



The Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia (FSANS) is a not-for-profit association funded solely by employers in their respective sectors. FSANS is governed by a board of directors who are responsible to all stakeholders in SICs 311, 312, 321, 1021. The FSANS's Board of Directors are the safety champions for the fishing industry, who promote communications within the industry by utilizing the FSANS website and newsletters on activities of the association and distribution of best practices.

The Association's mandate is to:

- Enhance safety in the workplace, making the industry more attractive for new employees and keeping the existing employees safe and healthy
- Focus on reducing workplace illness/injury and associated cost

Specifically, the FSANS has focused efforts on facilitating a culture change in OHS within the represented sectors of the industry by enhancing awareness, promoting education, and developing prevention and return to work systems utilizing industry best practices.

The FSANS services delivered are directly aligned to Workplace Safety & Insurance System goals through:

- Working with others through collaboration and consultation, including stakeholders and System agencies, government departments and educational institutions
- Utilizing existing tools developed by WCB/Dept of Labour, supplemented by industry Best Practices
- Making use of existing resources, networks and channels to deliver programs, and, if not currently in place, working to develop Standards for delivery by competent professionals (community college, training service providers, etc.)
- The use of technology for stakeholder outreach (web site, training)

From its inception and carrying forward to 2011, the FSANS is working with stakeholders to identifying opportunities to improve safety in the workplace. Included in this activity has been the development of a five-year strategic plan for the Association, newsletters and communication to the industry, and negotiated discounted training opportunities through reputable delivery organizations.



The FSANS also held workshops throughout the province on the status of the fishing industry safety performance; worked closely with the WCB to provide current relevant information to industry on trends regarding injury incident frequency and severity, costs and assessment rates.

Given the organization was incorporated in late 2009, the year ahead will garner positive results as the FSANS continues to enact its Operational Plan and 5-Year Strategy and to work in collaboration with stakeholders to create a safety culture to promote safety and to protect workers in the industry.