

**JOINT CUPE 951/UNIVERSITY
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday, February 08, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. (via Zoom)

Worker Representatives	Employer Representatives	Ex-Officio
Present:		
Nykita Downie Co-Chair **	Lynn Meyers, Co-Chair *	Jaclyn Davidson, AD, OHSE
Amy Issel	Trish Atchison	
Heidi Neeves		
Susie Dancer	Fiona Puszka	
Regrets:		
* Chair of Meeting (2024) ** Minutes (2024)		

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

2.1 Approval of Agenda

- The agenda was approved.

2.2 Approval of Minutes – February 08, 2024 meeting

- The minutes were approved as circulated with the following change to correct 4.1 from Now/Be – Lynn to correct.

3. Business Arising

3.1 Local Safety Committee (LSC) Update

Rob provided the following update:

- Rob advised that all COVID signage has now all been removed by FGMT. He requests that if anyone sees COVID-specific signage on campus to please let him know. Test kits have now expired and are in the process of being recycled, as much as possible. Rob noted there are no updates from the provincial health officer at this time.



- January has been an eventful month for Emergency Planning and CSEC with three issues arising from the extreme, cold weather in the region. The weekend of January 5 brought the loss of heat and ventilation in the DSB. Thank you to FGMT and OREG for working very quickly to get the repairs completed and building opened for occupancy; as well as rescheduling classes.
- A power outage in ISC (and Family Housing) on January 11 may have contributed to the ammonia leak at ISC on January 13. Thank you to FMGT, CSEC and other groups who assisted with the response and for keeping everyone safe.

3.2 University Safety Committee (USC) Update

Nykita/Susie/Jaclyn provided the following update:

- In follow-up to the USC meeting of September 2023 regarding working alone in labs, Andy reviewed the new resources for laboratory supervisors that have been developed by OHSE. These resources are designed to assist supervisors and ensure compliance with WorkSafeBC.
- Rob reviewed the events that led to the ammonia release in the compressor room at ISC and resulting closure of the ice rink. When alarms sounded at 9:30am on January 13, the FMGT shift mechanic radioed the emergency and made himself safe. CSEC and FGMT have done training/practice exercises for such an emergency and activated the site response team. Saanich and Oak Bay fire departments were also on scene. Preliminary investigations believe an oil filter head froze and cracked, resulting in ~ 2lbs of ammonia to be released (the facility holds ~200lbs).
- Jaclyn summarized that ECPs are required, as per WorkSafeBC, when an employee may be exposed to air contamination above 50% of its exposure limit, a biological agent or other hazardous substances. Seven departments as well as researchers using risk group 2 pathogens and/or cytotoxic drugs maintain their own ECPs in consultation and annual review with OHSE.
- Andy advised that Transport Canada periodically inspects campus to review the shipping and receiving of dangerous goods. An inspection and meeting was coordinated with TC, the manager of Science Stores and OHSE resulting in confirmation that we are in compliance with no deficiencies noted.
- Andy shared that training provided by the EAO and BCFED can fulfil the annual educational leave entitlement of up to 8 hours for LSC and USC members. These providers have both virtual and in-person education available.

3.3 Personal Safety Coordinator/CSEC update

Fiona provided the following update:

- Fiona advised that CSEC hired 2 new security officers starting this month. There has been 5 bike thefts campus wide so far this year. All cable locks.
- Fire drill season – every building being asked to schedule as soon as possible.



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- Usual information about learning central. Please visit <https://www.uvic.ca/hr/learning-development/index.php>

4. Incident Reports

4.1 Monthly CUPE 951 WorkSafeBC accidents/incidents – January Report

- 3 incidents – Category: 1 time loss/approved, 1 health care/approved, 1 health care/pending.

5. New Business

5.1 Retirements: Congratulations!!

- Lynne Meyers
- Fiona Puszka

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:51AM

Next meeting: Thursday, March 14/2024 at 11:30 a.m. (*via Zoom*)

