

2024 Vermont Safety and Health Council Annual Report

A Year of Growth and Progress

2024 was an exciting year for the Vermont Safety and Health Council (VSHC). Through strategic initiatives, valuable partnerships, and a commitment to workplace safety, we have continued to grow our membership, strengthen our financial standing, and enhance the resources available to our members.

Treasury Report

The council started the year with a solid financial foundation and experienced fluctuations throughout the year.

Beginning Balances (January 2024):

- **Account Ending in xxx9:** \$12,690.36
- **Account Ending in xxx7:** \$3,020.43
- **PayPal Account:** \$1,253.04

Ending Balances (December 31, 2024):

- **Account Ending in xxx9:** \$3,183.73
- **Account Ending in xxx7:** \$5,562.58
- **PayPal Account:** \$1,932.41

While we made prudent financial decisions, our annual review indicated the necessity of adjusting membership and Expo pricing for 2025 to sustain future growth and maintain the quality of our offerings.

Membership Updates

The VSHC remains a vital resource for businesses and organizations across Vermont, uniting members in a shared commitment to workplace safety and health. Membership provides access to valuable training, resources, and networking opportunities designed to enhance safety culture and ensure compliance within member organizations.

We proudly achieved **84 members** in 2024 and extend our gratitude to all members for their dedication to workplace safety.

Board Members and Open Positions

On **December 17, 2024**, the council re-elected **Shannon Prescott** and **Suzanne Kotarba** to the board. Additionally, we welcomed **Dan Whipple** as our newest board member. Dan brings a wealth of safety knowledge and expertise, making him a valuable addition to our team.

As we closed the year, we saw changes within our advisory roles:

- **Maureen Johnson** stepped down as Board Advisor.
- **Amy Morrisette** was offered and accepted the Board Advisor position.

Social Media and Outreach

Led by **Allison Copquin**, the VSHC Social Media Committee has made remarkable progress over the past year in enhancing the council's online presence and engagement. They were thrilled to welcome **Sherri Arvin** to the team as they continue to expand the board's efforts.

This year, they enhanced the interface of the council's Facebook page and a LinkedIn page to broaden the outreach and connect with a wider audience. These platforms have allowed the team to effectively promote trainings and events through save-the-date announcements and eye-catching posters. To streamline communication, they established a dedicated social media team email address and successfully advocated for a VSHC Canva account, enabling them to create professional and engaging content with a consistent brand identity.

The team played a key role in the success of the annual expo, overseeing advertising efforts, organizing registration materials and creating an interactive icebreaker that encouraged attendees to embrace their identity as a "Safety Nerd," "Safety Geek," or "Safety Dork" throughout the event.

Additionally, they maintained an active presence on Facebook and LinkedIn, regularly sharing content to keep our audience engaged. Through these initiatives, they have strengthened VSHC's brand, increased visibility, and fostered greater engagement within our communities.

Subchapter & Interchapter Initiatives

Subchapter Efforts: **Shannon Prescott** volunteered to become a liaison to assist local chapters with organizing and scheduling training sessions, ensuring better alignment and coordination between chapter training programs and the council's offerings. **Katie Fredrick** volunteered to be the liaison between the council and **Jen English** at OSHA Training Institute (OTI).

Annual Interchapter Meeting: Held on **October 17, 2024**, at **Lake Morey**, where members reviewed treasury reports and voted to increase **membership fees and Expo pricing for 2025** to maintain financial sustainability while continuing to offer high-quality training opportunities.

Membership Fees for 2025:

- **50 or less:** \$140.00
- **51-250 employees:** \$190.00
- **251-500 employees:** \$260.00
- **Over 500 employees:** \$500.00

Expo and Sponsorships

Annual Expo: Held on **October 18, 2024**, at **Lake Morey**, incurred expenses totaling approximately \$11,594.13, reflecting an increase of \$2,206.48 from the previous year. The event featured 11 vendors, with the vendor initiative successfully led by **Suzanne Kotarba**. Additionally, the sponsorship program, revitalized under the leadership of **Katie Fredrick**, played a key role in enhancing the event's success.

Sponsorship Program:

- **Title Sponsor:** Richardson Group
- **Silver Sponsor:** ASC Applied Solutions Consulting
- **Bronze Sponsors:** Precision Valley Communication of Vermont & Maureen Johnson

Looking Ahead

As we enter 2025, VSHC remains committed to advancing workplace safety and health throughout Vermont. With continued growth in membership, strengthened financial planning, and enhanced training opportunities, we look forward to another successful year.

Thank you to all our members, sponsors, and board members for your dedication and support in making Vermont a safer place to work!