**JOINT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 12:00 –1:00

B180 R138 OR [Virtual (Teams)](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NjA0ZjljM2QtZjFmMy00ODQ5LWE5ZTYtNWVkYmY2N2M0ZjNj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22128dfef5-fdd5-4cfc-be19-3679ed0271ce%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a849f3bc-e6aa-4d30-b6c7-156320608cbc%22%7d)

# Notes

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Present* | *Regrets* |  | *Present* | *Regrets* |
| Rob Bauer (Admin) | x |  | Robin Boxwell (VIUFA) | x |  |
| Robert Okashimo (Admin) | x |  | Sarah Segal (VIUSU) |  | X |
| Dale Baumel (BCGEU) |  | X | Kim Sharpe (HSS) |  | X |
| Dean Cadieux (BCGEU) |  |  | Erin Bascom (HSS) |  | X |
| Jannine Grant (CUPE) | x |  | Kordell Bergen (HSS) |  |  |
| Ashley Faulkner (CUPE) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Alemany (VIUFA) | x |  | Margot Croft *recorder* | x |  |

### Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated with the addition of acute stress due to restructuring as a health & safety risk to be added in New Business.

1. **Approval of Notes from February 14, 2024**

Notes were approved as circulated.

### Business arising from previous Minutes

No items from previous minutes.

1. **Follow-Up on Action Items**
   1. Health & Safety participation in Facilities H&S meetings – Rob B

The offer of a representative from Health & Safety office to attend these meetings was declined.

* 1. Statistics to be included in twice-a-year reports to senior management -- all

The Prismatic report showing what metrics are included was presented and will be posted in the JOHSC Teams. Initial thoughts on building more granularity into the report included the following:

* Having a drill down option under Other for mental health occurrences or a separate listing for mental health
* Having a separate reporting piece for students as they tend to get lumped under Instructor especially in Culinary Arts.

***ACTION***

All are asked to review the Prismatic report and make any suggestions for additions at the April meeting.

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

Facilities

This group is working on rooftop access and work permits. A reminder that work orders for health and safety items need to be made so that a qualified person can attend to the deficiency. Work noted on a list presented to a Facilities employee isn’t always possible as they may not have the qualifications to perform the work. This will be communicated to all areas.

Cowichan – Kim is currently in Cowichan participating in their health and safety meeting.

There was a meeting with Liam and the folks at tiwšɛmawtxw about reviving their health and safety committee.

1. **Report from Health and Safety**

Kordell & Rob

The Hazard Registry folks have identified 68 hazards across campuses and those have been ranked in order of priority. Slips, trips, and falls was the top hazard. Creating programs to address those issues will start with the top 10 hazards and progress from there.

Recently, a garage door mechanism in the HEO area failed narrowly missing an instructor who was walking under it. That door is currently marked out of order and Facilities has arranged for all garage doors will be inspected with follow-up annual inspections.

Kim has completed developing an asbestos control program. The campus awareness program is re-designed and is on VIU Learn. It’s anticipated that this 30-minute training will be required for Facilities, IT, and Campus Development and as a general knowledge base for others. This information will be shared in the Digest and will result in a certificate.

It was noted that Facilities has a course their folks run through.

***ACTION***

Kordell will be in touch with Rob to compare Kim’s and Facilities’ programs to ensure continuity between the two.

Kordell will be updating site safety plans for HEO (Timberlands), GR Paine, Cowichan, and tiwšɛmawtxw (which will need a full review). A safety inspection at Milner will happen in the near future and then a site safety plan will be developed from the results of that inspection.

Over the last two years there have been about ten safety inspections/year. From these inspections a report has been developed that outlines trends in these inspections. The cycle to inspect all VIU buildings takes about 2.5 years. The Trades local safety committee does safety tours every 2 months of Trades areas which assists inspection flow.

In 2023, 50 work orders were generated from the inspections that were done. Health & Safety only generates works orders on exterior deficiencies. Interior deficiencies are the responsibility of building users. An effective way to track interior deficiencies and ensure work has been completed is being explored.

It was noted that signage may be a good metric for building exteriors.

Hoarding was noted as a common theme in building inspections. A clean-up day is being considered to be held 2-3 times/year. This could become a good opportunity to reinforce waste diversion information as well as build community. It was noted that getting the word out about this needs to be multi-pronged from face-to-face interaction through to social media with messaging coming from both peers and senior management. It was suggested that launching this initiative around Earth Day (April 22) could be a strategy.

1. **Jurisdictional Reports**

BCGEU—nothing to report at this time.

CUPE—nothing to report at this time.

VIUFA—There has been a good deal of discussion about anxiety. There is some indication that Communications and Marketing is going to do something to have some event in efforts to ally this.

VIUSU—nothing to report at this time.

### Review of Reports

* 1. Incident Report – February

This report was reviewed with no further comment, and it was noted that there will be an increase in mental health incidents in next month’s report.

* 1. Injury Report – February

This report was reviewed with no further comment.

* 1. Investigation Corrective Actions Report -- February

This report was reviewed with no further comment.

* 1. WorkSafe Inspection Reports – No report for review
  2. Special Reports – No report for review
  3. Safety Tour Report – B315

There were many issues with this building that included but was not limited to inadequate ventilation and no fire suppression in a shop area, legacy chemicals, and radioactive material (glow-in-the dark hands on an old watch). The Dean was invited to join the tour and she was very receptive to changes that need to be made.

It was further noted that the outdoor unfinished decks are very slippery because of mold and mildew.

***ACTION***

Rob will be in touch with Campus Development to devise a solution for remediation.

### New Business

Mental Health issues arising from VIU restructuring (Jannine)

The current restructuring at VIU is unprecedented in its breadth and speed of change. Although there are some supports in place, the manner in which the restructuring is taking place and the anticipated length of time it will be happening over is resulting in acute stress/shock which is a mental health safety risk. Further, operational continuity is at risk.

It was noted that from management perspective, this has been recognized and there will be a session for managers this Friday.

The hazard identification working group has identified this and it has been ranked highly as a workplace hazard. Mitigation strategies will be prioritized.

1. **Information Items and Correspondence**

There were not items or correspondence.

Adjournment—1:00pm

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday, April 10, 12:00-1:00

B210 R385 OR [Virtual (Teams)](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZjQ3ZmQ4NTktZjBmZC00OTQyLWE1ZDQtZTk5OGViNWJjMzhl%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22128dfef5-fdd5-4cfc-be19-3679ed0271ce%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a849f3bc-e6aa-4d30-b6c7-156320608cbc%22%7d)