



Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020, meeting 1:15pm to 2:30pm Support Services Building, Room 4220
AGENDA

Start Time: 1:19pm.

- 1. Approval of the Agenda** - Motion by John. Second by Darryl. Carried.
- 2. Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting (Jan.15th) – Motion by Chris. Second by Tim. Carried.

Mention of a workshop being held for domestic violence (“Make It Our Business”). Postponed until a later date. Will be run with CREVWAC and Matt will let the JOHSC know of next dates.

3. Business arising from previous meeting

3.1 Smoke Free Campus update (M.Mills)

Matt provided updates on Smoke Free Campus; attended an integrated workshop with Master of Public Health Students 2 weeks ago. Presented a topic related to vaping and smoking. Also shared that Director of Risk Management from University of Alberta visited our campus and met with Matt last Friday; wanted to see what we did for Smoke-Free Campus at Western, hoping to learn best practices.

Matt proposed that Smoke Free Campus be removed as a standing item on the JOHSC agenda. He will continue to provide updates as appropriate from time to time.

3.2 Animals on Campus (M.Mills)

Matt provided an update – new policy and procedure for pet, therapy animals, and procedures that JOHSC put together for service animals approved on Jan 23rd at the Board. The new policy and procedures will take effect on May 1. Matt will continue to work closely with people from Communications and Public Affairs for communication strategy and roll out to campus community.

Questions/Comments:

Cleusa – When people bring therapy animals to campus (e.g. UCC Mustang Lounge, Medical Sciences building), I think they should bring them to a room instead of lobby and give people a notice on door that there is an animal so that people know about it.

Felix- I think it is a good point having a notification about therapy animals especially for people with allergies and phobias.

Matt- Based on the new policy for pets and therapy animals, animals will not be allowed inside Western buildings, unless approved as service/therapy animals or allowed by exemption (e.g. UWOFA collective agreement or research). Dogs and other pets will still be allowed in outdoor spaces on campus, provided animals are under control and well-behaved. Therapy animals are allowed to be brought to campus by a third party with advance written approval. Signs will be helpful to give people advanced notice about time and location where therapy animal is allowed to attend (e.g. UCC Mustang Lounge).

Rob – asked if there was Ontario human rights codes on emotional support animals.

Matt – there’s not a current model in Ontario (letter published May 2nd, 2019 by the Hon Lisa Thompson School Board Policies on service animals”).

3.3 Powerplant – roof work (T.Stein / B.Wakefield)

Stephen - No update to provide. Still waiting for the approval to be involved in a group study. There will be more updates coming.

Rob - according to the JOHSC rules the employee group has full authority to be part of the testing group. Which in this case means they want to be consulted on the testing and how testing is completed.” There was consensus in the group that this was true.

4. Review and Assess Trends (M.Mills)

4.1. Accident/Injury Report

Charts and detailed reports were reviewed with all. Particular incidents of Lost time & Health Care were discussed. Knife safety project in Hospitality Services is going well and we are starting to see positive results from the awareness training and various changes that have been made in the Residences.

4.2. Workplace Inspections: Trend Data, Schedule

Graphs and detailed report were reviewed with group.

4.3. Work Refusals – none

4.4. Critical Injuries - See incident outside of AHB

Report was reviewed with all. Matt noted that the detailed report that was shared with committee members shouldn’t have had personal details included. He apologized and requested that committee members delete.

4.5. Safety Recommendations Submitted to the JOHSC – None.

4.6. Workplace Violence and Harassment Report (Bill 168) (J.C.Aubin) – None.

5. New Business

5.1 Coronavirus Update (M.Mills)

Matt provided an update for status of Coronavirus (COVID-19). There is a leadership team meeting internally at Western. They began meeting the third week of January. The team is closely working with Dr. Sui as well as various other stakeholders (e.g. Office of the Registrar, Western Int'l, FM, Student Health Services, Affiliates, Finance and others) to look at our potential impact from this new virus.

The initial direction was that Western would not restrict people coming to campus unless they recently travelled to Wuhan, China or have symptoms of Coronavirus. But the direction from Public Health changed to “If you have travelled to Wuhan, you should self-isolate for 14 days and you should reach out to Middlesex-London Health Unit team if you have symptoms of virus”.

We are following directions from the Middlesex-London Health Unit, and the weekly campus meetings will continue. We are looking at things like using software (in PeopleSoft) to report if Health Canada requests numbers of people calling in sick, having flu symptoms, or having potential symptoms of this new virus.

Chris - shared the status of supplies (e.g. hand sanitizers) at Western. We are trying to fill empty hand sanitizers in each building to prevent flu and coronavirus. Per Public Health, wearing masks are not required at this point. Also, residence dining areas have been changed from self-serving to serving food by staff.

Matt will share more updates with members in the next meeting. Members can also check updates on a communications page that has been set up to provide the most up-to-date info re: COVID-19 (<https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/>).

Questions/Comments:

John - We are exposed to lots of students, so I am very concerned about the impact of virus on campus. People should be aware of the virus and we need to be more proactive.

Matt - We have a number of communication meetings with Associative Deans, Grad and Undergraduates for sending messages. We are trying to be proactive in sending messages. We are following directions from the Middlesex London Health Unit and things are evolving / changing daily.

John - We don't have a representative on campus and personally for me, I haven't received any messages regarding what has been done.

General comment from both UWOFA & UWOSA that staff & faculty would like a seat on this group.

Rob – are the residences are prepared for this virus to spread to them?

Matt – we've taken appropriate steps within the residences (e.g. changed from self-serve in food areas, identified rooms for isolation, as well as a number of other steps).

5.2 Chemistry Awareness Training (M.Mills)

Matt provided a quick update about awareness training that was conducted for the entire department of Chemistry. This was also supported by the Chair, as well as members of the Health, Safety & Well-being team. It went well- we are trying to share information re: safety, e.g. what resources people can use, who to contact, etc. in the event that something goes wrong. The goal is to further a culture where people feel safe to report when something goes wrong (e.g. they aren't scared of repercussions). For example, if there is a spill, people in the area should be informed and HazMat team involved.

Questions/Comments:

Rob - Is there going to be another session? And are we doing one for Biology?

Matt – Yes, there will be one more session for people that missed the first two sessions. The plan is just for Chemistry for now, but I have a meeting with all Science Chairs. I will let them know what we did for Chemistry and we will see what they think about incorporating some of the information / training for other departments.

5.3 Policing

John – comment that there is a perception that there is still a policing shortage, and we would like a report from JC on policing on campus at next meeting. Agreement in the group.

6. Adjournment – Motion by John. Second by Rob. Carried.

2019-2020 Meeting Dates

2019: September 11, October 16, November 27, 2020: January 15, February 26, April 8, May 20, July 8

End time: 2:14 pm.

Worker Representatives (attendance indicated by **bold**)

Cindy Morton-Cesarone , CUPE2692

John Ciriello, UWOFA

Felix Lee, UWOFA

Thomas Stein, IUOE

Stephen Crowe, IUOE Alternate

Tim Goldhawk, PMA

Gurpreet Dhami, PMA Alternate

Darryl Stanley, CUPE 2361

Barry Fletcher, CUPE Alternate

Cleusa De Oliveira, UWOSA

Rob Harbottle UWOSA

Cindi Talbot, SAGE

Siddharth Gupta, PSAC

Jeff Van Haarlem, OPSEU

Employer Representatives

Chris Bumbacco

Barry Russell

Steve MacKay

Mike Gaylard

Bryan Wakefield

Resources

Jane O'Brien

Matt Mills

Jean-Claude Aubin

Gina Choi