*Updated: January 2023*

Please review this document and as always, if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the MHSA COR Department: [COR@mhsa.ab.ca](mailto:COR@mhsa.ab.ca)

There are 2 notable changes to the COR Program that have been implemented and are affective as of January 1, 2023.

**Full auditing techniques restored (3-validations).**

The use of audit techniques (documentation, interview, and observation) as specified in each approved audit instrument must again be followed. As part of this change:

* The use of on-site data gathering will not be restricted.
* Documentation may be reviewed remotely and/or on-site.
* Interviews may be conducted remotely and/or on-site.
* Observations must be conducted, and may be conducted remotely and/or on site (with the use of remote technology)

For three-year certification, a minimum of 12 months of health and safety system documentation is required. Employers with less thank 12 months of documentation may be eligible for a one-year certificate.

Partnerships in Injury Reduction will continue to monitor any future situations declared as public health emergencies and will respond should measures be implemented that would affect COR auditing.

**New COR audit instrument**

All Certifying Partners have implemented new audit instruments designed to improve the audit process and make the revisions necessitated by the current *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The improvements to the MHSA audit instrument include the following:

* Questions 1.8 had an Interview Validation added.
* The audit questions for Joint Health and Safety Committee/Heath and Safety Representative have been updated and simplified.
* Added a question regarding two-way communication for Senior Management.
* Rewording and clarification to some of the guidelines.
  + New training is not required for these simple changes, however; you should review the COR guidelines in preparation for 2023 auditing.

**New SECOR audit instrument**

For Small Employer COR holders (SECOR), the audit instrument has been aligned with the regular COR instrument and the audit process for owner/operator has been simplified.

* + MHSA has created an EXCEL audit instrument for all Assessors and Consultant Auditors to use. It includes all 3 validations (Doc/Int/Obs).
  + It is being housed on our Bistrainer platform; under the FOLDERS tab – titled SECOR Documents.
  + ALL Assessors and Consultant Auditors will be required to take a SECOR training webinar – at no charge, available dates for the training will be communicated to all SECOR employers, assessors and consultant auditors once determined.