

**Ministry of Labour,
Immigration, Training and
Skills Development**

Office of the Minister

400 University Avenue
14th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1T7
Tel: 416 326-7600

**Ministère du Travail, de
l'Immigration, de la Formation et du
Développement des compétences**

Bureau du ministre

400, avenue University
14^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1T7
Tél. : 416 326-7600



October 25, 2024

Enzo Garritano
President & CEO, Infrastructure Health & Safety Association (IHSA)
400-5110 Creebank Road
Mississauga, ON
L4W 0A1

Dear Mr. Garritano,

As you know, the health and safety of Ontario workers is a top priority for me and my ministry. One method to drive better outcomes in health and safety is to promote the use of occupational health and safety management systems (OHSMS) in Ontario.

In Ontario, two of the most common OHSMS used by construction employers are COR® 2020, which is administered by the Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA), and ISO 45001:2018, an international standard that is recognized across Canada and globally. Both standards meet the CPO Accreditation Standard under the SOSE program and are broadly equivalent.

Traditionally, the IHSA has allowed firms holding ISO 45001:2018 certification to obtain COR® 2020 equivalency because the content contained in ISO 45001:2018 is equivalent to COR® 2020.

The upcoming elimination of the equivalency process will negatively effect stakeholders, industry, and those who bid and buy construction in Ontario. The equivalency allows employers who have successfully implemented ISO 45001:2018 to maintain that certification without requiring full certification to COR® 2020. Holding two certifications to similar CPO-accredited standards would be duplicative, expensive, and without any added health and safety benefit.

As Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, I am now directing the IHSA under subsection 22.6(1) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* to continue granting COR® 2020 equivalency to firms that are certified under the ISO 45001:2018 standard on a permanent basis.

Thank you for your continued work to promote the health and safety of workers across Ontario. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer, Dr. Joel Moody.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Piccini', with a stylized, cursive script.

David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

cc. Deputy Minister, Greg Meredith
Dr. Joel Moody, Chief Prevention Officer