

VPID SAFETY POLICY

The safety of the VPID contractors, landowners and general public is a top priority for the VPID Board of Trustees. This safety program has been developed to ensure adherence to principles of good management practices related to safety. The following safety policies relate to specific instances of hazardous situations within the orbit of VPID's operations. They do not preclude general safety measures as mandated by the B.C. WorkSafe program and put in place by the VPID Safety Committee.

Roadside Safety:

VPID recognizes that roadside work, or working in the "cone zone", is dangerous. VPID will keep required equipment up to date and serviceable for deployment for such curbside work. VPID will pay for the online course for a contractor to achieve proficiency, should that be required.

To keep contractors safe during any roadside work, VPID requires compliance on the following procedures:

- Vests must be worn by all workers
- Cones must be placed on the road upstream and downstream
- Place barricade bars as required
- Use flashing lights
- Place the VPID magnetic signs on vehicles
- Maintain eye contact with any heavy-duty operator of equipment
- Employ flag people where required
- Any hole left on the road overnight must be identified with a barricade and flashing lights used.

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS):

VPID recognizes that the management of chemicals in the workplace poses a significant risk of injury. Hazardous materials may cause serious health problems in workers or fires or explosions in the workplace. WHMIS provides information on hazardous products, as defined and described in the federal *Hazardous Products Act* and Hazardous Products Regulations, so workers can protect themselves. While WHMIS was updated in 2015, responsibilities for employers, workers, and others remain unchanged.

VPID follows WorkSafe BC guidelines with respect to WHMIS. VPID will keep required equipment up to date and serviceable for deployment for such handling of chemicals which may be required from time to time. VPID will pay for the online course for a contractor to achieve proficiency, should that be required. VPID will ensure that all hazardous products are properly labelled.

To keep contractors safe, VPID requires compliance on the following procedures derived from the WorkSafe BC code, notably:

- Participate in WHMIS training programs
- Take necessary steps to protect themselves and their co-workers
- Participate in identifying and controlling hazards
- Inform employers if labels are illegible or missing
- Maintain the eye wash station and use it as required
- Always have both fans on whenever personnel are present at the treatment plant
- Have fire extinguishers checked annually
- Number the ferric chloride container clearly
- Maintain the smoke alarm

Confined Spaces:

VPID recognizes that confined spaces in the workplace pose a significant risk of injury and death. VPID follows WorkSafe BC guidelines and defines a confined space as an enclosed or partially enclosed area that is big enough for a worker to enter. The space may be enclosed on all sides, or as few as two sides. Confined spaces are not designed for someone to work in regularly. They are places where entry may be needed from time to time for inspection, cleaning, maintenance, or repair.

Specifically, such hazards within the VPID realm include: water storage tanks at the treatment plant, manholes involved with the sewage systems, two-chamber septic tanks, treatment plant filter tanks, and pump chambers.

VPID contractors are not allowed to enter any of the identified confined spaces. Alternatives means for dealing with any situations requiring repair work are to be explored.

VPID will keep required equipment up to date and serviceable for deployment for such inspections or work which may be required from time to time. Equipment to include:

- Chest harness
- Tripod
- Breather mask

VPID does not have an air quality inspection device (air sniffer). In the remote event that entry into a confined space must be done, arrangements to be made to borrow the sniffer from the Mayne Island Fire department.

VPID will pay for the online course for a contractor to achieve proficiency, should that be required. VPID personnel will also follow the 5 steps of Managing Confined Spaces as each required job comes up. These involve: identification, warning signs and secure entry, risk

assessment, communication, and pre-accommodation. The Board anticipates no regular confined spaces work and expects notification BEFORE activity if such is required.

To keep contractors safe, VPID requires compliance on the following procedures derived from the WorkSafe BC code, notably:

- File a report in the treatment plant log prior to work, similar to examples provided by WorkSafe BC
- Always have two people involved, one with a working cell phone
- Proof of proficiency of workers and contractors
- Use a gas detector each time work is required
- Have a rescue plan