JOINT CUPE 951/UNIVERSITY
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 8, 2022, 11:30 am, via Zoom

Present:
**Worker Representatives:**
Janice Closson
Nykita Downie
Recording Secretary (in Amy’s absence)

**Employer Representatives:**
Lynn Meyers, Co-Chair
Allison Eddy (for F. Puszka)
Chris Smith
Penny Waterman

**Ex-Officio:**
Jaclyn Davidson, Associate Director, OHSE

Regrets:
**Worker Representatives:**
Amy Issel, Co-Chair
Heidi Neeves
Colin Newell

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
   2.1. Approval of Agenda
       • The agenda was approved as circulated
   2.2. Approval of Minutes - October 2022 meeting (Note: Nov/2022 meeting was cancelled)
       • The minutes were approved as circulated
3. Business Arising
   3.1. COVID-19 update
       Jaclyn reported the following:
       • Things have been very quiet on COVID, but flu season is up right now;
       • Reminder that UVic's [Communicable Disease Safety Plan](#) is still in effect; masks are encouraged in indoor public spaces, do a [daily health self-assessment](#), and stay home if sick;

   Nykita and Allison provided a reminder that masks and COVID rapid tests are available in the Welcome Centre and Campus Security.

   3.2. Local Safety Committee update
       Jaclyn reported the following:
       • Reminding committees to have common area inspections completed before end of year;
       • Annual review for January 2023.
3.3. **Personal Safety Coordinator/CSEC update**

Allison reported the following:

- Crime prevention tips for the Holiday Closure are displayed on the digicasters around campus;
- Reminder to secure windows and doors before leaving for the day;
- Spike in bike thefts
- Various training continues to be offered with personal safety training by request, including requests for Active Threat training in the academic units.

3.4. **University Safety Committee update**

Nykita reported the following from the **October 2022** USC meeting:

- COVID Bivalent booster is now available at pharmacies
- A campus health & safety update will be sent out later this term to all staff and students
- Rob noted the PHO is no longer monitoring case counts but rather is observing medical surveillance such as wastewater testing
- COVID cases are steady but not increasing dramatically at this time
- Andy reviewed the online WHMIS training provided by OHSE with classroom training offered upon request
- Since the training moved to Brightspace in April 2021, individuals will now receive an auto-email from Learning Central when their certificate has expired (therefore, expiries start in 2024)
- The UVic Alert system was tested last week during the Great BC Shake-Out with ~39K emails sent (within 15-20 minutes), 28K texts (within a few minutes), and 5000 messages (instant) sent via the UVic SafetyApp

Nykita reported the following from the **November 2022** USC meeting:

- BC CDC has advised that people who have COVID-19 are no longer required to self-isolate for a defined period of time
- Rapid antigen at-home test kits continue to be available for pick-up at the following 4 locations on campus: UVic Bookstore, Campus Security, JCC Welcome Centre, and the Student Wellness Centre
- Darryl gave an overview of high angle work, confined spaces, work with hazardous materials and underground work at the university
- There are 7 emergency teams at the university which include the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), Site Response Team, Executive Policy Group, UC&M Emergency Communications, FMGT Operations Centre, Emergency Call Centre and Rapid Damage Assessment Team
- Tom reviewed some events of the weekend that included 400 to 1200 people on campus, depending on the night
- Property damage occurred in Wilson and Wallace housing and fireworks were set-off but there were less cases of intoxication, fighting, and hospitalizations
- A sexual assault occurred over the weekend and the campus community was alerted
- Fiona reported there were 4 bike thefts at student housing over a long weekend in November
4. Incident Reports
4.1. Monthly CUPE 951 WorkSafeBC accidents/incidents for
   • October 2022 – None
   • November 2022 – None

5. New Business
   None

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am

Next meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 11:30 am, via Zoom