

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting #250, February 13, 2008

MEMBERS:

Mark Knechtal (R)	University Appointee	Heather Ann Walker (R)	DUAG
Roberta Emms (P) Alt.	University Appointee	Mike Tipping (A)	DSU
Greg McNutt (P)	University Appointee	Zita Hildebrandt (P)	NSGEU
Paul Bourgeois (A)	University Appointee	Tammy Zinck (R) Alt.	NSGEU
Marlene Daye-Smith(P)	University Appointee	Mark Stradiotto (R)	DFA
Mateo Yorke (P)	University Appointee	Forest Fyfe (P)	DFA
Chris Keough (P)	University Appointee	Trent Ritchie (R)	IUOE
Paul Amyotte (P)	University Appointee	Ian Campbell (A)	IUOE
Ruth Murray (P)	University Appointee	Troy Winters (P)	CUPE

(P)resent - (R)egrets - (A)bsent

William J. Louch-Director
Jan Taylor McIntyre-Recording Secretary
Stephen Ellis-H&S Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS

None.

3. DRAFT MINTUES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The draft mintues were approved as circulated.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Radon Detector Locations

A list of locations where the radon detector has been placed in buildings on campus was circulated to members as an FYI. The detectors have been placed at the lowest point in representative buildings on all three campus as well as in each residential building. Detectors will be left in place for three months at which time they will be removed and sent for analysis.

4.2 Accident/Incident Investigation

Members reported that the session held in January was very informative. P.Amyotte apologized for the problems with the DVD used in the training session. He indicated that the supplier has replaced the defective disc.

As a follow-up to the training session, M. Yorke's asked the Committee if they wished to conduct a formal investigation of the chemical spill that took place in Mining and Minerals Engineering. Members felt that a follow-up would be useful and M. Daye-Smith, S. Ellis, F. Fyfe and M. Yorke offered to participate in the investigation.

W. Louch noted the Accident/Incident section of the Health and Safety Annual Report was circulated to members. Members reviewed the data which will be included in the Safety Office's Annual Report to the Board's Audit Committee.

5. ACCIDENT/INCIDENT MONTHLY SUMMARY

The monthly summary was included in the Committee's package. R. Emms suggested one correction be made. W. Louch noted that there were many falls reported over this period, most of which were related to the severity of

the winter weather. P. Amyotte also noted that reporting of a "near miss" is also evidence of good reporting.

6. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR ORDERS

Copies of a response to the orders issued by the Department of Labour following a Department of Physics inspection were circulated. Also included was a follow-up e-mail which W. Louch had sent to the Labour Department inspector.

The Committee reviewed the package and concluded that the University had responded appropriately. The members agreed that over the coming months, the Committee will need to closely monitor the implementation of the changes to the inspection program.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 New Regulation - Cell Phone Use while Driving

Bill #7 which will come into effect April 1, 2008 was circulated for the Committee's attention. The members asked that information on the change be passed along by University employees whose work involves driving. M. Yorke agreed to write to the Associate Vice-President of Human Resources and Director of Facilities Management to bring the matter to their attention.

7.2 Chemistry's Chemical Inventory - FYI

As an FYI, the Committee was informed of one inventory submitted to the Safety Office by the Chemistry Department.

7.3 Annual Safety Award - Call for Nominations

A reminder that it's time for a call for nominations for the annual safety award and the Committee will decide on a recipient at the April meeting.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Smoking Prevalence Graph

A graph from the National Tobacco Use Monitoring Program (in place for the last 10 years) circulated to members shows a downward trend of smoking among youth.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

Next Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

9:00 - 10:30 am

Room 406

Weldon Law Building