

this package contains:

- ↳ ***Convention Information***
- ↳ ***Education Workshop Notice***
- ↳ ***Online Registration Information***

2015 HSA Convention

January 20, 2015

Dear HSA Chiefs, Assistants & General Stewards:

**Re: Chapter delegates to the 2015 Annual Convention: May 1 & 2, 2015
Hyatt Regency, 655 Burrard Street, Vancouver**

The 44th Annual HSA Convention will be held at the **Hyatt Regency** beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30th through to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2nd.

The Convention is an important opportunity for delegates to debate the policies that will help guide the union in the years ahead.

Out-of-town delegates should make arrangements to travel during the morning of Thursday, April 30th, arriving in time for the pre-convention plenary at 1:00 p.m. First time delegates should make arrangements to arrive for the New Delegate Luncheon which will take place at 12:00 noon on April 30th in the English Bay Room. There will be open registration for convention starting at 9:00 am in the Regency Foyer.

All convention information including delegate entitlement, expense claim information, education workshop information and online registration may be found here: [2015 Annual Convention](#)

IMPORTANT DEADLINE INFORMATION

**The deadline for Convention Registration is midnight Friday, March 20th 2015.
*HSA is unable to guarantee hotel accommodations after this date.***

**Note that your registration must be approved by the Chief Steward
or designate at your facility**

Online Registration

Convention registration is online only. To register, click here: [Convention Registration](#). If you do not have access to online resources, contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA office at wscarrett@hsabc.org

Education Workshops

Delegates who register for convention by Friday, March 20th may be eligible to apply for education workshops on April 29th and the morning of April 30th immediately preceding the plenary. In-town delegates who are participating in an education workshop are entitled to accommodation at the Hyatt for the night of Wednesday, April 29th.

The workshops topics are:

1. Building Leadership through Diversity
2. Issues to Action

All workshop participants will attend Guarding Minds@Work on Thursday morning. Workshop descriptions can be found here: [2015 Pre-Convention Workshops](#)

Workshop participants: Please review details of your online registration on Monday, March 23rd to confirm acceptance into a pre-convention workshop **before booking travel**. HSA will not be responsible for expenses incurred for travel booked before confirmation of pre-convention workshop attendance.

Regional Basket Raffle: Regions 1, 3, 5, 7, 9

Members in odd-numbered regions are invited to donate items for inclusion in this year's regional baskets. Basket contents typically feature regional, non-perishable delicacies or specialties (e.g. ice wine, vacation packages). The baskets will be raffled at convention, with proceeds to be donated to a community organization. If you would like to contribute, please contact Bill Hannah at the HSA office bhannah@hsabc.org.

Convention Delegate Entitlement

As the elected HSA Chief Steward in your Chapter, you will represent the interests of your membership at the annual convention. Assistant, General, or Site Stewards should replace Chief Stewards who are unable to attend the convention.

For Chapters with up to and including 49 members, the HSA Chief Steward or designate is automatically the delegate. This is the only chapter member allowed to vote at the convention and the only member reimbursed for expenses related to attendance at the convention.

Chapters with over 49 members are entitled to elect an additional delegate for every 50 members (or portion thereof), as per Article 7, Section 5 of the HSA Constitution.

An accompanying list specifies the number of delegates our records indicate each chapter is entitled to send. If you have any questions about these figures, please contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA office.

These additional delegates must be:

1. Employed in the chapter they seek to represent.
2. A member of HSA as per Article 5, Section 1(a) of the HSA Constitution.
3. Nominated and elected at chapter meeting to elect delegates.

In addition, all Members-at-Large and Regional Directors are automatic delegates to the convention. Please also note that if an HSA Labour Council Delegate's chapter allotment is met, but they wish to attend convention, they are eligible to apply to attend as wage and expense reimbursed participants without voting status. HSA reimburses one delegate per Labour Council.

Please refer to this link for details on electing chapter delegates and voting on resolutions to convention:

[Chapter Meeting Information](#)

Online registration must be completed by midnight, March 20th, 2015. HSA is unable to guarantee accommodation for any registrations received after this date. In the event that a delegate has to make alternate accommodation arrangements, HSA will only reimburse such delegates up to the cost that would have been incurred had the delegate registered by March 20th, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency.

Please refer all delegates to the HSA website for online registration and education workshops.

Your co-operation is appreciated to ensure that your chapter is properly represented at these very important functions. For further information, please contact Wendy Scarrett at the HSA Office. We look forward to seeing you at the 44th Annual Convention!

In solidarity,

Rebecca Maurer

Rebecca Maurer
Director of Human Resources & Operations
HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF BC
RM:ws