

**Minutes of the Memorial University &
Memorial University of Newfoundland Faculty Association
Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee (JOHSC) Meeting**

Friday, November 25, 2011

**2:00 p.m.
Room: C-2001**

Present: Dr. George Jenner, MUNFA Representative and Co-Chair; Dr. Barbara Neis, MUNFA Representative; Dr. Sevtap Savas, MUNFA Representative; Mr. Ian McKinnon, MUN Representative and Co-Chair; Ms. Tina Kielly, MUN Representative; Dr. Mark Abrahams, MUN Representative; Ms. Sheila Miller, Director, Department of Health & Safety;

Minutes taken by: R. Kelly

1. The Agenda
2. The Minutes from the May 20, 2011 meeting were reviewed – a correction was made to “Other Business” item ii). Mr. McKinnon moved and Dr. Jenner seconded the motion for approval.
3. Update on items “for Action” from May 20th meeting:
 - a) Tier I & III Committee Updates – The Tier I committee is meeting every two (2) months; this committee is working on a policy regarding safety and clear guidelines for a safe environment for the University. Ms. Miller will send an update on the exact number of Tier III committees.
 - b) 4 Clark Place – All hazardous materials have been removed.
 - c) New Smoking Policy – This policy was approved by the Board of Regents in July and it came into effect on August 1. There was some discussion about where the designated smoking areas are situated and that there were none in close proximity to most faculty and staff.
 - d) SN-1069 – Dr. Abrahams updated the committee that the remedial work has been carried out and that remediation work is unnecessary due to no soil contamination. The University will be proceeding with the work on this laboratory very shortly.

4. New Business

- i) Incident Report – Ms. Miller informed the committee that these reports will be generated quarterly and she will ensure that MUNFA are copied. A discussion was had about the ergonomist as to whether they were consulted about the new Genetic building and the new residence buildings under construction. Also, have any students request an ergonomic assessment.
- ii) Safety Measures Pedestrian Walkway – Prince Philip Parkway, Morrissey Drive and Livyers Loop – The timing of the light is not long enough for people to cross on the light. Ms. Miller indicated that the City of St. John’s is responsible for lights and that there is a process of changing a light and how it affects traffic flow. Dr. Jenner asked should this concern be placed on the agenda of the next Tier I committee meeting.
- iii) Asbestos Abatement Program – There was discussion about a Smart classroom in the Science building not being used because of asbestos. Asbestos Management is carried out by the Department of Health and Safety, a request is sent to their office, records are checked to see if an asbestos abatement has been carried out, if there is no record of this than testing will be done.

5. Other Business

- i. Wireless nodes – Discussion was had about using wireless and if there is any health concerns from long-term exposure.
- ii. Dogs in Buildings – This was a concern raised at a Tier III meeting, the committee could not find any information or regulations regarding this and were looking for advice.

Next Meeting

February, 2012

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.