

Faculty of Health Sciences
Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC)
Minutes of Meeting

Held Wednesday, January 20th, 2021 at 1 p.m.

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| Attendees: | Anne Biggar | CCTG | Non-union |
| | Anita Lister | DBMS | MGMT |
| | Lucie Pelland | SRT | QUFA |
| | Dan Langham | EH&S | |
| | Edwin Ocran | PSAC 901- unit 1 (TA's/TF's) | |
| | Hamid Ghaedi | PSAC 901- unit 2 | |
| | Sharon David | SRT | MGMT |
| | Christine Irving | FHS | MGMT |
| | Allison Mackey | Nursing | MGMT |
| Minutes: | Allison Leverette | FHS | Non-union |
| Co-Chairs: | John Singleton | Cancer Research Labs | MGMT |
| | Worker co-chair vacant | | |
| Regrets: | Logan Bale | DBMS | USW |
| Copy to: | Safety Officers, Faculty of Health Sciences Department Heads | | |

J. Singleton (Co-Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

1) Approval of the Agenda

Approved as written, by C. Irving, and seconded by A. Lister.

2) New Business

2.1 Review of SOP-CHEM-09: Cryogenic Liquids

The document is very informative, however is still in draft form. Feedback is being solicited from committees over the next couple of weeks, and Environmental Health & Safety will review what edits may be needed for the SOP. Then the final document will be distributed through safety officers and Departments Heads to be further distributed to those in Departments who are affected. The document is in the consultation phase currently. At the end of the document is signage for transporting cryogenic liquids in elevators, etc.

J. Singleton will look into whether technicians are involved with loading/filling on the loading dock at Botterell Hall.

3) Other Business

3.1 Covid-19-related updates (D. Langham)

The most significant change is the province entering into a lockdown/stay-at-home order, which began on December 24, 2020. There was quite a bit of work at the beginning of 2021 to clarify the regulations and determine the overall impact to the institution, which fortunately hasn't resulted in a lot of change. There is still the ability to continue to do research, which is largely seen as an essential service. Research that had been approved can continue, although opportunities to conduct research remotely was recommended, in order to minimize movement. Teaching was not affected in FHS, although capacities were lowered for other areas to a 10-person maximum for in-person teaching, for the integrity of program and graduation requirements.

Students will be returning to campus in the next couple of weeks, with recommendations to self-isolate for 14 days prior to returning to campus. Only a handful of cases have been reported in KFL&A in the New Year, with those cases being imported from other areas. The Health Unit is pleased with the quick response to these cases, in order to contribute to lower overall numbers.

The focus has been on where we are seeing transmission - what are the key areas within a workplace? These areas within a business have been identified as lunchrooms/break rooms, and carpooling. Employees have largely been diligent with mask-wearing while performing work, although breaks and socializing are not taken as seriously this is when transmission occurs. This is a key area for Departments to keep an eye on.

There appeared to be an alteration to the face masking requirements, as some changes were made to the government documents in this area. However, EH&S has obtained information from KFL&A Public Health and the Ministry of Labour to keep up mask-wearing indoors by employees, visitors, patrons, and customers; however, there is no intent to change workspace requirements in private offices and when distanced. Face masks go on in common areas, and where those are unable to distance. There was initially a separate communication from the VP (Research) that indicated a more restrictive face mask-wearing requirement, which has since been clarified in the "Guidelines for individuals returning to campus" document on the Covid-19 information webpage.

It is questioned whether servicepeople are permitted to enter campus buildings in the Faculty during the lockdown, for equipment repair. D. Langham indicates that with Research being essential, some equipment repair is necessary. However, this should be pushed off where possible, unless there is an issue of functionality of a required

machine or impacts the safety of individuals. Overall, we should try to minimize who is coming into campus buildings, where possible. There is especially a risk with servicepeople coming in from other areas, outside of the KFL&A region.

D. Langham provided a note on safety inspections: there are no inspections being conducted during the lockdown period, so that people are not being brought into campus buildings unnecessarily. Those inspections scheduled for January can be shuffled into the spring/summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE Wednesday, February 24th, 2021 at 11 :00am.

Minutes approved by:


Co-Chair J. Singleton

(Worker Co-Chair position is vacant)