



July 20, 2018

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Technical Committee for the Development of a CSA Standard on Work Disability Prevention Management Systems

Dear Stakeholders,

CSA Group is launching a project to develop a new Standard on Work Disability Prevention Management Systems (WDP-MS).

The prevention and management of workplace disability is a significant challenge for workplaces. It also has an impact beyond the workplace – affecting individuals, families, and communities. The annual cost of work disability is estimated at between \$1-2 trillion worldwide and in Canada alone is estimated to be more than \$30 billion. The true economic burden is likely substantially higher, given that many working age adults with disabilities who can and want to work are not connected to workplaces and are often not counted as part of the labour force. Every year, tens of thousands of Canadians become disabled and are unable to work, thereby becoming excluded from the numerous health advantages of workforce participation.

The proposed Standard will specify the requirements for WDP-MS that can be used by organizations to systematically manage their work disability prevention management activities. The Standard will include a framework for the prevention and management of work disability at the organizational level, and for hiring and retaining workers with disabilities. It will integrate current research evidence and the viewpoints and successful practices of multiple stakeholders: employers, workers and worker representatives, injured workers and persons with disabilities, clinicians, service providers, Workers' Compensation Boards, insurers, policy makers, and researchers. An implementation guideline will be developed to accompany the Standard.

The WDP-MS Standard will be designed to complement other related management systems frameworks such as CSA's Z1000 (Occupational Health and Safety Management System), CSA Z1003 (Psychological Health and Safety), and CSA Z1004 (Workplace Ergonomics). In addition, the Standard will have the potential to be incorporated into other aspects of an organization's management structure, resulting in better recognition of work disability prevent management policies and practices by different stakeholders within organizations.

A Technical Committee is being established to undertake this work, and we are seeking interested experts to actively participate and contribute to the development of the Standard.

Requirements and Responsibilities of Technical Committee Members include:

- Work disability prevention management knowledge and experience;
- Ability to work in a multi-stakeholder environment, following the principles of consensus;

- Commitment to participate in committee work over a period of approximately 24 months, both remotely and in-person; and
- Commitment to collaboration and network with other stakeholders about the Standard.

If you are interested in participating as a Technical Committee member, please submit your resume and a statement (maximum one page) outlining your interest and demonstrating your ability to contribute to the development of the standard. Please send required documents to Lina Lopez at: Lina.lopez@csagroup.org. **Expressions of interest will be accepted until August 31, 2018.**

If you know of a colleague who may be interested in participating as a technical committee member, feel free to share this document with them. CSA will review all applications over the coming month to confirm the Committee Membership and notify every one of their status.

The first Technical Committee meeting is being planned for early October 2018. Details will be confirmed to the accepted members.

We are excited about this project and look forward to receiving your expressions of interest in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Lina Lopez

Project Manager, Worker and Public Safety

CSA Group

178 Rexdale Blvd.

Toronto, ON, M9W 1R3

Tel: 416-747-2496

E-Mail: Lina.Lopez@csagroup.org