



MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Time: 2:30p.m.

Place: BEC 402

| Present | | Regrets/absences |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Terri Lacourse, Faculty Association (Chair) | Jaclyn Davidson, Associate Director, OHSE (Alternate) | Andy Mavretic, Director OHSE |
| Ori Granot, PEA | Leigh Andersen, FMGT Director, Customer Service & Program Integration | Eric Segec, CUPE 917 |
| Kaitlyn Diederichs, CUPE 4163 | Kane Kilbey, AVP Human Resources | Nykita Downie, CUPE 951 |
| Robert Johns, EP Manager (guest) | Jess Maclean, Director CSEC | |
| | Nicole Greengoe, Executive Director Wellness, Recreation and Athletics | |

1. Approval of the Agenda

Jaclyn requested that the consultation on outdoor air quality be moved ahead of respiratory protection to permit Rob Johns to participate in the discussion.

Motion: to approve the agenda. *Carried.*

2. Approval of the Minutes

Terri noted that she would like to see a report back to the committee regarding AED units in a future meeting.

Motion: to approve the minutes from March 26, 2024. *Carried.*

3. Emergency Planning (EP)

Rob provided an update on [training sessions](#) and events currently available in EP, and noted that there are no scheduled fire drills beyond April, for the next several months.

On May 8th, a [public emergency alert](#) test will be issued to cellphones, television and radio at 10:55 a.m. (Pacific time). Emergency alerts are broadcast on TV, radio, and cell phones to provide urgent, life-saving information during emergencies. Shortly after, the University will issue its own emergency alerts test.

Terri noted the recent appearance of University encampment protests (e.g., at UBC) and inquired on steps being taken to prepare for a similar encampment at UVic. Jess provided an overview of Campus Security's current hold and make safe plans, including limiting access to UVic buildings and increased security presence.

4. New Business

a. Consultation topics:

i. Outdoor Air Quality

Annually, the university reviews heat response protocols and provides summer safety communications for campus ahead of the season, through a combination of digicaster, UVic website, social media and targeted messaging, as appropriate.

Jaclyn provided an overview on information and guidance found on the [Summer Heat Safety](#) website related to heat events, heat stress prevention and how to stay cool during hot weather and further information regarding air quality affected by wildfire smoke, available on the [Outdoor Air Quality](#) website.

During the summer, the university monitors environmental conditions and forecasts for high/very high air quality health index (AQHI) or heat events including heat warnings from [Environment Canada](#) and provincial notifications for extreme heat emergencies, and potential impacts to campus activities.

Rob provided highlights on the outdoor air quality messaging to begin in May which focuses on stage 1, departmental, and stage 2, campus wide, advisory levels as they correlate with air quality health index levels. In the event of a provincial heat warning or extreme heat notification, the university will review and provide advisories if any campus-wide adjustments to operations or services are required.

Ori noted a concern regarding the rising temperature in some labs during extreme heat and the volatility/pressurization of certain chemicals and the need for a plan. Jaclyn has agreed to take this back to OHSE to review current processes to determine if any additional guidance or risk mitigation strategies are required.

ii. Respiratory Protection

Jaclyn reviewed the [respiratory protection program](#) on campus. The program is based on the CSA Standard Z94.4-11 (R2016) Selection, Use, and Care of Respirators and WSBC Regulations and is reviewed annually.

Graham Rhodes, OHSE Consultant, is responsible for managing the Respiratory Protection Program and conducting the annual respirator fit testing on campus. OHSE continues to support UVic groups across campus that require the use of respirators. OHSE conducted fit-testing for 69 employees in various departments in 2023, the majority of individuals were fit-tested for N95 respirators.

The Train-the-trainer Fit-tester course continues to be offered to departments to fit test their own staff to accommodate scheduling difficulties and high numbers. Training in the spring is scheduled for Facility Productions in the Visual Arts Department.

Facilities Management (FGMT) fit-tested a total of 8 employees (mainly shift engineers) on either half-face or full-face respirators in 2023.

5. WorkSafeBC

a. March 2024 claims summary

Jaclyn reviewed the seven claims submitted to WSBC in March which equated to four time loss and three health care claims.

b. WSBC first quarter claims summary

Jaclyn presented the data for claims approved by WSBC during the period of January to March 2024.

c. WSBC inspection report

Jaclyn advised an inspection report was received after an incident that occurred next to University House 2, in the Mechanical Engineering garage. Students from the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Department Car Clubs were working on a lithium ion battery which caught fire. No injuries were sustained and no WSBC orders were issued as a result of the incident. On site, WSBC shared resources they were developing for lithium ion batteries and requested additional information on the emergency response plan, specifically evacuation and response to managing potential fires/explosions.

6. **Other Business** - none

Meeting adjourned at 3:11pm
Next meeting will be: Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Location: BEC 402

