



# Transportation

## Okanagan College obtains funding to train sixteen Professional Log Truck Drivers



Okanagan College, working with the BCFSC, Weyerhaeuser, Gorman Bros., Interfor, Tolko and the Interior Logging Association, have obtained funding through Project-Based Labour Market Training to train sixteen Professional Log Truck Drivers.

Students take part in 10 weeks of theory and classroom training, followed by 6 weeks of hands-on practical log truck driver training under the direct mentorship of an experienced Professional Log Truck Driver. The training program will be based on the Professional Log Truck Driver Program as developed by the Log Truck Technical Advisory Committee (LTTAC) and supported by the Trucking and Harvesting Advisory Group (TAG). Students will be assessed by 3<sup>rd</sup> party assessors who are administered through the BCFSC. The program will consist of 2 groups of students with the classroom portion of the course being delivered to 8 students at the Oliver Campus and 8 students at the Salmon Arm campus.

Log hauling contractors from Princeton, Adams Lake, Canoe and Revelstoke have been engaged to support both the mentoring and work experience portions

of the program. Mentors play a key role in the training and ongoing development of new drivers. There is no substitute for the knowledge and skills already learned by experienced drivers and the success of the Professional Log Truck Driver Program relies on participation by those experienced in the industry to mentor new drivers. Mentors have a minimum of 10 years current log hauling experience in British Columbia and have the following attributes, skills and knowledge:

- Professionalism in all aspects of log hauling
- Effective communication skills
- Ability to recognize, evaluate and control hazards
- Critical thinking
- Willingness to work with students over a period of 4-6 weeks to develop the skills required of a Professional Log Truck driver

The program is followed by a 10-week work experience program component in the Shuswap and Okanagan regions. As part of the program, work experience placements are required throughout the Columbia-

Shuswap, North and South Okanagan regions. Although placement of students with contractors wishing to

hire new drivers is preferred, this is not a requirement. Wages and WorkSafeBC coverage for the students are the responsibility of Okanagan College and are not the responsibility of the work experience host.

Although there has already been response from industry, Okanagan College will begin active recruitment of participants September 30, 2019. Questions regarding participants can be directed to Patty Bruce at [PBruce@okanagan.bc.ca](mailto:PBruce@okanagan.bc.ca).

If you are interested in becoming a mentor please contact Trish Kohorst, Transportation Safety Program Manager at [tkohorst@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:tkohorst@bcforestsafesafe.org).

If you are interested in becoming a work experience sponsor, please contact Mary Kline at (250) 837-4235 ext 6503 or [mekline@okanagan.bc.ca](mailto:mekline@okanagan.bc.ca).



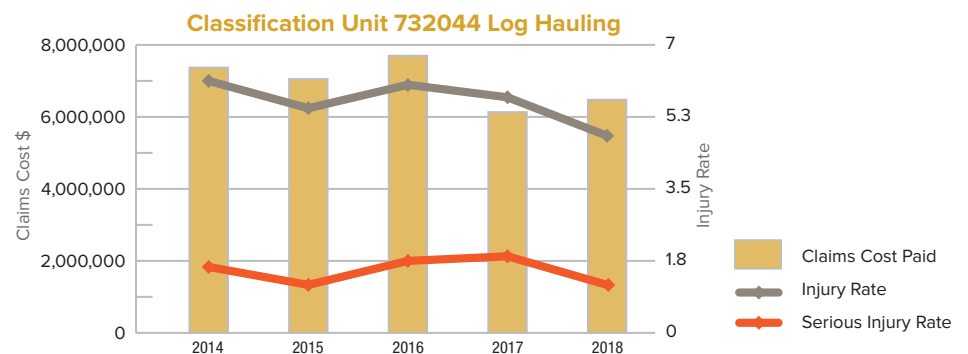
## 2018 Log Hauling Injury Rate Lowest on Record

During a period where the BC forest industry is experiencing some uncertainty, distractions can make it challenging to continue to focus on safety. However, achieving the lowest injury rate on record over the last 20 years is some very positive news for the log hauling sector, and reinforcement that *Safety is Good Business*. Even more significant is the progress made by industry during the last 5 years where the injury rate for log hauling has decreased by over 20% from 6.1% in 2014 to 4.8% in 2018.

Acknowledging the efforts by those directly responsible for achieving this result is paramount to continued success. Professional log truck drivers are highly skilled men and women that are continually required to control hazards in their day to day operation of a log truck. With challenging conditions that can change throughout the day, vigilance is the key to reducing incidents.

Industry's commitment to improve log hauling safety performance through the working groups including the TAG and the LTTAC will continue. The work by member participants has been a key factor in developing and leading initiatives that improve log hauling safety performance.

In celebrating the success of the industry in reducing injuries and fatalities, we need to continue our vigilance as we welcome new drivers to the sector. Focusing on log hauling safety and ensuring that those highly experienced vigilant Professional Drivers who are retiring or leaving the industry are replaced with competent well trained drivers will be a significant undertaking.





## Contractor Innovation in Load Securement Safety

Lloyd Inwood, owner of Inwood Trucking, is always looking at ways to improve the safety of his fleet and make driver's jobs easier. Inwood noted that near misses and incidents were high on the list of reported cases while drivers were cinching loads. Across industry, other drivers also report similar incidents including hands slipping off the cinch handle sometimes resulting in injuries to the face, as well as strains to the back, shoulder and neck from pulling cinches.

Concerned about the future safety of the drivers, Inwood began to develop a new cinch. After several adjustments, his final design is now benefiting a few companies that have started using the *Inwood Cinch*.

The cinch features:

- Longer, offset, forged handle for more leverage when closing.
- Slightly angled handle will not snap closed on the hand (straight handles can do that).
- When the cinch is open, geometry allows handle to stand upright when attaching to the chain on a log bundle wrapper.
- 1" round ball on the end of handle stops hands and wet gloves from slipping off.
- Forged-in chain hook for easy, positive locking of the handle (traditional method is to wrap the chain around the handle or use a separate wire restraint).

Several contractors have piloted the cinch with positive feedback. Justin Blackwell, an Independent Owner/Operator, piloted one cinch for a week and immediately replaced all his cinches with the *Inwood Cinch*. Marty Hiemstra, Business Manager of Lo-Bar Log Transport Co Ltd., indicated that Lo-Bar intends to continue to use this product based on the feedback from Russ Groves, one of Lo-Bar's drivers who piloted the cinch in their operations and believes the product "should be only one we ever use". Groves provided a detailed description of his experience with the new product:

- Both the length of the handle and the bend in the handle provide more leverage in pulling. This means less strain on the driver.
- The ball on the end means the cinch is less likely to slip from the drivers hand and therefore is less likely to cause injury.
- There is a built in chain hook which allow excess chain to easily be wrapped around the cinch when in use and secured on the hook. This makes it virtually impossible for the cinch to come undone.

- They are more visible to the driver, especially on the rear with wide bunks due to both the hi-vis green color and the bend in the handle. A visible cinch means the driver can see if it is becoming loose which ultimately means they can make their load safer by keeping them tight.

Lloyd has partnered with Prolenc Manufacturing to make the *Inwood Cinch* available to others in the industry. Now available through several retailers including trucking manufacturers and equipment retailers, this is one great example of how innovations by local BC log hauling contractors have created solutions that improve safety in daily operations. 🌱



# HeadsUpGuys – A Comprehensive Resource Supporting Men Facing Depression

By age 40, about 50% of the population will have or have already dealt with mental illness. There are many misconceptions about mental health that make it difficult for men, in particular, to talk to others and take charge of their health. It's not a sign of weakness, it's a fact. Men get depressed.

Depression affects millions of men every year and is the leading cause of disability worldwide. **HeadsUpGuys** is a Canada-wide initiative to develop resources, services and programs to improve the mental health and well-being of men.

The **HeadsUpGuys** website provides information, tips and advice to support men in their fight against depression. The goal is to become the first resource men look to when facing depression and the first resource friends and family members look to when concerned about a man they care about. To learn more, visit [www.headsupguys.org](http://www.headsupguys.org).

HEADS UP GUYS    DEPRESSION IN MEN    TAKE ACTION    YOU'RE NOT ALONE    FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY

**FOR MEN. ABOUT MEN.**

**BETTER STARTS HERE**  
HEALTH STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING AND PREVENTING DEPRESSION

TAKE SELF CHECK NOW



## Register for a Free Road Safety Workshop in Prince George, BC

You are invited to attend a complimentary, 4 hour workshop to improve the safety of your employees who drive for work

**Workshop:** Introducing Road Safety Tools and Resources for your Workplace

**Date:** Wednesday, October 9, 2019

**Time:** 8:30am – 12:30pm

**Location:** Pomeroy Inn & Suites  
2700 Recplace Drive, Prince George, BC



This RoadSafeBC workshop will feature interactive sessions to help participants begin or improve an occupational road safety program suited to their workplace. Participants will learn about the human and financial costs of workplace crashes, a process to identify hazards and assess risks and how to develop strategies and use the tools and resources

from **Road Safety At Work** to address the unique road safety needs facing their organizations.

This workshop has been developed for owners, managers, supervisors, health and safety practitioners, joint occupational health and safety committee members and others who have responsibility for making decisions and developing programs to keep employees safe on BC roads.

Interested participants are encouraged to send one or two representatives from their organization.

For more information or to register, visit [www.roadsafetyatwork.ca](http://www.roadsafetyatwork.ca) and click on Workshops and Webinars or contact Angelina Robinson via email at [angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca](mailto:angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca) or by phone at 604-770-2500. Seating is limited, so reserve your spot now.