

**Canadian Agricultural Safety Association Conference  
“Taking Care of Safety is Good Business”**



**How To Influence  
Agriculture's  
Safety Climate**

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# Outline

- Brief look at WS&H in Manitoba
- Current programs & resources
- What farmers should know
- With unlimited resources...
- Closing comments



## A Brief Look at WS&H

- Agriculture continues to be a high-risk industry
  - 46% of all workplace fatalities in ag sector, between 1983 and 2001
  - 1/5 of farm fatalities was under 19 years of age
  - 1/3 were over 60



## A Brief Look at WS&H

- To address the issue, Manitoba developed SAFE Farms

[www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/farmsafety/index.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/farmsafety/index.html)

- Introduced a Farm Safety Officer
- Biggest concerns are seniors, young workers, and those working alone



# Programs & Resources

- **Province of Manitoba**

- Farm SAFE
- Farm Safety Day Camps
- Young Workers Programming
- Safe Play Area Grants

- **Manitoba Farmers with Disabilities**

- Support & information groups for injured person & family members
- Spokespeople for prevention & awareness

[www.fwdmanitoba.com](http://www.fwdmanitoba.com)



# Programs & Resources

- **Manitoba Hydro**

- *Look Up. Stay Clear. Stay Alive.* Program
- Electrical safety tips
- Farm safety walk-throughs

[www.hydro.mb.ca/safety\\_first/farm\\_safety.shtml](http://www.hydro.mb.ca/safety_first/farm_safety.shtml)

- **Farm Safety 4 Just Kids**

- Chapters across Manitoba
- Resources & games

[www.fs4jk.org/](http://www.fs4jk.org/)



# Programs & Resources

- **Keystone Agricultural Producers**
  - Access resources & distribute to farmers
  - Safety-focused articles in magazine
  - Individual districts partner w/ community groups
  - Partner with other groups in Manitoba or nationally for initiatives like Farm Safety Week
  - Develop tools & resources where possible



# Farmers Should Know

- **Business / financial impacts of safety**
  - Good safety decisions are good business decisions
- Importance of coverage & liability
- Primary responsibility for safety of farmer, employees & farm family
- Shortcuts never pay





# Farmers Should Know

- Importance of having a link to someone
  - Never work alone
- Awareness of time / body limitations
- **Just because it's never happened before...**
- Take advantage of the resources & expertise available



# Unlimited Resources

- Provide individual consultations at all farm workplaces
- Funding for farmers to develop & implement safety plans
- Support & expand existing programs & initiatives
- Help safety & health groups work together more closely



# Unlimited Resources

- Target new initiatives to farmers working alone, seniors, and young people
- Expand community-based initiatives
- Improve education to agriculture students
- Research on safer methods of farming & safer equipment design



# Closing Comments

**Questions?**