

“A realistic approach to health and safety has led to an effective Joint Health and Safety Committees for the City of Vaughan. PSHSA understands our organization and training is tailored to our needs. It’s an integrated approach for both members and workers. It’s easy, effective and it’s practical.”



Frank Kraljevic, CRSP

HR Specialist, Workplace Health and Safety
City of Vaughan



PSHSA sat down with Frank to discuss what makes a good JHSC and how PSHSA has built a successful partnership with the City of Vaughan:

Q: How long have you worked with the Public Services Health and Safety Association as your Health and Safety training partner? How is it a good fit?

A: The City of Vaughan has been a PSHSA client for 13 years! When you find a good fit, why change it? PSHSA offers realistic services for the health and safety concerns of our organization. PSHSA tailors training that is relevant to our staff. All PSHSA training is on site to allow staff to train in their own environment. They learn about hazards specific to our organization. That is what keeps us coming back to PSHSA.

Q: What are emerging health and safety issues that the JHSC are faced with and how does PSHSA assist?

A: Education and communication are key for accountable prevention. When workers inquire about new issues the JHSC is then prepared with effective solutions. The discussions with PSHSA consultants, provide a forum for members to ask questions and gain insights. Members are the voice for the workers and PSHSA provides the knowledge for them to identify emerging issues. As an example we now have a workplace strategy for mental health alongside our employee assistance provider. JHSC members have input on these issues and can identify where to focus training.

Q: What is important for a good JHSC training program? How does PSHSA deliver?

A: A good JHSC program reinforces the role of the JHSC. Part of that is to show where and how the JHSC fits within an organization. PSHSA’s certification training takes an approach that allows members to understand where they fit within our organization. The combination of training tools and resources helps with integrating the committee’s role with staff. As a result, members are inspired and motivated to learn.

Q: What sets PSHSA apart from other training vendors? How can we do better?

A: Other training providers offer a generic approach. This impacts the effectiveness of a training program. It impacts the way attendees receive information. Instead PSHSA provides specific examples and group work that applies to us. Being able to interpret legislation and relating that to your organization is important. A generic approach makes it difficult to apply in your actual day to day work activities. Ongoing communication around health and safety trends is important. Continue to understand your clients business.