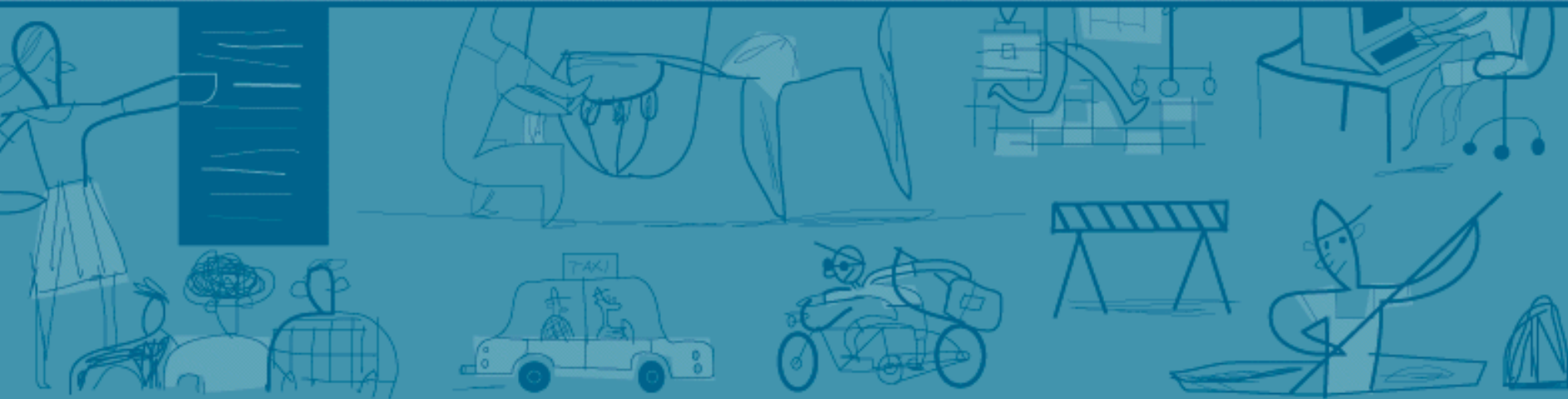# Health and Safety in Employment Seminar

1. The purpose of the Act

To promote the prevention of harm to all persons at work and in the vicinity by:

- promoting excellence in health and safety management
- recognising successful management is best achieved through good faith co-operation
- imposing duties on various people

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Coverage

- The Act deals with all safety & health issues in all workplaces and during all work activity
- It applies to:
  - Factories or farms
  - Shops or offices
  - Construction or forestry
  - Work in aircraft or on ships
  - Railways
  - Work that moves e.g. in trucks or vans, on bikes or on foot
  - Non-paid work activity e.g. volunteers, on-the-job trainees

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People with duties under the Act

- People in control of a workplace, including:

    - Employers

    - Self-employed

    - Contractors

    - Principals

- Employees also have responsibilities

- All have a duty to protect themselves and others

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Employees, trainees & volunteers

- Air, rail, maritime employees

- Loaned employees

- People in on the job training or work experience

- Mobile workers

- Some volunteers

Also have responsibilities

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Workplace

- Broad definition

- Anywhere an employee is doing work – whether on premises or not

- Incl. vehicle or commercial vessel used for business, any worksite, anywhere equipment being used

- Incl. lunchrooms, forecourts, corridors etc

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People in or near a workplace

- Customers

- Delivery agents & couriers

- Sub-contractors

- Passers-by

All entitled to be safe

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Reporting serious harm

- Serious harm should be immediately reported to OSH or MSA

- Self employed, principals must now:

    - Maintain register of accidents and serious harm

    - Notify serious harm

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The tools OSH uses

- Dialogue

- Correspondence

- Improvement or prohibition notices

- Infringement notice

- Prosecution

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Help and information

- WorkInfo Web site and Information Centre

- OSH publications

- ERS, ACC

- Unions

- Employer, industry associations