when someone gets it!

### Started working at the SCSA

October of 2012

### Regions you serve

I work out of the Saskatoon office but I serve the entire province.

### Background in safety/construction

My background in safety was not having safety. I started construction in the late 70s in signal construction for the Canadian National Railway for 11 years, then bounced around for a few years with few commercial construction companies in Saskatoon until I started working in home renovations. I eventually started my own company doing renovations in Edmonton for about five years, until I found road construction in the summer and ice road construction in the winter, in the Northwest Territories. It turned out that was much more lucrative for me. Prior to starting at the SCSA, I also taught and helped to develop other safety programs at the college level, and with a few other organizations.

I had a very serious accident causing an extreme head injury driving truck in Longlac Ontario, which left me unable to do any of the things I used to do. I could hardly talk, walk, or even go out in public. Apart from the frustration I endured from the

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## SCSA Spotlight – Training Services continued

entire situation, my memory was negatively impacted and I had a very long road to recovery over several years. At that time, the Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Vocational Rehabilitation Services changed my life and sent me for retraining. They really went above and beyond to help me. Without them I don't know where I would be today.

The lists of incidents I have been involved in are lengthy and include a crane accident in 1987 which involved a fatality. I am not proud of these incidents, but I feel that all of my experiences have helped me to better understand my students and communicate with them.

### **Favourite safety topic**

Family is my favorite safety topic! Safety starts at home and we forget that way too easily. Do you want your spouse or kids to get hurt or worse? They watch us and if you are doing things around the house the right way (safe way) they will too.

### **Favourite safety course**

All of them! But if I had to pick one, hmmm that's hard. I would have to say Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Train the Trainer, no, maybe Leadership for Safety Excellence or Hoisting and Rigging Safety Awareness. Ok, here is what I think, any class where I can see that moment when someone gets it; all of a sudden they just understand why we do this — that's my favourite class.

### **Favourite part of your job**

Like I said in the last question, my favorite part of my job is that one moment when you can see in someone's face that they get it. It makes this all worthwhile!

### **A question(s) you get asked a lot**

How do I get my boss to buy-in to safety?

### **Challenges you see in construction safety**

One of the biggest challenges that I see is getting workers to realize that WHMIS is probably one of the most important classes they will ever take in their careers. We all work with chemicals in some form, no matter what you do for a living. For too long, employers and workers have been taking WHMIS for granted! For example, when was the last time you read a supplier label, or looked at a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)? Workers need to understand that WHMIS protects themselves and the people around them.

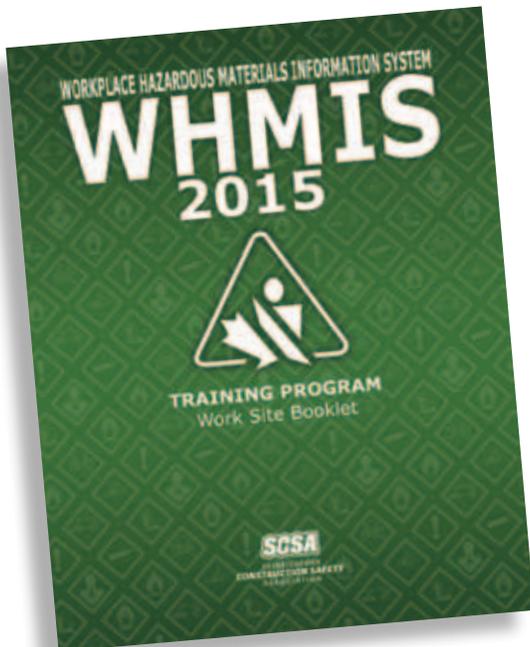
### **Current goals as a Training Technician**

My goal is to do the best job that I can to help workers go home at the end of each day and live the life they chose, not the one the accident forced them to have!

### **Recent accomplishments**

In 2015, I achieved my National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation, but even better than that, I go home every day from work with a smile on my face and the feeling that I might have made a difference. What can be better than that?

## WHMIS 2015 Train the Trainer



The SCSA piloted a new “WHMIS 2015 Train the Trainer” course in late June of 2016.

This updated course enables clients to instruct site-specific WHMIS 2015, which incorporates new legislative requirements that align with the Globally Harmonized System of Classifying and Labelling Workplace Chemicals (GHS).

Clients will receive WHMIS 2015 kits that include support supplies for trainers teaching site-specific WHMIS 2015 to their workers. The kits will include a student training manual, power point presentation, as well as exams.

The WHMIS module in Saskatchewan Construction Orientation Training (SCOT™) will be updated after the pilot process is complete.

According to legislation, the entire transition process from WHMIS 1988 to WHMIS 2015 must be complete by December 31, 2018.

For more information on WHMIS 2015, please visit [www.ccohs.ca/topics/legislation/WHMIS](http://www.ccohs.ca/topics/legislation/WHMIS)