



Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Wednesday November 13th, 2024, 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm

Location – Support Services Building 4205

MINUTES

Start Time: 2:01 pm

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Approved.

3. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (October 9th, 2024)

- Approved with amendments.

4. Business arising from previous meeting.

4.1 Campus Updates

- A vaccination clinic was conducted in November for the Western Community supported by Workplace Health and Student Experience – Wellness and Well-Being.
- Outdoor surface repairs and pedestrian/traffic management projects were completed in October for locations identify in inspections or reports of safety concerns.
- Recent workplace inspections are focused on specifics of chemical products including WHMIS, proper storage, labelling and identification as part of the action plan reported to the committee in October 2024.
- Westerns community was requested to engage in surveys related to mental health of students and sustainability initiatives. Thanks to those who provided feedback.

5. Review and Assess Trends

5.1 Accident/Injury Report

- As of the end of October 2024, 289 incidents have been reported on campus: 196 First Aid related incidents, 35 Lost Time related incidents, 40 Health Care related incidents and 18 Near miss/Hazard reports.
- The committee reviewed 29 incidents that occurred in October.
- Monthly incident rates were compared to historical data (3- and 5-year averages) for this month on campus.

5.2 Critical injuries

- 2 critical injuries were reported.

5.3 Workplace Inspections

- A summary of inspections completed between October 7th 2024 and November 7th 2024 was made available to the committee.
- Reportable Items
 - 122 orders were issued for action by units from the recent inspection cycle.
 - Inspections occurred in the 32 buildings of campus within research and support units.
- Past due action items
 - 14 items are past due from previous inspections.
 - Most items past due items have had good communication with HSW on steps being taken to finalize the issues and time is being given to these units to provide updates.
 - Items with little or no communication were discussed by the committee. Recommended actions to reassign the outstanding items to next level leaders to support corrective action completion.

5.4 Work Refusals

- None to report.

5.5 Safety Recommendations Submitted to the JOHSC

- None to report.

5.6 Workplace Violence and Harassment Report (Bill 168)

- None to report

6. New Business

6.1 Working for Workers Five Act

- Health Safety and Well-Being updated the committee on the legislative changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Employment Standards Act which was given Royal Assent on October 28th 2024.
- Remote work is now covered by the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Workplace harassment definitions have been updated to include digital means.
- Rules related to Joint Committees have been revised.
- Electronic posting of required health and safety information is permitted, provided employers give direction to where the information is located to workers.
- Fines for convictions under the acts have been revised.

6.2 Campus Safety Grant

- Information on calls for proposals for the campus safety grant was shared with the committee.
- The deadline for submissions is January 31st 2025.

7. Adjournment

End Time: 2:46 pm

Upcoming Meeting Dates

2024 – December 11th

2025- January 29th, March 12th, April 9th, May 7th, June 18th

Worker Representatives (Attendees in bold)

Andrew Flegel, CUPE 2361 (Alternate)

Caitlin Corcoran, UWOSA

Vacant, SAGE

Cleusa De Oliveira, UWOSA

Darryl Stanley, CUPE 2361

Felix Lee, UWOFA

George Dugbartey, PSAC 610

Gurpreet Dhani, PMA

Jeff Van Haarlem, OPSEU

Lesley Oliver, PMA (Alternate)

Lewis Pellar, IUOE

Matthew Anderson, CUPE 2692

Peter Chidiac, UWOFA

Sandy Paiva, CUPE 2692

Stephen Crowe, IUOE (Alternate)

Employer Representatives

Bryan Wakefield

Craig Clifford

Chris Bumbacco

Mike Gaylard

Resources

Jane O'Brien

Jean-Claude Aubin

Kyle Pollard

Louise Koza