

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY
Minutes of
Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee
(JOHSC)

Monday, May 4, 2009

Human Resources Boardroom 2:30 – 4:00

Present: **Nancy Twynam (Co-Chair)** Carolynne Fardy (Co-Chair)
 Malcolm Henry Jean Crowe
 Victoria Baker Ken Tessier
 Dave Trevitt Cheryl Delling
 Susan Purdy Shima Iuchi
 Lincoln Chua Joi Freed-Garrod
 Debbie Blackwell Susan Petrovic (Minutes)

Regrets: Warren Asuchak Stacey Jyrkkanen
 Kim Johnstone

1. **Adoption of Agenda:**

The April 6, 2009 agenda was adopted. **Moved/Seconded**

2. **Adoption of Minutes:**

Minutes from April 6, 2009 meeting were adopted with correction of the spelling of "BCCOL" Building in 4 (c) under New Business. **Moved/Seconded**

3. **Business arising from Previous Minutes**

- 4.a Sandwich Board advertising – A table has to be booked through Kathy Richardson to have a sandwich board.
- 4.c Traffic concerns in front of BCCOL Building: Warren Asuchak contacted BC Transit re the buses driving down Dalhousie at fast speeds. Speed bumps installed. Committee will send letter to Warren thanking him for following up on JOHSC recommendation.
- 4.e JOHSC email account: Cheryl Delling looking into having account setup. Decision to table this item for discussion at Planning Meeting (May 11, 2009).
- 4.g Behind the Lines – Smoking: Paint didn't withstand the winter. Since Warren was not available for this meeting, this item has been tabled. Lincoln will follow up with Warren prior to next meeting but is quite certain Warren will have lines repainted.
- 4.h Health and Safety Training with Tim Ambrus on April 16, 2009 received very good reviews from those who attended.

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- 5.b Follow-up with regard to filing cabinets on cubical walls and if a policy is in place. **Action: Malcolm Henry looking into WCB policy.**

4. New Business

a) **Upcoming Planning Session – May 11, 2009**

- Room booked in University Prep area. Session will be based on compliance with the relevant legislation. A list of topics is being developed. Send email to Nancy Twynam if you have specific area you want discussed.
- WCB now referred to as WSBC (WorkSafe BC)

b) **Spraying on Campus:**

- Concerned Faculty member who has a child in Daycare is saying that she would have kept child home if she knew there was going to be pesticide spraying on campus. She asked for a response.
- Lincoln indicated that the pine trees weren't due to be sprayed until May 31 and it has been the practice to post and spray on a weekend and also close the campus.
- Will check with Grounds Maintenance to see if there has been any spray applications recently.

Action: Lincoln will follow-up with Warren Asuchak (Facilities) and Sue Purdy will follow-up with Lisa Nielsen (Grounds Maintenance).

5. Reports

a) Health and Safety

- Pandemic Planning – Chaired by Lynn Joly. Committee has been meeting daily and providing campus-wide bulletins on H1N1. Information based on WHO and IHA guidelines. Travel costs being reimbursed for TRU employees if work related travel was booked.
- Promoting and stressing the importance of handwashing.
- Students suggest hand sanitizers in the labs – Nancy will bring up at next Pandemic planning meeting.
- spread message of calm, we are prepared.

b) Subcommittee Reports:

- Jean Crowe, Chair of BCCOL subcommittee indicated that they had a “traffic training” exercise.
- Carolynne Fardy reported that Science has had some scent sensitivity issues. Currently under control. Concerns around labs sharing the

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same air. Physics lab is quite smelly and experiments should be run in fume hoods.

Lincoln reported that a test can be done to determine source of problem – just waiting for labs to finish for the semester. Cheryl offered a fogger if it would assist in testing. Students in Science also brought up issue of hand sanitizers.

- Trades – not available.

Note: A request was made to print the list of subcommittees and their chairs from the Website. Need to promote JOHSC attendance. Committees need to be aware that if an accident should happen, TRU is negligent until proven otherwise.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

Next scheduled meeting Monday, June 1, 2009

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