



## **Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee**

Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 1:15 pm to 2:30 pm

Location – Support Services Building 4210

### **MINUTES**

**Start Time:** 1:15 pm

#### **1. Land Acknowledgement**

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

- Approved

#### **3. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023)**

- Approved

#### **4. Business arising from previous meeting**

##### **4.1 Campus Updates**

- Health Safety and Well-Being provided an information update related to the start of the academic year activities. O-week and Homecoming featured care hubs to support the activities staffed by volunteers.
- Website information for responding to illnesses has been updated to maintain alignment with the health unit guidance.
- Western continued to be mask friendly. Masks are available near large classrooms and in libraries for members of the community.

##### **4.2 Policy Updates**

- Health Safety and Well-Being advised that the revisions to policies are in progress for reviews by University Leaders, Employee group representatives and Audit Committee in the fall meetings with a target to receive final approval in November.
- Discussions included physical and psychological hazards and how these would be identified in the policies.
- Suggested updates August 2023 meeting for Terms of reference for JOHSC have been posted to align information with collective agreements of employee groups.

##### **4.3 Follow up – Accident Injury Reports – Over Exertion Reports – Summer 2023**

- To support operations in the Animal Care Facilities a third party has been engaged to complete an assessment of the ergonomics of the expected tasks this team completes as a scope of work in the current buildings and the new areas that are coming into operation.
- A Well-being consultant will be invited to a future JOHSC meeting to discuss the report from the third party related to the assessments.

#### **5. Review and Assess Trends**

### **5.1 Accident/Injury Report**

- As of the end of September 2023, 222 incidents have been reported on campus: 147 First Aid related incidents, 27 Lost Time related incidents, 37 Health Care related incidents and 11 Near miss/Hazard reports.
- Monthly incident rates for both August and September are similar to historical data (3 and 5 year averages) for these months on campus.
- Discussion regarding the leading causes for health care and lost time incidents being related to over exertion / strain categorization.

### **5.2 Critical injuries**

- One accident in September resulted in a fractured arm. This was reported to the Ministry of Labour and they investigated on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2023. Investigation found that equipment used was in good order and no orders were issued.

### **5.3 Workplace Inspections**

- Data from August 31<sup>th</sup> 2023 – October 4<sup>th</sup> 2023
- 3 inspection dates completed in 15 residence buildings.
- 3 items found for corrective action by units inspected during the inspection cycle.
- Reportable Items.
  - A total of 13 orders are open for action.
  - 10 items past due.

### **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)**

- No updates.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 WSRC Pool Maintenance Operations**

- Facilities Management advised committee regarding the use of chlorine gas to maintain the sanitization of the swimming pool at the WSRC. In the summer of 2023, a sensor on the fixed gas monitoring systems failed resulting in internal work procedure changes due to the extended lead time to complete replacement.
- Updated training on the use of chlorine gas for this purpose was delivered to the members of the campus who work with the product by a third party in September.
- Alternative methods of maintenance are being looked at by FM and Sport and Rec to possibly eliminate the need for chlorine gas.
- Enhancements of warning systems have been completed in dry chemical storage area

### **6.2 Ministry of Labour – Site Visit**

- Health Safety and well-Being reported regarding a MOL on October 11<sup>th</sup> 2023. The visit was initiated by an e-mail report to the MOL of a worker injury. MOL investigated the circumstances leading to the injury and was provided with training records, internal investigation reports and workplace procedures for the scope of work.
- Field Visit Report has been made available to the area impacted.

## 6.2 Recognition of Safety Award

- The Power Plant was awarded the 2023 Legacy Award by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA). The award recognized 20 years of work with no lost time injuries and the updated working alone procedures
- For details on the award please see: [Video link](#) and [Narrative](#)

## 7. Adjournment

**End Time:** 2:03 pm

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

2023- November 15<sup>th</sup>, December 13<sup>th</sup>

2024- January 24<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>

### Worker Representatives (Attendees in bold)

Barry Fletcher, 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**

Peter Chidiac, UWOFA

**Sandy Pavia, CUPE 2692**

Stephen Crowe, IUOE (Alternate)

### Employer Representatives

**Bryan Wakefield**

**Carrie Schnurr**

**Chris Bumbacco**

**Mike Gaylard**

### Resources

Fadi Al Jallad

Jane O'Brien

Jean-Claude Aubin

**Kyle Pollard**

**Louise Koza**