



SAFETY

Rewarding & Meaningful Career

BY TOBIE HAINSTOCK; PHOTOS HENRY GODNITZ

“The construction industry has changed a lot over the years,” says Collin Pullar, president of the Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association (SCSA), “safety is something people see as a serious asset.” He adds that the increased demand for skilled workers means an increased need for people trained in safety.

As more women enter the trades, there is an increase in female workers who

are interested in a career in safety. Pullar notes that the safety programs offered by the SCSA open doors within the industry. “These programs really enhance the participants’ skillset and develop their ability to be leaders in the field.”

One such leader is Milayna Goruick, safety coordinator at Westridge Construction. Trained through the SCSA, Goruick has achieved her National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO) designation.

Goruick explains that establishing a strong safety culture in the workplace necessitates a long-term commitment which also means maintaining that culture once it’s in place. “That goes for everyone in all levels of the organization. The management should also live it and breathe it as well. The workers won’t take it seriously if their leaders don’t.”

Working for a reputable company such as Westridge is a bonus. Goruick speaks very highly of her employer and is pleased to relay that the business has recently been the recipient of the SCSA’s Corporate Leadership in Safety Award. “To me, that affirms that as a company, we’ve been successfully prioritizing safety in our daily operations.”

Since 2004, Westridge has also been involved in the SCSA’s Certificate of Recognition (COR®) Program. COR® verifies that a company has a fully implemented health and safety program that meets national standards in order to identify weaknesses that can lead to costly workplace injuries and incidents.

Her own personal dedication to her career is evident as Goruick speaks passionately about how rewarding her career is. “Safety is about helping people on a daily basis. It’s real world implications, real world improvements; visible changes that are being made.” Those are the changes that ensure that her coworkers make it home to their families safe everyday. What could be more rewarding than that? ■

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