

Enzo Garritano (l), IHSA President and CEO, and Dean Dunn (r), Manager of the Labour-Management Network, present the Gil Samson Award to Andrew Sefton and Blair Allin of the Occupational Disease Labour-Management Committee



AGM focuses on partnerships and safety success

IHSA's 2016 Annual General Meeting took place on September 30 at the Centre for Health & Safety Innovation in Mississauga (CHSI). Along with the formal business meeting, the event provided the opportunity to hand over some well-deserved awards to individuals and firms that have made great strides in health and safety over the past year.

The IHSA Board of Directors was selected for the coming year. The 2016 board includes representation from IHSA's member sectors as well as management and labour bodies. New members were Amanda Hall from Midland Transport, Dave Johnston from Toronto Hydro, and Dave Whyte from Hydro One. (See complete list on page 3.)

This year's event focused on highlighting some of IHSA's significant partnerships. Guest speakers included Bruce Cowtan, professor in Cambrian College's Powerline Technician co-op diploma apprenticeship program. He spoke of IHSA's unique training relationship with the college and how it has benefited a new generation of powerline technicians in Ontario.

As well, Kathy Salandziak, Director of Safety and Operations with Messenger Freight in St. Thomas, spoke of her efforts as the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee for IHSA's Transportation Safety Group. This committee provides direction and guidance to the companies participating in the Safety Groups program and has played a vital role in its continued success. For over 15 years, IHSA's Safety Groups have outperformed the lost-time injury rates and severity rates in their sector, reducing them by 10% to 12% each year.

As always the awards segment of the meeting highlighted the success of IHSA's member firms in improving health and safety. A variety of awards and certificates were presented, including the Transportation Achievement Awards, ZeroQuest™ Awards, President's Awards, and Certificates of Recognition (COR™).

In addition, the Gil Samson Award was presented to the Occupational Disease and Research Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee for its significant contributions to the advancement of occupational health and safety. The committee helped bring forward significant regulatory changes such as:

- Control of Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents Regulation (833)—Now applies to construction projects.
- Section 47 of Construction Projects Regulation (213/91)—Stronger requirements for protecting workers against overexposure to carbon monoxide.
- New Noise Regulation (381/15)—New requirements for protecting workers from overexposure to noise in construction.

The meeting emphasized that through its various components, IHSA will continue to find new and innovative ways to ensure that Ontario remains one of the safest places to work.



Bruce Cowtan (l) from Cambrian College and Kathy Salandziak (r) from Messenger Freight spoke at the AGM