



Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Wednesday June 29th, 2022 - Minutes

1. **Approval of the Agenda** – Committee moved and accepted agenda
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Committee moved and accepted minutes from previous meeting of May 25th, 2022
3. **Business arising from previous meeting**
 - a. **Update on policies (Masking and Vaccination)**

Health Safety and Well-Being provided information on policy updates

 - Indoor Masking requirement has changed from mandatory to a recommendation, some areas will require masks for situational use.
 - Important to recognize that some people will still choose/have to wear masks, and this must be respected.
 - Policy updates for masking are available at <https://www.uwo.ca/coronavirus/>
 - Vaccine policy is still under review, with its expiry in September. The committee might participate in this conversation if need be.
4. **Review and Assess Trends**
 - a. **Accident/Injury Report**
 - 133 incidents YTD (January – End of May 2022), with 83 being First Aid related, 19 Lost Time related, and 31 Health Care related. In May, 12 FA, 6 HC and 1 LT related incidents reported.
 - 53% of incidents in May were in the FM Department, as well as 11% of incidents in both the animal care and housing departments.
 - Less total incidents than in 2019, but more than in 2020/2021.
 - b. **Critical Injuries**
 - None to report.
 - c. **Workplace Inspections**
 - 3 inspection dates completed since last meeting - 10 buildings with 15 units inspected.
 - 3 items for corrective action.
 - 33% of findings were electrical hazards, 33% of findings were safety station checks, and 34% were storage hazards.
 - Outstanding items: 3 orders, 2 past due.
 - d. **Work Refusals**
 - None to report.
 - e. **Safety Recommendations Submitted to the JOHSC**
 - Regarding gloves in hallway – Signage has been provided, looking into making an information video about safety/equipment.
 - f. **Workplace Violence and Harassment Report (Bill 168)**
 - Human Resources disclosed information for the committee regarding a harassment case.
5. **New Business**

- a. Health and Safety Excellence Program**
 - New recognition and rebate program, with the intention of improving workplace safety and accident reduction.
 - Many topics focused on limiting/eliminating hazards.
 - PSHSA has been chosen as approved provider.
 - Validation/review is conducted by WSIB representatives to monitor.
 - JOHSC is needed to help keep the program moving.
- b. Updates of Staffing for Health Safety and Well-Being**
 - Acting director is Louise Koza.
 - Hannah Williams and Jennifer Teale have joined the employee Wellbeing team.
 - Dr. Sonya Malone has joined workplace health.
 - Madison Morgan has joined as a student intern.
 - Gina Choi has joined the human resources systems support.
 - Adam Craig will be leaving his position as Wellness Co-ordinator at Western.
- c. Content of WHMIS training program**
 - Current information meets legislative standards.
 - Workplace training linked to legislation will be review by JOHSC in case updates are needed.
 - Suggestion to having direct hands-on training for (especially) the high-risk labs on campus. Health Safety & Well-Being advised that online modules for required training provide a minimum standard for everyone at Western. Any hands-on training should be done at the level of the PI/lab (or supervisor) for specific processes and procedures that are deemed to have increased risk.
- d. Terms of Reference Review**
 - No major changes/suggestions by the committee.
 - Any suggestions/updates should be submitted to for discussion at next meeting.
- e. Meeting Schedule for 2022-23.**
 - 2022 – August 24th, October 5th, November 9th, December 14th.
 - 2023 – January 18th, February 15th, March 29th, May 10th, June 28th.
 - Reach out to Health Safety Well-Being or Committee Chair if there are any concerns with dates or moving to in-person meetings

6. Adjournment