

# SHAPE NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Issue 10, November/December 2007



## Reel Green BC Forum

Promoting  
Safe & Healthy  
Workplaces in the  
Performing Arts  
and Motion Picture  
& Video Industries  
Since 1998

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The main objective of Reel Green BC, is to see more environmentally friendly practices, which will lead to “a longer life for our valued resources and a longer welcome in BC communities. The production industry understands there is more that can be done to make its activities green.”

Reel Green BC encourages partnership with green initiatives already being implemented in the community and provides tools and information for companies and individuals wishing to become more environmentally responsible in carrying out the business of film and television production.

The forum was a chance for industry reps to get together and discuss how the film and motion picture industry can work together to decrease our environmental footprint.

Keynote Speaker Shelley Bilik (VP of Environmental Initiatives from Warner Bros) has established a wide variety of environmental policies and programs over the last 15 years, including waste reduction and recycling, through which WB recycles or reuses 63% of its waste. Further information on some of these initiatives can be found online at [wbenvironmental.com](http://wbenvironmental.com).

A couple of local initiatives, which may be of interest to our readers follow.

**Sustainability Purchasing Network**  
(<http://buysmartbc.com/>)

Sustainability purchasing gives preference to suppliers that generate positive social and environmental outcomes, and integrate sustainability considerations into product selection so that impacts on society and the environment are minimized throughout the full life cycle of the product. Sustainability purchasing entails looking at what products are made of, where they have come from, who has made them, how they will be ultimately disposed – even considering whether the purchase needs to be made at all.

**BC Industrial Materials Exchange**  
(<http://bcimex.ca/>)

The British Columbia Industrial Materials Exchange lets you sell, give away or trade things you don't want with people who do. You can post requests for items that you need or create listings of items and materials you wish to get rid of. By exchanging items, you are helping to reuse materials that might otherwise end up in our city landfills.

More information on Reel Green BC can be found at [www.reel-greenbc.ca](http://www.reel-greenbc.ca)



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## BC Needs New Blood—Literally!



Approximately every minute of every day, someone in Canada needs blood. In fact, according to a recent poll, 52 per cent of Canadians say they, or a family member, have needed blood or blood products for surgery or for medical treatment. One blood donation - in just one hour - can save up to three lives.

Three years ago John Webber, a Vancouver based theatre lighting designer, was diagnosed with Leukemia—a life threatening disease that requires several blood transfusions. Friends wanted to help and, in an effort to drum up much needed donations, formed *Damn'd Spot*, in conjunction with the Canadian Blood Services *Partners for Life* Program.

A year later, John's partner Christianne took over the reigns and now runs an email list with roughly 80 members — many of whom are members of Vancouver's theatre community. The list is open to all and is not limited to those in performing arts.

*Damn'd Spot* sends three to four emails a year with a list of dates, times and locations where people can donate. All that potential donors have to do is respond and let Christianne know when and where they would like to donate, and she takes care of booking the appointment for them. "Getting these reminders," Christianne explains, "helps to get people through the door. Even if they don't book an appointment through me, it gets them thinking about it. Many of them book their own appointments afterwards."

So far this year, *Damn'd Spot* has made more than 35-40 donations, which helps up to 120 people who are in need of blood products. The goal is to try to reach 50 donations by the end of 2007.

BC has the lowest percentage of blood donors per population, with fewer than 3% (The nation average is about 4%) As a result, BC has to import about 15,000 units of blood from other provinces every year, just to meet hospital demand. Canadian Blood Services has an urgent need for all blood types.

If you would like to be added to the *Damn'd Spot* email list to receive notifications three to four times annually, contact Christianne Wilhemson via email at [christianne@telus.net](mailto:christianne@telus.net).

## A Little Bit About Donating Blood

A blood donation consists of a unit of blood, which is equal to about half a litre and is soon replaced by the body. As a regular blood donor, you may donate blood once every 56 days. Donating blood does not put donors at risk of contracting a disease.

To qualify as a donor, you will need to meet the following criteria:

**ID:** You must have ID with your full name and signature, or full name and photograph.

**Age:** Between 17 and 71 for regular donors, or between 17 and 61 for first-time donors.

**Weight:** At least 50 kg (110 lb).

**Health:** In general good health and feeling well. You should have had something to eat and adequate sleep. You must also meet hemoglobin (iron) requirements (test done at clinic).

**Screening:** At the time of donation, you will be asked a number of questions to determine your eligibility.

Information on screening questions are available on the Canadian Blood Services website under the "Help" section.

For further information check out Canadian Blood Services online at: [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca) or call them at 1.888.2.DONATE (1.888.236.6283) to book an appointment to donate.

## The Glues You Use: A Look At Sta'-Put

Most construction shops use one or more adhesives or glues in the course of their day to day operations. These products often contain toxic ingredients, so precautions must be taken to ensure workers are informed on safe handling procedures — workers have the right to know what they're working with. Training should include safe use, WHMIS and instruction on the location of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). It is imperative that workers follow the manufacturer's instructions as well as the safety information given on the MSDS.

Sta'-put adhesives are one of the more popular brands used in the motion picture and performing arts industry. There are several different types of Sta'-put products available, each with a different set of hazardous ingredients and concerns.

For example, Sta'-put S-145 Brush/Roll contact adhesive (MSDS #145) contains the hazardous ingredients VM&P Naptha, Toluene, and Methyl Ethel Ketone. These are known to cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. Sta'-put S-120 N/F, on the other hand, contains Methylene Chloride as its hazardous ingredient, which is known to have adverse reproductive effects and can expose workers through skin contact.

Because of this, it is important not to confuse products that you are using. Ensure that you have the correct and most up-to-date MSDS for the product being used. If you are having trouble finding an up-to-date MSDS for the product, contact SHAPE and we will assist you (provide product

name or CAS #, and manufacturer's name).

When using these adhesives, ventilation must be adequate to keep the exposure below the TWA (Time Weighted Average) Exposure Limit. This limit level can be found on the product's MSDS. The levels can also be found on [worksafebc.ca](http://worksafebc.ca), under *Regulation Guidelines Part 5: Table of Exposure Limits for Chemical and Biological Substances*. If the exposure limit is exceeded, a NIOSH approved air supplied respirator must be used. Chemical resistant gloves, safety glasses (or a face shield if spraying) must also be used. If there is a chance of prolonged or repeated skin contact, chemical resistant apron or other impervious clothing and boots may be required.

Check the Special Precautions as most of these products are flammable and it is necessary to ensure all pilot lights, flames and any other ignition sources must be avoided. It should go without saying, but there should be NO SMOKING around this product.

SHAPE is researching suitable alternative products that may be safer and easier to use. If you have information about possible alternatives, please contact Marty Clausen, SHAPE's Health and Safety Consultant for the Film/Motion Picture Industry at 604.765.0791 or by email at [martyc@shape.bc.ca](mailto:martyc@shape.bc.ca).

## Emergency Planning, Fire & Life Safety

SHAPE is pleased to present free information sessions on Emergency Planning, Fire & Life Safety.

These seminars will present the basic components of an emergency management/business continuity program and provide an overview of societal and legal expectations. There will be two sessions, one for the film & video industry and one for the performing arts.

The sessions will be presented by: Sean Tracey, P.Eng., MIFireE Canadian Regional Manager National Fire Protection Association NFPA

For the Performing Arts (co-presented with the Greater Vancouver Professional Theatre Alliance): Friday November 23rd, 1:30 - 4:30pm

For the Motion Picture, Television and Video Industries: Monday November 26th, 1:30 - 3:30pm

Both sessions will take place at SHAPE, #280 - 1385 West 8th (at the corner of 8th & Hemlock).

For further information on these seminars, please refer to the SHAPE website ([www.shape.bc.ca](http://www.shape.bc.ca)).

Although these seminars are free, you will need to preregister by calling SHAPE at 604.733.4682.

# The key to safety is you

## SHAPE Receives Honourable Mention

From May 6th to 12th of this year, SHAPE ran Vancouver's first ever Art Safety Week - a button campaign with the goal of encouraging every arts worker in the GVRD to wear a "SAFETY - IT'S EVERYONE'S SCENE" button during NAOSH Week. The campaign was supported by posters, newsletter articles and prizes for arts workers seen wearing their buttons.

On October 17, 2007 SHAPE was awarded an Honourable Mention Award for our efforts at the BC CSSE Achievement Recognition Awards and NAOSH Week Awards Forum held on October 17, 2007. The award, presented by the NAOSH Week Steering Committee now hangs proudly in our office.

Not prepared to rest on our laurels, SHAPE is already planning for next year. NAOSH Week 2008, runs from May 4th-10th and, as we did this year, SHAPE will run the second annual Art Safety Week to coincide with this. Stay tuned for further details — big things are in store!

## SHAPE Staff

Dawn Brennan - General Manager

Marty Clausen - Health & Safety  
Consultant (Film & Television)

Brent Rossington - Health & Safety  
Consultant (Performing Arts)

Ed Brisson - Production Coordinator

Maureen Kaake - Program Administrator

## SHAPE COURSES

Courses must be paid in advance to SHAPE. Courses may be subject to cancellation. We would be happy to book a class for you if your group has the minimum number of participants.

Call 604-733-4682 ext. 250 for further details. Additional courses may be added on demand.

Full course descriptions available at [www.shape.bc.ca/courses/](http://www.shape.bc.ca/courses/)

### Firearm Safety Level One \$50

Sunday, November 18

10am to 4pm

Instructor: Felcan Enterprises

### Occupational First Aid Level One \$40

Monday, November 19

Saturday, December 1

8:45am to 5:30pm

Instructor: Kathy Day

### Counterbalanced Forklift \$120 (Experienced - 1 Day) \$220 (Inexperienced - 2 Day)

Experienced:

Saturday, November 17

Inexperienced:

Saturday, November 17 and

Sunday, November 25

8:30am - 4:30pm

Instructor: Leavitt Training Agency

### WHMIS - NOW ONLINE! \$20

Call for details.

SHAPE has an in house computer station available to those who do not have internet access but wish to take our online courses. For details, call 604.733.4682.

### Aerial Lift Training \$120 (Experienced - 1 Day) \$220 (Inexperienced - 2 Day)

Experienced:

Saturday, November 24

Inexperienced:

Saturday, November 24 and

Sunday, November 25

8:30am - 4:30pm

Instructor: Leavitt Training Agency

### Safety Awareness\* \$25

Tuesday, November 13

Sunday, December 9

Sundays: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Tuesdays: 6:00pm-9:30pm

Instructor: Marty Clausen

### Supervisor Safety\* \$25

Sunday, December 9

1:30pm - 4:30pm

Instructor: Marty Clausen

\*Take both Safety Awareness and Supervisor Safety for \$45 (Sundays Only).

### Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) - NOW ONLINE! \$20

Call for details.