

New IHSA course puts more focus on supervisors *IHSA's Communication Skills for Supervising Health & Safety* course builds on the *Basics of Supervising* program

The Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) is launching a new course for supervisors. While IHSA has long supported its members with the *Basics of Supervising* course, the new *Communication Skills for Supervising Health & Safety* course picks up where the previous course leaves off. It provides powerful tools to help supervisors implement what they have learned in the basic course.

In 2015, IHSA surveyed more than 100 participants of the *Basics of Supervising* program in order to find out what might be needed in the new course. Participants were asked if IHSA offered extended training modules that covered the duties and responsibilities of supervisors in greater depth, which topics would be of the most interest.

Based on these survey results, IHSA has built a fast-paced, participant-centred course that covers

- Vulnerable workers
- Priority hazards
- Communication techniques
- Effective safety talks
- Investigation techniques
- Giving feedback
- Progressive discipline

To obtain a certificate of completion for this program, participants must be in attendance for the entire program, participate in the learning exercises, and pass a written multiple-choice test. To pass, participants must achieve a grade of 75% or more.

The Ministry of Labour's Construction Health & Safety Action Plan cites supervisors as a critical component and key contributing factor to a safe and healthy workplace. IHSA anticipates this new course will help address supervisory gaps in IHSA's member workplaces.

This *Communication Skills for Supervising Health & Safety* course is set to launch on October 3, 2016. Visit IHSA.ca/training to see a full calendar of upcoming courses.

About IHSA

IHSA is a leader in health and safety education. Through skills-based training, auditing, and evaluation, we provide safety solutions to those who perform high-risk activities such as working at heights, working with energized high-voltage power systems, driving motor vehicles, transporting dangerous goods, working on suspended access equipment, and utility line clearing. Programs like *Working at Heights* and the *Certificate of Recognition* are examples of how IHSA continues to set the standard for prevention in Ontario.

By registering a business with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) and paying premiums to one of the rate groups IHSA serves, companies and their employees automatically become members of IHSA. As members, they get access to leading health and safety training, products, and services at no cost or at a reduced price.

Those who work in high-risk industries are encouraged to visit [ihsa.ca](https://www.ihsa.ca) for free online resources that will help them return home safe at the end of each day.