

In a few short weeks, the Labor Division of the National Safety Council will meet in St Paul Minnesota. This is the spring meeting and like the fall meetings each year it is a time of learning, sharing, mentoring, making new friends and reconnecting with friends from previous meetings. It is not surprising that there can be a celebratory tone to many of the proceedings. This tone does not stop a considerable amount of serious good work from being done.

Heritage and legacy are very meaningful, and aligned with this ideal the agenda for the spring meetings is ambitious and packed with information and opportunity to interact and make connections to improve learning and networking. The agenda is available [agenda060723.pdf \(nsc.org\)](#) and upon review there are many noteworthy items.

With a focus on inclusion and ensuring that the door is open to union members all across North America, the Labor Division boasts of decades of success. Asking ourselves and those considering getting involved how success is measured is critical to ongoing success. The lens of success is sharpened with the stark reminder of all that we have lost. This loss is deeply felt with having just experienced Workers Memorial Day/ Day of Mourning. On this day, the tragic loss of life, quality of life lost due to injury and illness and premature death from the same burdens is brought into the light more than at any other time. Division members carry back to their places of work information and renewed activism that save injury, death and illness and there is no better measure each day and on April 28<sup>th</sup> than this.

As Labor Division Chairperson and a lifelong safety and health activist, leader in my own union I make a personal commitment to all in the Labor Division and those just joining us or contemplating joining us that there will be no regrets in being part of this collective work and effort to drive us all to a better outcome for ourselves, our sisters and brothers and all workers. It is an imperative part of our work that all workers benefit. There is a useful saying, that “a rising tide lifts all boats”. When we as union members are safer and healthier and drive the change to make our workplaces safer and healthier, then it is a reality that all workplaces will improve.

Looking forward to seeing my friend s and new friends in St. Paul.

In Solidarity

Paul Chaney, National Safety Council Labour Division Chairperson.

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