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| Logo, company name  Description automatically generated | JOINT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE  Wednesday, March 16, 2022 12:00 – 13:00  Virtual |

**Notes**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Present*** | ***Regrets*** |  | ***Present*** | ***Regrets*** |
| Kristine Monk (Admin) | x |  | Robin Boxwell (VIUFA) | x |  |
| Robert Okashimo (Admin) (C) | x |  | Cheryl Cave (VIUSU) |  |  |
| Dale Baumel (BCGEU) | x |  | Kim Sharpe (HSS) | x |  |
| Dean Cadieux (BCGEU) | x |  | Erin Bascom (HSS) |  | x |
| Stephen Doering (CUPE) | x |  | Kordell Bergen (HSS) | x |  |
| Shannon McKenzie (CUPE) |  | x |  |  |  |
| Chris Alemany (VIUFA) | x |  | Margot Croft *recorder* | x |  |

1. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as circulated.

1. **Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2022 meeting**

Minutes were approved as circulated.

1. **Business arising from previous Minutes**

No business arising from previous minutes.

1. **COVID Update**

Lifting of the mask mandate was not a surprise but the timing was. VIU worked as quickly as possible to communicate this change to its campuses. Further restrictions such as needing to be vaccinated to live in student housing will be lifted in BC on April 8. For businesses COVID safety plans will no longer be needed, but a communicable disease plan will be. For PSIs the COVID safety plans were replaced by the communicable disease plan in the fall. VIU has had this [plan](https://adm.viu.ca/health-and-safety/viu-communicable-diseases-plan) in place since the fall.

It was noted that federal proof of vaccination is still needed for travel.

It’s anticipated that an updated public health guidance document for post-secondary will be less specific than the current document (Return to Campus Guidelines) and more along the lines of a communicable disease plan.

Thank you to folks who were able to help with rapid test distribution which spanned a number of days. There is a goodly bit of surplus at this time. Tests can be picked up at the Campus Store, Student Union, HR counter, Residence, Gathering Place, Welcome Centre and International reception. Student or employee cards need to be shown. VIU will follow the provincial approach of 1 free kit can be picked up every 28 days; however, VIU will be relying on the honour system.

If there are requests for additional tests by instructors/faculty for varied intake times, athletic trips e.g., those will be supplied. Requests can be made to [safety@viu.ca](mailto:safety@viu.ca) .

Information on how to use test kits is covered in [VIU’s FAQs](https://adm.viu.ca/health-and-safety/covid-19/faqs-vius-2021-22-academic-year#travel2) which links to BC CDC videos on use.

1. **Follow-Up on Action Items**
   1. Briefing note for SMT re off-campus workplace orientation

This action stemmed from an employee being exposed to, and becoming ill with, COVID at a non-VIU worksite. Instructor and students were not given a PPE overview by that employer.

This briefing note recommends that orientation to safety and hazards at the non-VIU work site be given (by that non-VIU work site) to VIU students and VIU employees. Language in this note is from work Safe BC and outlines that VIU will verify this training has been done by the non-VIU work site.

This note will be submitted to Carol Stuart who may then take it to Provost Council for consideration.

***ACTION***

Committee feedback/comments are requested by Friday, March 18 via [the file on the Teams instance](https://viucanada.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/viu_teams_JOHSC/EffgkJl49ENBh69YPOwdBHgBL4Gt58mmGJd8_frC4HfAzg?e=KmxroI).

* 1. Pedestrian crossing Lot N

Kordell has followed up with Facilities who have responded that they await parts to repair this system.

Further discussion on this area noted that the stop sign was poorly situated, and other markings were hard to see because of the road angle of approach. Further that there is inconsistent signage at various pedestrian crossings at VIU.

***ACTION***

Kordell will investigate these concerns.

1. **Updates from Local Health and Safety Committees**

*Trades & Tech-- Feb 23*

Noted the following—

* B185 walk-in cooler door latch not working properly.

Requested that the manufacturer be contacted for an emergency latch on door as well as a kill switch inside the cooler in case of inadvertent entrapment.

* B365 reports of hand railing rotting away.   
  WO put in and Facilities is following up.
* Icy conditions at early start times -- Icy/snowy areas have not been remediated.   
  Facilities has bags of ice melt available for individual buildings in cases where students/employees arrive earlier than Facilities employees.

*Cowichan – March 8*

* The Cowichan committee will receive training on due diligence. JOHSC is reminded this training webinar is open to them as well and [dates can be found HERE](https://eao-employersseminars.labour.gov.bc.ca/Seminars).
* The Cowichan committee is developing their site safety plan for both sites and will incorporate the final plan into a safety orientation for Cowichan site(s) users.
* Updated safety inspection checklists have been requested and the committee plans to do regular inspections.
* Kim will join them for their monthly meetings.

1. **Report from Health and Safety**

***Kordell***

B310 inspection was done and the report is anticipated to be ready for next month’s meeting.

***Kim***

The committee was reminded that it may choose to bring forward concerns in regard to severe weather on campuses (specifically snow and ice) and work with the VP Administration on suggested improvements for winter conditions on campus.

Kim and Erin will review committee suggestions (where ploughed snow is piled; enhanced announcements of closures/conditions; and risk assessment in snow closure determination) as well as others. From there, they will draw up recommendations for committee review.

1. **Jurisdictional Reports**

***BCGEU*** No reports at this time

***CUPE*** Inconsistent cleaning was again cited. Also noted that rooms in B4 (Cedar) are not numbered so could pose challenges if EMS services are called. H&S will touch base with Housing on this.

***VIUFA*** No reports at this time

***VIUSU*** No reports at this time

1. **Review of Reports**
   1. Incident Report – February 2022

This report was reviewed with no further comment.

* 1. WorkSafe Inspection Reports
  2. Incident/Accident & Investigation Summary Report no reports
  3. Special Reports
  4. Safety Tour Report

1. **New Business**

No new business was brought forward.

1. **Information Items and Correspondence**

No information items/correspondence were brought forward.

Adjournment

12.:48

**Next Meeting**

April 20, 2022 12:00-13:00

Virtual