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– Victoria Mostert, Program Advisor and SiteDoc Coordinator, WORKSAFELY™

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A driven entrepreneur with a passion for safety

BY HEATHER HUDSON



She may seem mild-mannered, but Victoria Mostert is actually a driven-career professional who bucked the family business to make her own way in life.

WORKSAFELY™’s program advisor and SiteDoc coordinator comes from a long line of entrepreneurs. Her parents own F.C. Woodworks Inc., a successful millworking company. Her uncle is the owner of Schreimers Market Centre and Vic’s Fruit Market, both institutions in Winnipeg, Man. And she can count on two hands the number of other successful business owners in her extended family.

As a result, Mostert has spent a lot of her working life in the retail world, starting out at her uncle’s grocery at 13 before eventually moving on to become the manager of Sobeys’ produce department.

It was there that she got her first taste of what she would later build a career on. As co-chair of the safety committee at Sobeys, she also sat on the national corporate safety health team as an advisor. Around the same time, her cousin suffered a serious accident while working on his family’s farm, underscoring for her the importance of workplace safety.

Eyes open to a vital field of work, Mostert enrolled part-time in the Occupational Health and Safety program at Red River College.

“At the time, my mom was starting to work through the Certificate of Recognition (COR™) certification as an employer, so I also got to see it from that perspective,” she explains.

“This gave me three different angles to look at safety from: an employee, employer and the impact of an actual workplace incident. That’s what gave me the interest to continue school.”

Her passion for the subject helped her thrive in her studies and her hands-on work brought it to life.

“My experience validated the theories we were learning and put it in a practical sense for me. It made the process more meaningful,” Mostert says.


Before graduating, Mostert joined the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association (MHCA) office for her six-week practicum placement in the fall of 2013. Upon completion of her program, she was thrilled to accept a job as audit coordinator. She’s since been promoted to program advisor and is responsible for writing customized safety manuals for member companies while helping to manage and

coordinate audits. Victoria is also overseeing the MHCA’s and WORKSAFELY™ introduction of e-COR™. e-COR™ is Manitoba’s first digital safety tool for the heavy construction sector, and e-COR™ is designed to save time and money, allowing for growing companies to focus on safety.

When it comes to her working life, she feels she’s found her niche. Serving the association as SiteDocs coordinator really allows Mostert to demonstrate her entrepreneurial thinking.

“I’m challenged here and I love that. Every day something new comes up that I need to figure out or there’s a visit to a jobsite to learn more about what they’re doing,” Mostert notes.

“I love the feeling of passing it on. The sole purpose of being in this industry is to do something beneficial to business owners as they implement a safety program. I feel like my experience with an entrepreneurial family brings a unique perspective to that process.”

Not surprisingly, Mostert is as active outside of work as she is in the office. In addition to participating in volunteer initiatives through her church and coaching a thriving girls volleyball team, she is planning a November wedding and is still “fairly involved” in her family’s businesses by pitching in whenever they need a hand. 

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