

Minutes of the Health and Safety Committee
February 18, 2015 - Gatineau Regional Office

Present:

Vickie-Lynn Smith (UTE) (committee chair)	Carol Istvandi
Dennis Mah (UNDE)	Roch Laramee
Gary Bosloy (UNDE)	Behiye Cinkilic
Joanne Robinson (UNDE)	Denise Camus
Mark Scott	Ron Clark

Regrets

Marc Beland (REP)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 17:30 by Vicki-Lynn.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Welcome

Vicki-Lynn welcomed everyone.

Round Table

Those present introduced themselves and identified the key issues in their workplaces.

From WHMIS to GHS Implementation 2017 or 2019?

The regulations for the GHS have been published in part two of the Canada Gazette. They come into force between 2017 and 2019. The link is -

<http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2015/2015-02-11/html/sor-dors17-eng.php>

With the recent announcement of the changes to Canada's Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS 2015), a website has been released to help Canadians transition

from the old WHMIS system to WHMIS 2015 which implements the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The GHS amends numerous pieces of legislation dealing with hazardous products, including the ones dealing with TDG and WHMIS. The new laws harmonize communicating hazards related to chemicals between multiple countries and between workplace and consumer laws.

The website, www.WHMIS.org, provides Canadians with a single point of access to the most current information about WHMIS 2015 from all of the jurisdictions across Canada. The website also contains helpful tools and resources for workers, employers, suppliers and trainers.

Election of Alternate to the OFL Health and Safety Meetings

The OFL has a health and safety committee. The PSAC rep is from the Toronto region. An alternate is from this region.

Denise Camus was elected as the alternate.

Regional Health and Safety Conference

The regional health and safety conference will be in 2016. Because of the planning involved we should start planning soon, Vicki-Lynn asked committee members to propose topics and speakers.

Suggestions for topics were:

- Ergonomics
- Duty to Accommodate
- Mental Health
- Sleep deprivation
- Violence in the workplace, including bullying

Suggestions for speakers were:

- Linda Druxbury

The last two conferences were in Ottawa so this one will be in Gatineau. Marc will check out the Crowne Plaza, Palais de Congres and another one near the Gatineau Regional Office. The facility must be accessible.

The committee recommended that the conference be held in April. Ideally April 2nd and 3rd, although the date may have to be changed.

If anyone has suggestions for themes or speakers they should pass them to Marc and Vicki-Lynn.

National Day of Mourning (April 28)

April 28 is the National Day of Mourning for people killed or injured on the job. There is an annual service at Vincent Massey Park near the Heron Rd. bridge.

The committee recommended buying a number of pins and posters from CCOHS.

Round Table

Mark Scott reported that the WHSC is offering RSI training on February 27, 2015 at the Chimo from 8:30 – 15:30. The cost is \$20.00. The training is in support of RSI Day. Information on the day is available at:

https://www.whsc.on.ca/Files/Events/RSI-Day-2015_web-flyer_Jan28.aspx

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 19:00