



# Office of the Chief Inspector of Mines

## CHIEF INSPECTORS' DIRECTIVE

### **Subject:**

First Aid Certification Requirements under the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia.

### **Purpose:**

This directive clarifies the minimum acceptable standards for first aid certification referenced in the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia (the Code), considering recent changes to national and provincial regulations. It is intended to support mine operators, training providers, and other stakeholders in interpreting and applying the Code consistently.

### **Background:**

Recent updates to first aid standards across Canada have led to the adoption of terminology and certification levels aligned with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). In British Columbia, WorkSafeBC has incorporated these standards into its Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulations.

The CSA standards now define first aid certification levels as:

- **Basic First Aid** (formerly Level 1)
- **Intermediate First Aid** (formerly Level 2)
- **Advanced First Aid** (formerly Level 3)

### **Requirements:**

To ensure clarity and consistency, the Chief Inspector recognizes the following as the minimum acceptable standard for first aid certification:

- Intermediate First Aid Certification
  - Minimum 16 hours of instruction (typically delivered over two days)
- Transportation Endorsement
  - Minimum 8 hours of instruction
- Total Training Time: 24 hours

More advanced certifications are also acceptable.

The Chief Inspector does not endorse specific training providers. References to organizations such as St. John Ambulance or the Red Cross are illustrative only and will be removed in future Code revisions.

### **Application in the Code:**

The following sections of the Code reference first aid certification requirements:

1. Shiftboss / Fireboss Certification (Section 1.13.3)

Applicants must hold a first aid certificate that meets the standard required by the Chief Inspector:

- Intermediate First Aid
- Transportation Endorsement

2. Mine Rescue Team Members (Section 3.7.7)

To be considered qualified, team members must hold:

- Intermediate First Aid
- Transportation Endorsement
- Valid Mine Rescue Certificate

3. Exploration Drill Sites (Section 9.3.1)

At least two drill crew members must hold:

- Intermediate First Aid
- Transportation Endorsement

4. First Aid Supplies (Section 3.6.1)

Managers must provide and maintain first aid supplies and services as required by WorkSafeBC. These requirements are now aligned with CSA Z1210-17 and Z1220-17.

### **Future Code Amendments:**

The Code Review Committee is currently reviewing relevant legislation and standards. Upon reaching consensus, the committee will recommend updates to the Code language for Council approval.



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