

June 20, 2007

New partnership strengthens efforts to eliminate drug and alcohol use in Alberta workplaces

Fort McMurray... The Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission has joined the Board of Directors of the Drug and Alcohol Council for Safe Alberta Workplaces (DACSAW) in an effort to eliminate the safety risks in Alberta workplaces associated with alcohol and drug use.

DACSAW is dedicated to providing educational programs on alcohol and drug use and the effect on workplaces. Other members of the board include the RCMP, Syncrude Canada Ltd., Petro-Canada, Suncor Energy Inc. and Alberta Building Trades Council.

The objectives of the council include:

- Establishing an alcohol and drug policy for employers
- Providing a forum for discussions of issues relating to alcohol and drug use in the workplace
- Conducting public awareness campaigns to promote the safety risks associated with alcohol and drug use in the workplace
- Researching and promoting best practices in respect to alcohol and drug testing, worker rehabilitation and return to work programs

“AADAC is proud to be a part of this new council,” said AADAC Chair, Harvey Cenaiko, MLA for Calgary-Buffalo. “It will help employers create a safer workplace for all their employees and most importantly it will help those Alberta workers who are struggling with addiction issues find the help they need when they need it most.”

AADAC’s current provincial workplace initiatives include:

- A wide selection of addictions-related print resources specifically designed for workplace issues
- Addictions education and supervisory training for employers
- AADAC Business and Industry Clinic, which offers residential treatment for employees who have problems related to alcohol or other drugs

As a member of the Board of Directors, AADAC will help support the other members of DACSAW through its provincewide network of information, prevention and treatment services.

AADAC is an agency of the Government of Alberta and reports to the Minister of Health and Wellness. It operates and funds services that address problems related to alcohol, other drugs and gambling, and undertakes related addictions research.

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