



Vermont Safety and Health Council

2025 Annual Report & Year in Recap A Defining Year of Growth 2025 was a defining year of growth for the Vermont Safety and Health Council. The year was marked by increased collaboration and forward momentum across the organization. From improved internal operations to record-breaking event participation, VSHC expanded its statewide reach and impact. As a result, the Council enters 2026 well-positioned to build upon this progress and continue advancing its mission.

Officers & Board Leadership

The success and progress of the Vermont Safety and Health Council in 2025 were made possible through the dedication of our Board Members and their collective efforts.

Officers:

- President: Kathy Brouillette
- Vice President: Bob Davison
- Secretary: Bonnie Lemieux
- Treasurer: Kathy Brouillette (Acting)
- Governance: Shannon Prescott

Board Members:

- Katie Fredrick
- Becky L'Esperance
- Suzanne Kotarba
- Dan Whipple
- Amy Morrissette (Technical Advisor)
- Department of Labor Liaisons: Luke McCarthy and Shawn Barth
- Alternate Board Member: None

Subcommittees & Key Roles:

- Website Coordinator: Teresa Miele
- Membership Coordinator: Teresa Miele
- Social Media Chair: Allison Herbert
- Expo Planning Committee: All Board Members, along with Janet Franz (Chair of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports)

Chapter Steering Committee:

- Northwest (NW): Shawn Barth & Katie Fredrick
- Northeast (NE): Cody Sayers
- Southern: Cashelle Lukas

Financial Overview:

VSHC Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2025

For the fiscal year spanning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, VSHC reported total current assets of \$20,644.16, consisting of \$15,173.56 in Checking Account 1757, \$5,470.60 in Checking Account 4029, and a \$0.00 PayPal balance. The organization carried no outstanding liabilities during the period. Total equity amounted to \$20,644.16, comprised of Retained Earnings of \$10,678.72 and Net Income of \$9,965.44, resulting in total liabilities and equity consistent with total assets.

In addition to strong financial performance, VSHC experienced notable programmatic success during the year. The annual Safety Expo achieved record engagement, with registration numbers doubling compared to prior years. This increase reflects growing business interest in safety education and the organization's expanding impact.

Chapter Engagement

In 2025, each Chapter Steering Committee prioritized the development and delivery of meaningful training offerings within their regions. Their commitment to providing relevant and practical safety education strengthened local engagement and significantly contributed to the Council's overall success.

2025 Training Offerings

Under the leadership of Shannon Prescott, who took the lead in organizing training offerings and coordinating closely with each chapter, VSHC delivered a highly successful year of professional development programming. Shannon's structured approach, communication, and collaboration across chapters proved instrumental in expanding and strengthening our training efforts statewide.

The following trainings were successfully delivered in 2025:

- Act Now to Prepare for Any Emergency
- Heat Illness in the Workplace
- Accident Investigation in the Real World
- Workplace Hazard Assessment Workshop
- Who Is the Elusive Competent Person?
- Business Continuity After a Disaster
- NFPA 70E Arc Flash Training

This coordinated effort not only increased engagement but also reinforced VSHC's mission to provide accessible, high-quality safety education throughout Vermont.

We implemented a standardized training scheduling process using Trello, significantly improving workflow, clarity, and efficiency.

We closed the year in a strong position, with the 2026 training calendar already underway — a testament to the solid foundation built in 2025.

2026 Training Plans

Planned offerings for 2026 include:

- Subrogation and Certificates of Insurance (COIs)
- Lift Safety: Higher Standards
- Stop the Bleed (offered three times at different Vermont locations)
- Confined Space Regulations and Competent Person Training

Safety Expo: A Record-Breaking Success

One of the most significant accomplishments of 2025 was the Board's unanimous approval to establish a strategic partnership with the Governor's Wellness Award. This collaboration not only aligned two organizations with complementary missions centered on workplace health and well-being, but also broadened our outreach, expanded visibility, and enhanced the overall impact of our annual Safety Expo.

The 2025 Safety Expo was the largest in VSHC history, featuring:

- Participant attendance more than doubling compared to the previous year
- Numerous vendors
- Multiple speakers and breakout sessions

Our keynote presenter, **Porter Knight**, opened the event with incredible energy and enthusiasm. She left attendees inspired and equipped with meaningful tools for both personal and professional growth. Her impact elevated the entire event.

Due to its success:

- The same venue has been secured for 2026
- The date is set — October 27, 2026
- The venue contract and deposit have already been completed

We are also energized by the number of members who have expressed interest in helping plan the 2026 Expo. With an engaged planning committee forming, there is tremendous enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

Membership

VSHC maintains a strong membership base of 78 members. 52 Active | 26 Inactive

This year, we introduced streamlined payment options, making renewals and invoicing significantly easier for our members and our organization. Membership engagement remained steady, with strong participation in events and ongoing volunteer efforts. Our focus for the coming year includes continued outreach to grow membership, enhanced communication tools, and expanded member benefits to support our mission.

Our outreach to members also grew significantly with the implementation of FIREFIRE Media E-Marketing, which has given our communications a more professional and consistent look. We now maintain 204 contacts in our distribution list with 27 active subscribers, allowing us to expand visibility and strengthen engagement across our audience.

Board Transitions and Looking Ahead

While 2025 was a year of significant achievement, the Board also experienced transition. Three board members vacated their positions. Two positions prior to the end of their terms:

- Bonnie Lemieux
- Suzanne Kotarba
- Bob Davison

On behalf of the Board, we extend our deepest gratitude for their service and dedication to workplace safety throughout Vermont. Their impact has been meaningful and lasting.

As a result, the Board concluded 2025 with:

- Three open Board Member positions (3-year terms)
- Two additional positions to backfill
- A total of five open positions and no alternates

In response, we launched a strong recruitment and outreach campaign and entered 2026 with optimism and renewed energy.

Closing Reflection

Even after a year filled with accomplishments, growth, and strengthened systems, it is clear that the Vermont Safety and Health Council is positioned for even greater success.

It has been a true pleasure and an honor to serve as your President in 2025. Thank you to our Board, members, partners, and supporters for your continued dedication and belief in our mission.

The best is yet to come!

Sincerely,

Kathy Brouillette
2025 VSHC President