



## MINUTES

**Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021**

**Time: 2:30p.m.**

**Place: online**

Present	Present	Regrets
Cliff Haman (Chair), PEA alternate	Darryl Huculak, FGMT Health & Safety Coordinator	Ori Granot, PEA
Greg Melnechuk, CUPE 4163	Fiona Puszka, Personal Safety Coordinator	Pat Shade, CUPE 951
Eric Segec, CUPE 917	Andy Mavretic, OHSE Director	Rob Johns, Emergency Planning Manager
Terri Lacourse, Faculty Association	Elizabeth Errington, OHSE Administration Manager	Tom Downie, Director CSEC
Kane Kilbey, AVP Human Resources		Leigh Andersen, FGMT Director
Sue Gaudet, Director FGMT (alternate)		Ben McAllister, Manager Risk & Insurance

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion:** to approve the agenda. *Carried.*

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion:** to approve the minutes from August 31, 2021. *Carried.*

**3. Business Arising**

a. Return to campus updates

The university continues to follow [mask requirements](#) from the provincial health officer (PHO), as well as follow [the BC Vaccine Card program](#), promote the required [self-declaration and rapid antigen testing program](#), and support [vaccination clinics](#). The self-declaration program results have now been [published](#). Kane noted that proof of vaccination is required for students living on campus with 98.3% having provided proof to date. The university is following up with the remaining students to determine their vaccination status and to remind them that they are required to wear a mask in all indoor common areas in student housing until they are fully vaccinated.

A small percentage of the campus population will be required to continue to take a weekly rapid antigen test. Follow up is also underway with people that have not self-declared yet. It is expected that many of these individuals are staff on leave of absences, international students not on campus, or students away on co-op terms. The university will also periodically audit self-declarations and ask for proof of vaccination to be provided. Terri enquired if there would be consequences to someone refusing to declare or participate in rapid testing. Kane advised that there are follow-up processes for both employees and students. In either situation, it is expected that the individual would comply after follow-up and discussion, and if not, may result in discipline, loss of the ability to access UVic services or premises, or the loss of other privileges.

Kane also noted that the classroom ambassador program was very successful last year. This year, the ESL program continues to be impacted by temporary job displacement. 13 staff have been redeployed to the fall 2021 ambassador program. Greg shared that he has received feedback that the program is going well and that students are responsible and responsive when directed by ambassadors to don their masks.

Andy noted OHSE continues to assist campus and work with units about mask requirements for [events or activities](#) and as well as navigate questions of when proof of vaccination is required or not. Updated masking guidance for leaders will be sent out soon to assist with mask compliance/exemption issues in the classroom. Terri advised that many students remove their masks in the classroom as they sip & eat throughout class and that some instructors would prefer to have no eating allowed. Andy indicated that this issue was reviewed by the Transition Team, and the consensus was to continue to follow the PHO Order which permits students to remove their mask while eating or drinking. However, the [exemption guidance](#) on the OHSE website was updated to add the term while “actively” consuming food/drink. Andy also advised that some classroom facilities may have local rules in place that do not permit food or drink (e.g. labs, studios, shops, etc.) for non-COVID related reasons. Kane reiterated Island Health leads all [contact tracing](#) and that UVic continues to be a low-risk setting.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **a. Consultation: Working Alone**

Andy reviewed the working alone plan which covers six specific groups on campus. Darryl and Fiona agreed there were no changes at this time. Kane suggested the [working alone](#) resources be promoted to new people and/or people back on campus after being away for some time. Fiona will promote at the upcoming local safety committees as well as include the topic in her submission to the online student newsletter. Darryl will include in the FGMT new employee orientation. Andy will include as a reminder at the research safety committee meetings this fall.

#### **5. Emergency Planning Update (EP)**

The [Great BC Shake-Out](#) is on October 21 at 10:21am.

#### **6. PSC Update**

Fiona reported on several PSC activities, including ongoing attendance and facilitation with student orientations, [fire extinguisher training](#), and the [new bike registration system](#).

#### **7. WorkSafeBC**

##### **a. August claims report**

Elizabeth reviewed the updated report, which reflected six claims submitted to WSBC; 5 time loss and 1 health care.

##### **b. New inspection reports**

Andy reviewed two reports received from WSBC. One report was regarding a concern for possible lead exposure in a shop with soldering. WSBC followed up with information on safe work practices for handling lead and the exposure registry for potential occupational diseases was also offered to the employee. There were no issues of non-compliance or orders issued. The other report was in regards to refusal of unsafe work by two Residence Services employees regarding student masking in common areas of residence buildings. An inspection took place with the WSBC officer, supervisor, union rep, and two employees. Upon completion of the full investigation, WSBC determined that the PHO face coverings order does not require masks to be worn by students in common areas of residences as they are not indoor public spaces.

#### **8. Other Business - none**

*Meeting adjourned 3:33pm. Next meeting Tuesday October 26, 2021 on Zoom.*