

August 11, 2009

Effective September 8, 2009, Candys Ballanger-Michaud will become the inaugural CEO of Workplace Safety North, which has been formed to amalgamate MASHA (Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association), OFSWA (Ontario Forestry Safe Workplace Association), and PPHSA (Pulp and Paper Health and Safety Association).

Ms. Ballanger-Michaud will be working with the Board of Directors and staff of the newly-created WSN to ensure that Ontario's employers and employees in these sectors have the health and safety programs and services they need. This will be accomplished by reinvesting in front-line activities through an integrated and streamlined service delivery model.

A strategic change leader with over twenty-five years of experience in the Ontario Public Service, Candys has a proven track record of transforming service delivery while advancing health and safety in Northern Ontario. As Director, Northern Region – Operations Division with the Ontario Ministry of Labour, she achieved reductions in workplace incidents through working with partners within an integrated health and safety framework. Throughout her career, she has assisted numerous Ministries by providing strategic and change management expertise on an assignment basis. She has been instrumental in building the partnership between industry and government in Northern Ontario through entrepreneurial leadership, leveraging information technology, and a commitment to health and safety.

Having moved to Northern Ontario in the early nineties while progressing through a variety of leadership roles within the OPS, Candys has demonstrated the skills and approaches required to improve the culture of health and safety and build a successful business in the context of Northern Ontario. She holds a Business Administration diploma from Sheridan College, and has successfully completed 4 levels of the Certified Management Accounting study program. She has received many awards in recognition of her dedication and leadership towards development in the North.

Tom Beegan
Chief Prevention Officer
Workplace Safety & Insurance Board