

Woodroffe Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

Minutes of Meeting – January 26th, 2022

In Attendance:

Roch Lafond (Co-Chair)	Management Rep.	Parking, Lockers, Coin-Ops, and Card Services
Mike Benkie (Resource)	OHS	Manager, Occupational Health and Safety
Haneen Elshaer (Resource)	OHS/Recorder	Safety Officer, Occupational Health and Safety
Tim Rissler	Worker Rep.	Construction Trades and Building Systems
Derek Symes	Worker Rep.	Maintenance Mechanic, Technical Services
Judy Flieler	Worker Rep.	Professor, Nursing Faculty
Ralph Gethings	Management Rep.	Compliance Supervisor, Facilities Management
Ken Hill	Worker Rep.	Professor, HRAC

Regrets

Sandra McCormick	Management Rep.	Chair, Wellness Research & Innovation
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1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by R. Lafond and J. Flieler with the following addition:

- Physical distancing

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Wednesday January 26th, 2021 (Zoom)

The minutes were approved by J. Flieler and D. Symes

3.0 Business Arising

3.1 Training

The Manager, Occupational Health and safety reported that in person training will take place in the spring.

Action: M. Benkie

3.2 Regular Discussion of Inspection Reports

The Safety Officer, Occupational Health and Safety stated that she is working with Colleen McArthur in facilities management to adjust the Microsoft digital form. iPads are also required and will be added to the budget.

An issue with an out of order elevator was discussed and it was recommended to contact facilities and have them post a sign with the date the issues was reported and the reason. In this case, they are waiting for a part.

Action: H. Elshaer

3.3 Accident/Incident Reports

Reports will be available at the next meeting.

Action: M. Benkie

3.4 Covid - 19/ Students not adhering to Covid-19 protocols

The Safety Manager, Occupational Health and Safety stated that the health and safety team is overwhelmed with contract tracing as OPH is no longer assisting.

Action: M. Benkie

3.5 Ottawa Fire

No update

Action: -

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3.6 MOL charges

No update

Action: -

3.7 Vaccination policy

The Manager, Occupational Health and safety reported no updates; however, the policy may change in the future to include the booster.

Action: -

3.8 Daisy Chained Bars

The Worker Rep, Construction Trades and Building Systems reported that damaged/homemade cords were found during inspections and daisy chaining is a reoccurring issue and questioned if education material can be sent out college wide. The Manager, Occupational Health and safety suggested joining the next inspection and help removing damaged cords. Education and posters to be dispersed to all staff in the next couple of months.

Action: R. Gethings

New Business

4.1 Physical Distancing

The Worker Rep, Professor, Nursing Faculty reported that physical distancing based on the new regulation in instructional spaces is not required, however it is confusing because of the signs throughout the college. Despite the regulation, due to Omicron being highly contagious and for the safety of employees and students, the college should consider keeping the physical distancing practice in place in all instructional spaces.

The Manager, Occupational Health and safety stated that physical distancing is in place in most instructional spaces (95%), except a few specific ones that include nursing labs. The decision was made based on government regulation and so far, no issues or work refusals have been reported.

There was also a discussion regarding level 3 masks and the level of protection they provide. The Manager, Occupational Health and safety to forward an 18-page document that compares N95 masks and level 3 masks. The document states that there is minimal difference and that N95 masks should be used in hospital settings only.

The Manager, Occupational Health and safety, reminded members that if anyone is coming to the college with Covid-19 symptoms must leave the building, if problems arise security or health and safety team can be contacted for escalation.

Action: M. Benkie

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The next Woodroffe Joint Occupational Health and Safety meeting is scheduled February 16th, 2022

CO-CHAIR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

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