





# PARTNERS IN PREVENTION 2026

## REGIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY CONFERENCE

# STORIES & STRATEGIES

Every workplace in Ontario has a story—moments of challenge, resilience, and lessons learned. This conference brings those stories to the forefront, showing how real experiences shape practical strategies that protect both people and businesses. By sharing narratives of overcoming obstacles and translating them into actionable health and safety practices, participants will see how lived experience becomes the blueprint for stronger planning, safer operations, and sustainable success.



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### SESSION TRACKS

To help you maximize your conference experience, we’ve divided sessions into seven categories. Choose the sessions you want from any category, however you want.

- G** General H&S
- HR** Human Resources
- LD** Leadership
- WMH** Workplace & Mental Health
- HZ** Hazards
- JHSC** JHSC
- LL** Legislative & Legal

# KEYNOTES | April 21, 2026



## MORNING KEYNOTE 8:15 – 9:15 am

### **The Future of Performance: Why Mental Agility is Your Greatest Asset**

#### **DR. LISA BÉLANGER**

Behavioural Change Expert and Researcher

In today's fast-paced, high-pressure work environment, success isn't just about intelligence or hard work — it's about mental agility. The ability to adapt, stay focused, and manage stress effectively is the secret weapon of top performers and thriving organizations. But here's the truth: mental agility is directly tied to mental health, and when we fail to prioritize it, productivity, innovation, and employee well-being suffer.

She'll explore the hidden costs of burnout, stress, and cognitive overload — and provide actionable strategies to build a workplace culture that supports sustainable success. Participants will leave equipped with practical tools to work better, lead smarter, and build meaningful, sustainable success — while prioritizing well-being every step of the way.



## AFTERNOON KEYNOTE 2:30 – 3:30 pm

### **The Power of Perception: Own Your Story**

#### **YAN MARKSON**

Communication, Human Behaviour and Perception Strategist

When you're operating in a flow state, it isn't luck or coincidence. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Yan Markson offers a fresh, engaging take on how a growth mindset and self-reinvention can help you spot opportunities, innovate, and thrive in a fast-paced world. Discover how changing your state of mind fundamentally changes your "zone of possibilities."

Backed by behavioural psychology and cognitive science, this interactive keynote shows the real, measurable impact of perception and state of mind on success. Markson leverages live and interactive mentalism and storytelling to illustrate the power of perception and inspires the audience to set intentions, create smart goals, reframe challenges, and take ownership over their story.

# Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors

# TAPREPORT



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**MEDIA SPONSOR**

# April 21, 2026

Registration & Breakfast

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Trade Show Hours

7:00 am – 2:30 pm

## SERIES 1

9:45 – 10:45 am

Choose One

### Shaping the Future of Workplace Safety: Leadership and Technology

**Alex Chalmers**, Vice President, Rutherford Contracting

**Brian Riley**, Vice President, Risk Management, Compass Canada

**Enzo Garritano**, President & CEO, Infrastructure Health & Safety Association (Moderator)

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**TAPREPORT**

In today's fast-changing economic landscape, workplace health and safety is more than compliance—it's a shared responsibility that demands clarity, strong leadership, and continuous innovation. This dynamic panel discussion will bring these elements together by clarifying the distinct legal obligations of employers, supervisors, contractors, and owners under current legislation while exploring practical strategies to reduce liability and strengthen organizational accountability. It will also examine how building a strong talent pipeline, embedding safety culture into leadership development, and leveraging mentorship can prepare the next generation of safety leaders. Finally, the session will highlight how emerging technologies—from wearable devices and real-time monitoring to AI-driven risk assessments and digital collaboration platforms—are transforming safety practices and enabling organizations to meet growing project demands with greater efficiency, confidence, and care.

G HR LD

### OHS Law Update: Trends, Triggers, and What Employers Must Do Now

Ontario's occupational health and safety landscape is shifting fast—and employers can't afford to fall behind. This session delivers a clear, practical look at emerging legal trends, new regulatory expectations, and the hot button issues driving enforcement in 2026. We'll break down what Ontario business owners must know now: evolving due diligence standards, rising psychosocial hazard obligations, the impact of new technologies, and the latest inspection priorities. Participants will leave with actionable insights, compliance ready strategies, and a sharper understanding of how to protect their people—and their organization—amid a rapidly changing OHS legal environment.

LL JHSC

### Unlocking Impact: Creating Safer Workplaces

**Melanie Rego**, Manager Employer Services, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board

**Ian Hunter**, Manager Business Reporting and Analytics, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board

**Christel Wilkat**, Manager, Workplace Health and Safety Services, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board

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**WSIB Ontario**

Learn how you can make your workplace safer by leveraging WSIB services, resources and statistics to inform decision-making and help reduce workplace accidents. Plus, gain valuable insights into how premium rates are influenced.

G HR



# April 21, 2026

## SERIES 2

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Choose One

### Don't Be Bored: Make Learning Impossible to Ignore

Lee-Anne Lyon-Bartley, Vice President, HSE, Dexterra Group

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If you're bored by your own content or team meetings, you may need some ideas to keep the energy up. How can you keep your teams committed, creative, competent and connected. This session will explore the tools, tactics and stories from the HSE team at Dexterra Group, one of Canada's Safest Employers on how they keep engagement across teams and within their own team going. Come and get ideas that you can take back to your teams and be ready to share any great tips too.

G HR LD JHSC

### Psychological Safety as Prevention: How Safer Leadership Reduces Workplace Violence and Harassment

Krista Krziysek, Vice President of Human Resources, Keg Restaurants Ltd.

Adam Palmer, Safety Manager, Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University

Kristy Cork, Specialized Consultant, Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (Moderator)

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Workplace violence and harassment don't occur in a vacuum, they thrive in environments where fear, uncertainty, and power imbalances go unaddressed. This session explores how psychologically safe leadership serves as a foundational prevention strategy. Participants will examine how leaders' behaviors, communication practices, and responses to conflict directly affect the frequency and severity of workplace violence and harassment incidents.

This session will illustrate how leaders can create climates of trust, respect, and transparency that deter harmful behaviors before they escalate. Attendees will learn how to recognize early warning signs, encourage reporting without retaliation, set behavioral norms, and intervene effectively. By integrating psychologically safe leadership practices, organizations can reduce incidents, strengthen employee wellbeing, and build a culture where people feel safe to speak up.

HR LD JHSC WMH

### Contractor Management: Construction Oversight Essentials

Elizabeth Lofthouse, Senior Health & Safety Consultant,  
Workplace Safety & Prevention Services

Michael Nieznalski, Director, Capital Projects Safety & Security, Toronto Transit Commission

Brian Varrasso, Consultant, Infrastructure Health & Safety Association

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This panel will discuss practical, real-world strategies for effective contractor management across complex project sites. Through conversation and case-based insights, panelists will unpack the shared responsibilities between owners, contractors, and oversight teams—highlighting how clear expectations, communication pathways, and structured oversight processes support safe, efficient, and high-quality project delivery.

G LD JHSC



Early Bird Rate: **\$329 + HST**  
Register on or before **March 23, 2026**

**SAVE \$50**



# April 21, 2026

## SERIES 3

1:15 – 2:15 pm

Choose One

### Key to Workplace Health and Safety: Competency, Responsibility and Due Diligence Strategies for Supervisors

**Martin Berthelot**, Health & Safety Account Manager, Workplace Safety & Prevention Services

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Supervisors are responsible for managing workplace health and safety. This session will cover their legal duties under the OHSA, discuss competency, and outline necessary knowledge, experience, and training. Attendees will explore practical due diligence strategies and learn how to foster a positive safety culture by motivating and engaging workers. Whether you're new to the role or a seasoned supervisor, this session offers valuable, actionable guidance to help you fulfill your responsibilities with confidence. Hear from WSPS representatives as they share their insights and answer your questions.

LD LL JHSC

### Building a Feedback Culture to Strengthen Safety, Trust, and Performance

**Sandra Montanino**, Founder and Principal, Navig8 Professional Development Inc.

In the workplace, feedback isn't just a performance management tool; it's a safety imperative. Yet many organizations struggle with a culture where employees hesitate to give or receive feedback, fearing conflict, defensiveness, inaction, or negative repercussions. When feedback is avoided, poorly delivered or received, safety risks increase, accountability weakens, and valuable opportunities for learning and improvement are lost. This session explores how health and safety workers and leaders can build a culture where feedback is not only accepted but expected. A feedback-rich environment fosters trust, engagement, and continuous improvement – key pillars of a high-performing and safe workplace. Participants will gain practical strategies to seek, give, and receive feedback more effectively and consistently, helping to shift feedback from a difficult conversation into a powerful tool for growth, learning, and safety.

HR LD WMH

### Making Safer Possible: Changing the Unchangeable in MSD Prevention

**Christian Bell**, Southwestern & Northern Ontario Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Manager, EllisDon

**Greg Moryc**, Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Supervisor, Enova Power

**Don Patten**, Specialized Consultant (Ergonomics), Workplace Safety & Prevention Services

**Sophie Rioux**, Director Health & Safety, Bath & Body Works Canada

**Peter Vi**, Ergonomist, Infrastructure Health & Safety Association

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In many workplaces (especially warehouses, manufacturing lines, and other high demand environments), changing how the work is done may seem like the only way to prevent MSDs, yet it isn't always realistic or practical. Processes are fixed, space is limited, and operations shift constantly, making MSD prevention a persistent challenge. This panel brings together experts who navigate these constraints every day. They'll explore what organizations can do when engineering changes aren't possible, sharing practical risk reduction approaches, real world examples, and small adjustments that make a meaningful impact.

HZ JHSC



## Hotel Information

### Courtyard Toronto Mississauga West

290 Derry Road West  
Mississauga, ON L5W 1N6

**Phone:** 905.670.1947

**Book by:** March 19, 2026

**Rate:** \$169 Plus applicable taxes and fees  
(1 King Bed or 2 Queen Beds\*)  
\*Rooms are subject to availability.

#### Booking Details:

Please book directly to receive the special rate and quote room block code: "WSPS PIP Mississauga"



Online Booking

[CLICK HERE](#)



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conference experience!

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SOON**

## Mental Harm **Prevention** Roadmap

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**Assess** your current state. **Build** your action plan.  
**Monitor** your results.

Sign up  
**FREE**  
Today!

 **WSPS.CA**

## Small Business Health and Safety Leadership Awards

Each year, the WSIB recognizes the health and safety achievements of independently owned and operated small businesses through the Small Business Health and Safety Leadership Awards.

Join us to celebrate this year's inspiring finalists and winners at the Partners in Prevention Central Health and Safety Conference. The award ceremony starts at 8 a.m.

Learn more at  
[wsib.ca/safetyawards](https://wsib.ca/safetyawards)

 **WSIB**  
Ontario

# Visit The Trade Show | 7:00 am – 2:30 pm

Visit the trade show to meet a range of vendors, network with peers and gain valuable knowledge on new products and services in health and safety.

## Top 5 Reasons to attend the trade show:

1. Network with vendors and industry experts who can help elevate your business
2. Access need-to-know information to enhance your OHS knowledge
3. Expand your network and connect with leaders that can improve your business performance
4. Discover the latest innovations, products and services
5. Have fun! Engage in demos and activities to win booth giveaways and or special offers



For exhibitor or sponsorship information contact:

**Terri Boorne**  
Events Coordinator

Mobile  
Toll Free  
email

289-326-5115  
1-877-494-9777  
terri.boorne@wsps.ca

## Visit the WSPS Booth for your chance to WIN!

### Kobo eReader

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\*Model may vary from photo shown.



# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

## FULL CONFERENCE

### EARLY BIRD RATE

Register on or before March 23, 2026



**\$329 + HST**

### REGULAR RATE

Register after March 23, 2026

**\$379 + HST**

**NOTE: Minimum number of participants must be registered in order to run the conference.  
REGISTER EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

#### VOLUME DISCOUNTS

5% 6 - 9 registrations  
10% 10 - 15 registrations

15% 16 - 20 registrations  
20% 21 or more registrations

Registrations must be made at the same time to be eligible. Cannot be combined with any other discounts or special offers.



## Registration Details

### PAYMENT METHODS

Visa, Mastercard, or AMEX. Invoices available on approved credit only; contact Customer Care at: [customercare@wspcs.ca](mailto:customercare@wspcs.ca)

### REGISTRATION RATES

include continental breakfast, keynote speakers, lunch, conference sessions, and trade show admission. Early Bird rate cannot be combined with any other discount or special offer. Volunteer, safety group, volume discounts and any other discounts or special offers cannot be combined.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received in writing before April 7, 2026, will receive a full refund less a \$50 cancellation fee. Cancellations received after this date will not be accepted and the full conference fee will be forfeited without exception.

- Delegate substitutions are accepted at anytime and must be received in writing to [customercare@wspcs.ca](mailto:customercare@wspcs.ca) by April 14, 2026.
- If the cancelling delegate is a member of a group registration, the remaining group members may be subject to a higher fee as outlined within the WSPS event fee structure.
- Cancellations and/or substitutions must be made through Customer Care at: [customercare@wspcs.ca](mailto:customercare@wspcs.ca)

### BCRSP POINTS

Attending Partners in Prevention 2026 Regional Health & Safety Conference – qualifies for BCRSP CPD points. WSPS is not responsible for maintaining and processing education credits. Visit the BCRSP website at [www.bcrsp.ca](http://www.bcrsp.ca) for more information on CPD point criteria and submission.

### TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Program subject to change without notice. WSPS reserves the right to make date changes with notice, speaker changes without notice and/or to cancel an event.
- Delegate registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; online advanced registration is strongly encouraged. If circumstances arise that require capacity to be reduced, any impacted individuals will be notified as soon as possible and be provided with a full refund.
- Where in person capacity limits may restrict the number of patrons allowed in the facility, onsite registration may not be allowed. WSPS Organizers will provide more details regarding this process closer to the event opening.

### HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES

Protecting the health and safety of our delegates, speakers, exhibitors, and staff is, and will continue to be, top priority at WSPS. Should any level of government or respective agency impose restrictions or regulations that may impact the event, WSPS Organizers will make every effort to communicate such updates closer to the start of the event.



To register or for more information, please visit:

**PartnersinPreventionConference.com/Central**  
**1 877 494 9777**



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**SAVE \$50**

### Workplace Safety & Prevention Services™ (WSPS)

is a not-for-profit health and safety organization in Ontario, serving more than 174,000 member firms and 4.2 million workers across the agricultural, manufacturing and service sectors.

CONNECT  
WITH US



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