



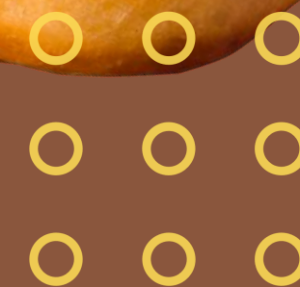
2026 Workplace Health & Safety
Conference

Beyond the Coffee & Doughnuts

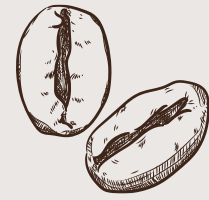
*Recipes for an Interesting &
Effective Safety Committee*



May 7, 2026, Charlottetown
David Powers, CRSP



PURPOSE OF THE JOHSC?



Increase OHS Awareness

Evaluate/promote interest in your OHS program



Build **Enthusiasm** for Safety

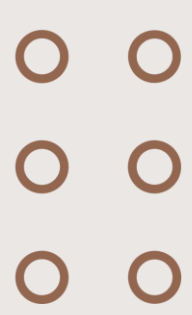
Examine OHS issues & recommend solutions



Reduce/Prevent Injuries

Conduct regular inspections
Participate in investigations





DO PEOPLE KNOW WHO YOUR JOHSC MEMBERS ARE?

Post their photos!
Coloured helmets
Badges
Shirts



BARRIERS OR CHANNELS?

Are employees reporting unsafe acts/conditions to their supervisors?
Are your JOHSC members ever brought into the discussion?



DO PEOPLE UNDERSTAND DUTIES & AUTHORITY OF YOUR JOHSC?

Roles/functions need to be communicated throughout your workplace





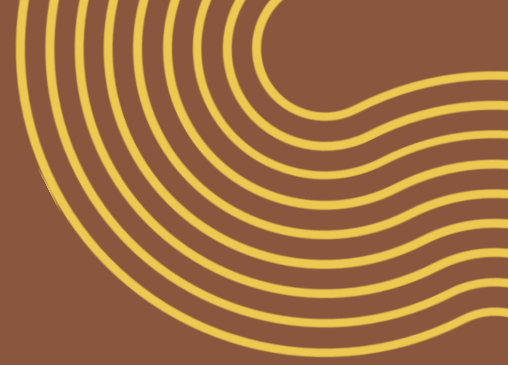
HOW ARE YOUR JOHSC MEMBERS PERCEIVED?

- ○
- ○
- ○
- ○
- ○
- ○
- ○





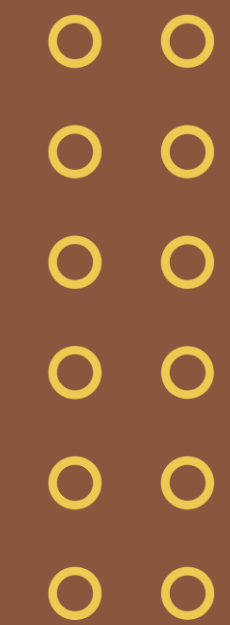
2026 Workplace Health & Safety Conference

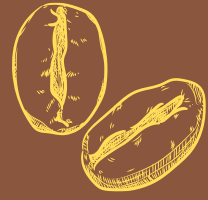


Directions

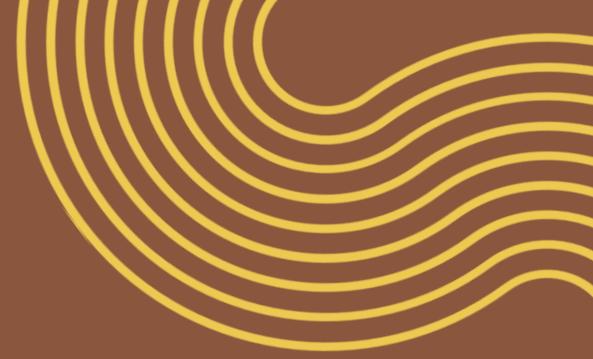


25 min

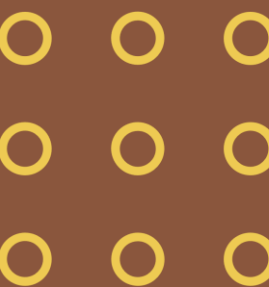


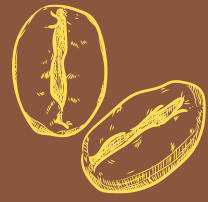


TERMS OF REFERENCE

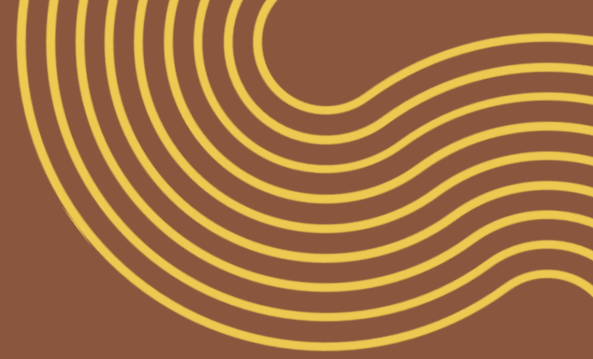


- Committee composition
- Purpose
- Duties & Function
- Records
- Meeting Frequency/Quorum
- Agendas/Meeting reports
- Co-Chairs
- Terms of Office
- Formal recommendations
- Preparation & Participation

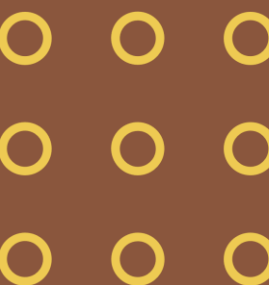


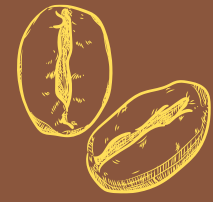


COMMITTEE TRAINING



- Internal Responsibility System
- OHS Act/Regulations
- Role of the committee
- Workplace inspections
- Investigations
- Your rules & procedures
- Evaluation of your OHS program
- Workplace-specific training (e.g. confined space, working at heights, WHMIS)

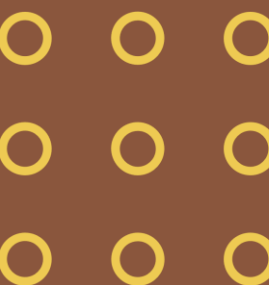




COMMITTEE ROLE



- Hazard identification
- Workplace inspections
- Investigations
- Complaints relating to OHS
- Work refusals
- Problem solving
- Communications





2026 Workplace Health & Safety Conference



Recipes



PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Ingredients

Your Safety Committee members



Directions

At your January meeting, consider publicly acknowledging those members who have made every meeting during the previous year



Results

A stronger effort by more members to attend each meeting (and contribute!)





EVALUATIONS



Ingredients

Your Safety Committee members




Directions

- After each meeting, have your members rate the session
- Excellent tool for identifying weak spots



Results

- Can strengthen your JOHSC
 - Helps with the "buy-in"
- 
-
-



SUB- COMMITTEES



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members
- Subject matter experts




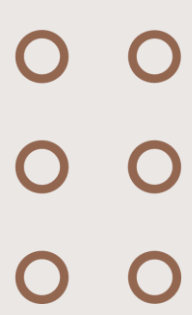
Directions

- Need more time to resolve an issue?
- Sub-committee reports back to JOHSC each month until their project is complete



Results

- Tremendous boost for selected members!
- 
-
-



SUB-COMMITTEES



- Environmental issues
- Ergonomics
- Purchasing practices
- Legal
 - *Federal/Provincial*
 - *Corporate*
- Medical monitoring
- Policy reviews
- Respiratory Protection protocols
- Safety-specific
- WHMIS-specific





INCIDENT REVIEWS



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members
- Injured employee(s)




Directions

- ***Non-critical*** evaluation of effectiveness of supervisor's response/corrective action
- Focus on significant events
- Invite an injured employee to discuss with JOHSC



Results

- Can be very powerful for members!
- 

BRAINSTORMING



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members

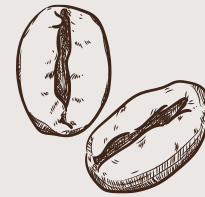
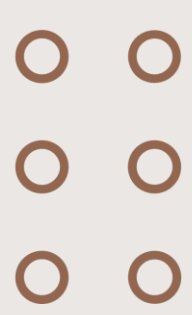
Directions

- Take an item that has been challenging to resolve
- Break committee into smaller groups for discussions
- Share answers for entire committee

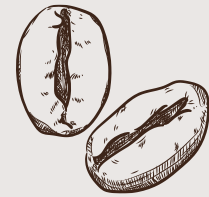


Results

- Can prove to be a most effective method of resolving issues
- Builds bonds within JOHSC



TABLETOP EXERCISES



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members


Directions

- Consider a likely emergency situation that could happen
- Discuss all available and reasonable countermeasures to prevent/mitigate said emergency

Results

- Proven to be a most effective method of being proactive
- Builds bonds within JOHSC





"ON DUTY" PROGRAM



Ingredients

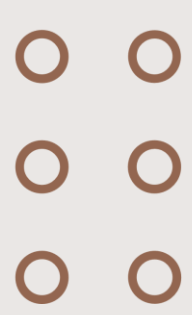
- Your Safety Committee members/Your 1st Aid members

Directions

- Choose one JOHSC member and one 1st Aid member
- 1st Aider looks after all 1st aid accounts
- JOHSC members investigates
- You set duration

Results

- Highly visible & effective groups!!
- 



JOHSC TRAINING - BASIC



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members

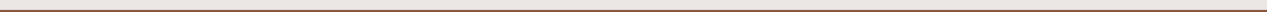
Directions

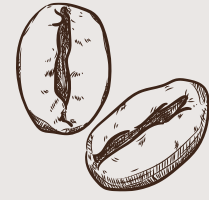
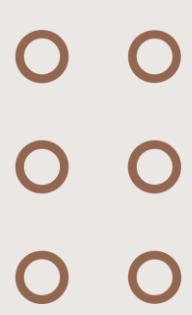
- OHS Law
- Hazard Recognition
- Workplace Inspections
- Incident Investigation
- JOHSC's
- WHMIS



Results

- Engaged & knowledgeable JOHSC members





JOHSC TRAINING - SPECIFIC



Ingredients

- Your Safety Committee members

Directions

- Conflict Resolution
- Duty to Accommodate
- Ergonomics
- Impairment Awareness
- Mental Health
- Regulatory



Results

- More engaged & more knowledgeable JOHSC members





JOHSC EXCHANGES



Ingredients


- Your Safety Committee members
- Other Safety Committee members

Directions

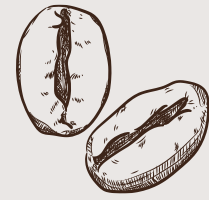
- Your JOHSC visits another company's JOHSC
- Arrange a plant tour
- Following month, their JOHSC visits you



Results

- Very interesting for all participants
 - Come away with new & different ideas
- 

GUEST SPEAKERS



Ingredients

- People outside your JOHSC

Directions

- Another JOHSC member
- Employees from a sister facility
- Government
- OHS professionals
- Senior management
- Suppliers

Results

- Can bring a new perspective to your OHS program & JOHSC





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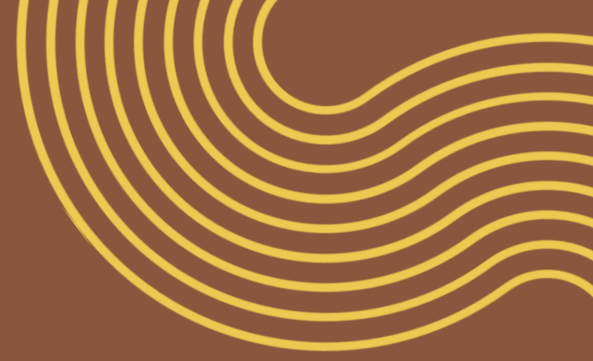


Workplace Inspections

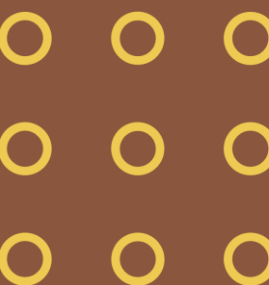


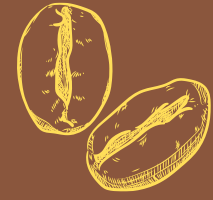


Challenges

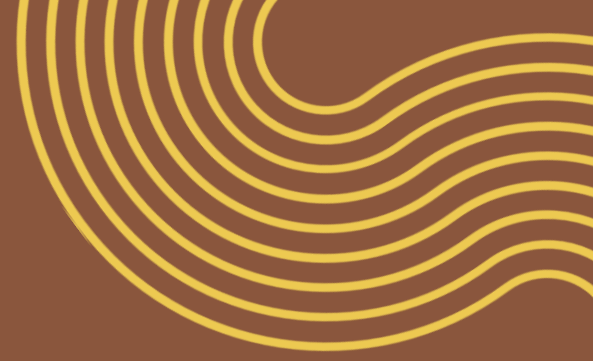


- Members are not trained
- Members are not interested
- Members have no time
- Inspections that do happen are often superficial – “everything is OK!!”
- Hostile reaction from co-workers
- Inconsistent follow up

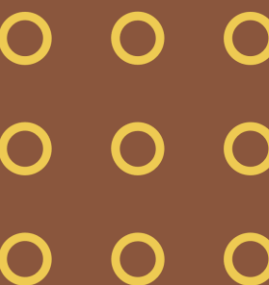




Try these...

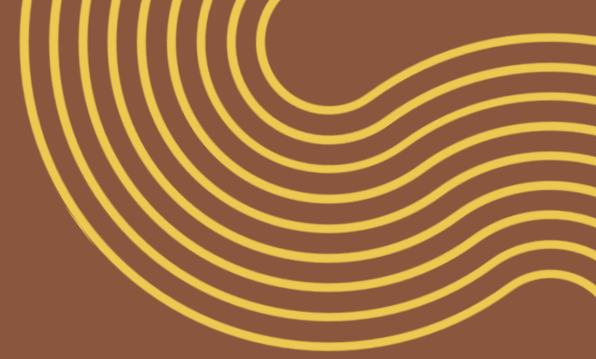


- Pair new members with veteran members
- Break workplace down into manageable areas
- Set specific dates
- Allow time between monthly meetings
- Develop and use checklists

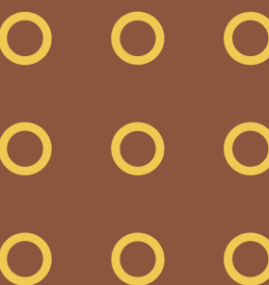




Targeted Inspections



- PHYSICAL CONDITIONS
- *Exterior*
- *Roof tops*
- *Basements*
- *Offices*
- *Shipping/receiving*
- *Warehouses*
- *Labs*

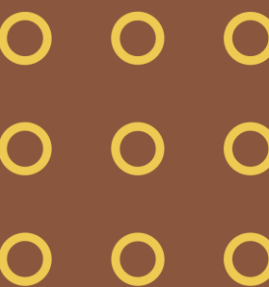




Targeted Inspections

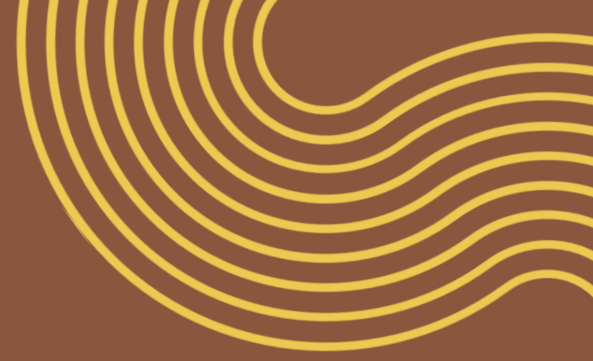


- CONTRACTORS
- *Scope of work*
- *Safety assessment*
- *Insurance coverage*
- *WCB clearance*
- *Controlled products*
- *Waste disposal*
- *Sub-contractors*

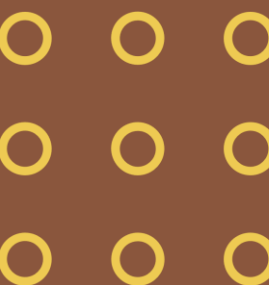




Targeted Inspections



- FALL PROTECTION
- *Legislative overview*
- *Equipment*
- *Checklists*
- *Training*

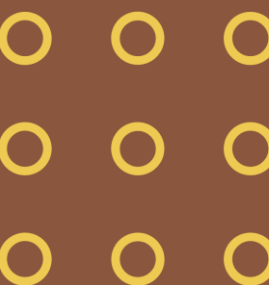




Targeted Inspections

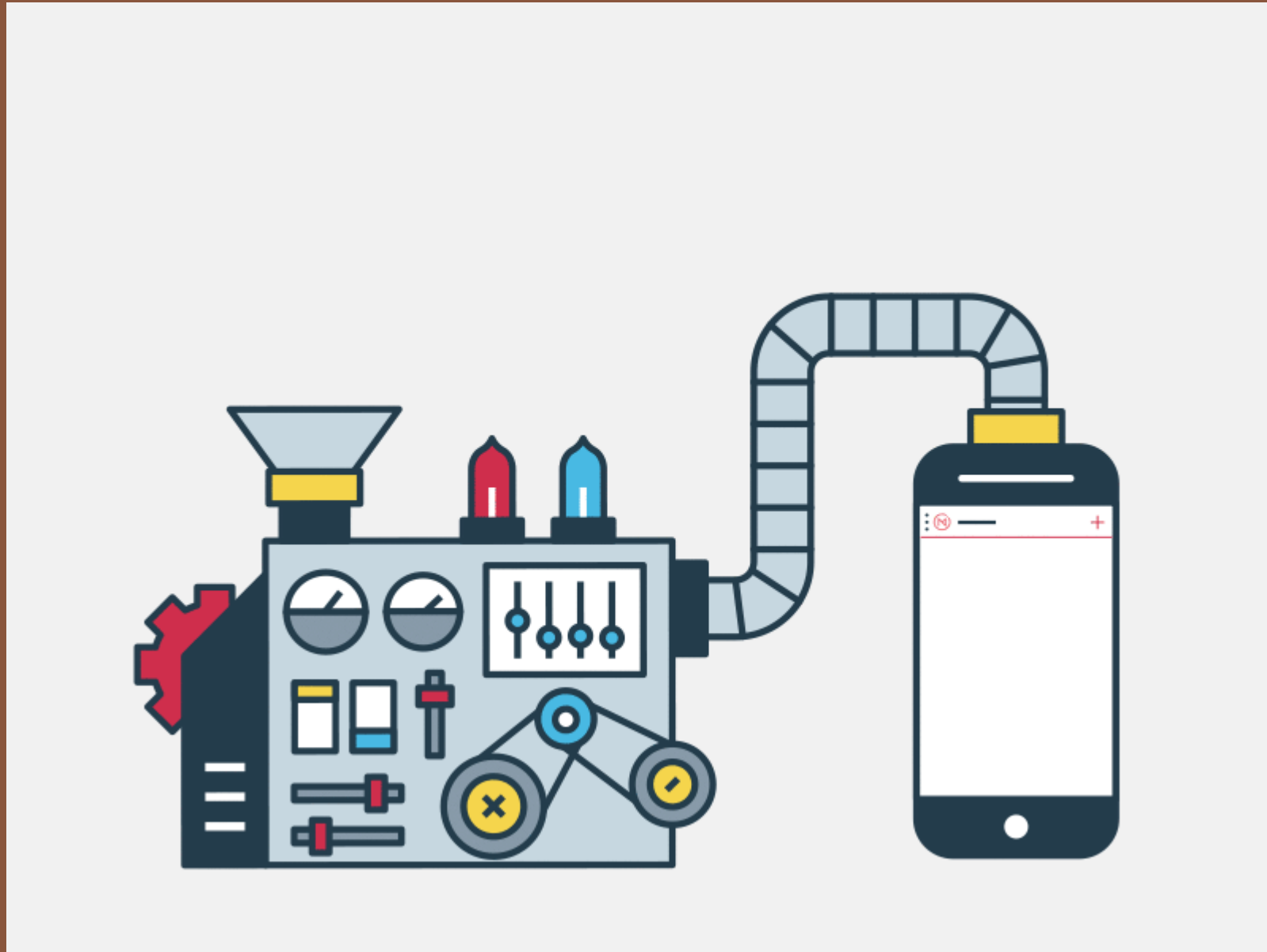
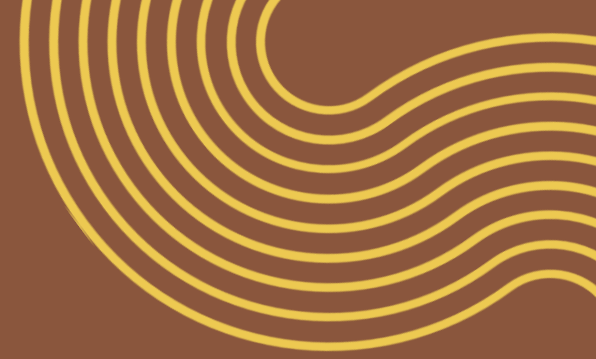


- PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
- *Review existing PPE*
 - *Comfort*
 - *Effectiveness*
 - *Cost*
- *Review new PPE*
- *Review proposed PPE*

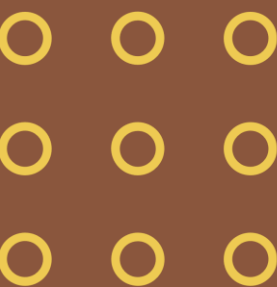


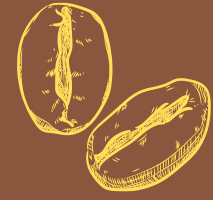


Targeted Inspections

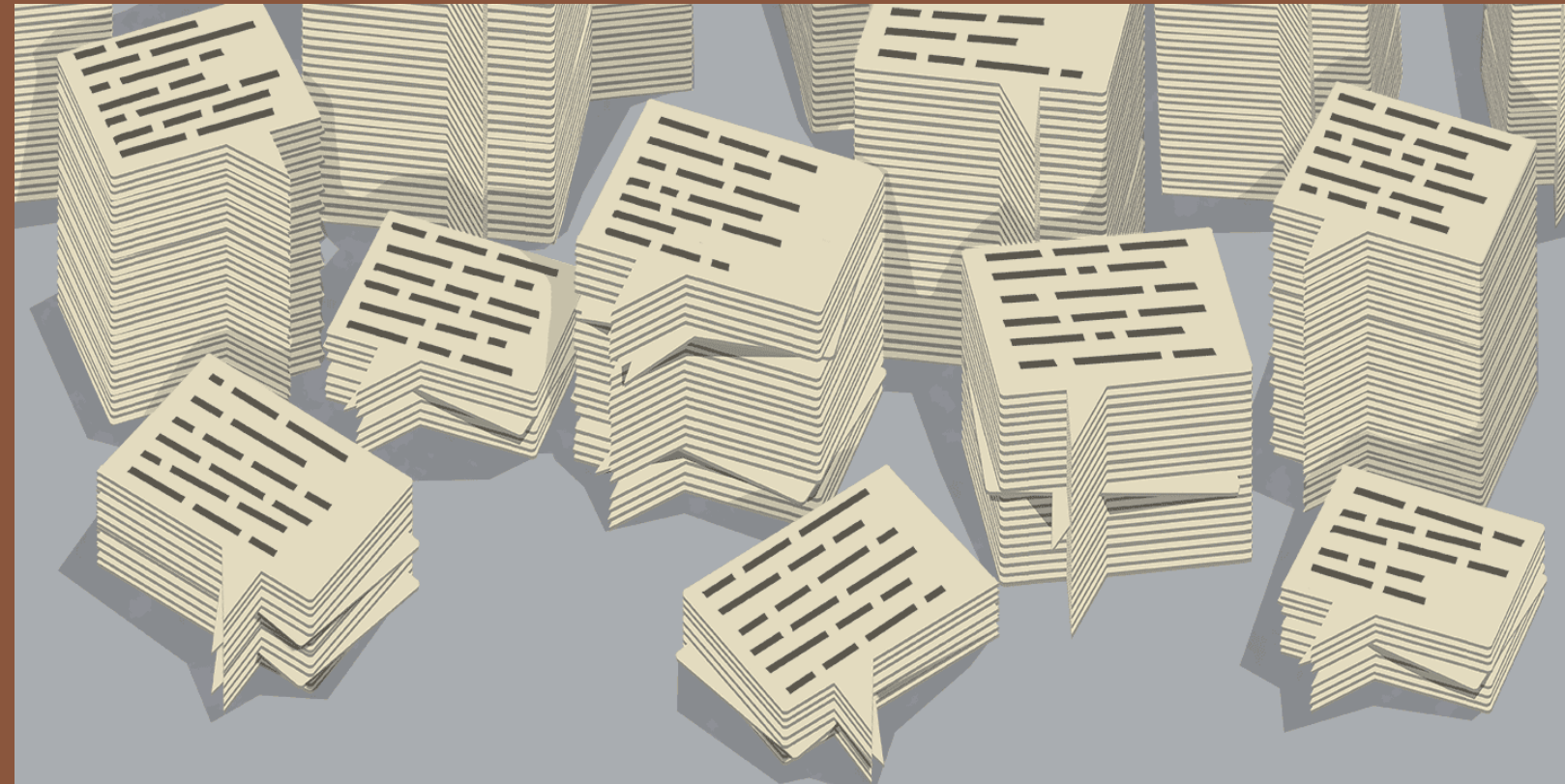


- EQUIPMENT
- *New? Existing? Refurbished? Home-made?*
- *Guarding, e-stops, LOTO*
- *CSA, ANSI*
- *Preventative maintenance evidence*

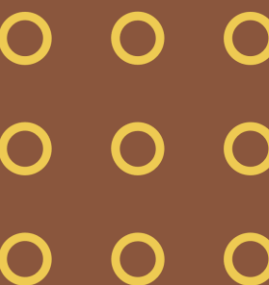




Targeted Inspections



- POLICIES
- *OHS policies*
- *OHS procedures*
- *OHS work instructions*
- *OHS job task analyses*
- *OHS checklists*
- *OHS pre-ops*

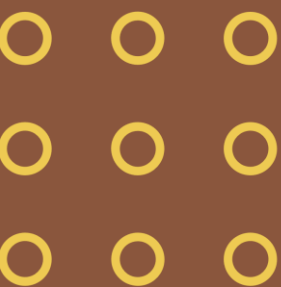


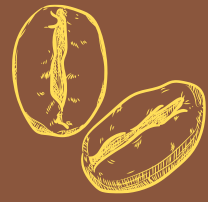


Targeted Inspections



- HOT WORK
- *Permits (past & present)*
- *Fire watch*
- *Training records*

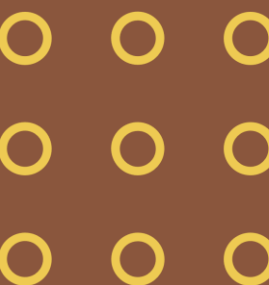




Targeted Inspections



- LOCKOUT-TAGOUT
- *Review program*
- *Training*
- *Observations*
 - *# locks = # of people?*
- *Scenario-specific*





Targeted Inspections



- WHMIS
- *Safety data sheet review*
- *GHS implementation*
- *Workplace labels*
- *Worker awareness*

