

**Faculty of Health Sciences  
Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC)  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Held Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**

<b>Attendees:</b>	Logan Bale	DBMS	USW Local 2010
	Anne Biggar	CCTG	Non-union
	Sharon David	SRT	MGMT
	Jacqueline Findlay	Medicine	MGMT
	Monika Holzschuh	A&S	QUFA
	Christine Irving	FHS Ops	MGMT
	Dan Langham	EH&S	
	Allison Mackey	Nursing	MGMT
	Edwin Ocran	PSAC 901– unit 1 (TA's/TF's)	
	Yat Tse	DBMS	MGMT
<b>Minutes:</b>	Tammy Henry	FHS Ops	
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	John Singleton	Cancer Research Labs	MGMT
	<b><i>Worker co-chair vacant</i></b>		
<b>Regrets:</b>	Hamid Ghaedi	PSAC 901– unit 2	
<b>Copy to:</b>	Safety Officers, Faculty of Health Sciences Department Heads		

*J. Singleton (Co-Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.*

**1) Approval of the Minutes of December 15, 2021**

Approved by Y. Tse seconded by M. Holzschuh

**2) Business arising from the minutes**

D. Langham confirmed that the SeQure app questions have been updated. The questions were based on the provincial screening tool. They now follow local public health recommendations.

**3) New Business**

**3.1 Injury report (Centre for Neurosciences)**

J. Singleton reported on an incident in the Centre of Neurosciences. A research assistant went to poke a vein on a non-human primate and

poked herself by accident. She was seen at HDH, but there was no missed time at work as a result of this incident. D. Langham commented that there are 2 more injury forms for this person which involved first aid only. He will have someone reach out to the lab as this person has had 3 injuries in a short period of time.

### **3.2 Inspection report (School of Nursing, Cataraqi Building, Centre for Neuroscience Studies (1<sup>st</sup> floor Abramsky Hall)**

S. David reported on the two inspections. All issues have now been resolved. The main concern was with the deterioration of pipe coverings in the basement of 80 Barrie St. The pipes were checked to ensure they weren't asbestos covered. All was found to be ok.

## **4) Other Business**

### **D. Langham COVID update**

D. Langham updated the committee on the dramatic increase of Omicron cases in the community and on campus in December. The decision was made to cancel all in person exams. The start of the winter semester will be remote for January and February. The university is currently in the process of planning for the return of in-person teaching February 28.

As the Omicron cases began to surge we saw the government change priorities with regards to PCR testing. PCR testing is now only available to a category of high risk individuals. The campus isn't included in this high risk category. We now need to screen and act accordingly. The isolation period is now 5 days. A contact is still the same although the process for identifying a contact is different. The individual will need to identify who they have been in contact with. Communication is between the individual and everyone that they have been in contact with. At the university Environmental Health and Safety can help with what is an appropriate communication based on the circumstance. If you don't live with a close contact you are required to monitor your symptoms rather than isolate. There has also been a shift with rapid testing. They were once used as a general surveillance, but now are used in specific circumstances such as bringing someone back into a workplace early. There are currently supply chain issues with rapid tests. The government is prioritizing a number of supplies to hospitals, long-term care and school boards.

The recommendation from public health and provincial public health is that the university should begin using a 3 layered type mask (medical mask) and move away from a cloth mask.

C. Irving spoke about having a mandate for medical grade masks in QHS buildings. Please contact Y. Tse if you are in Botterell Hall and require masks or C. Irving for other QHS buildings. It isn't known for how long this mandate will be in place. Communication will be sent out broadly if and when there are changes.

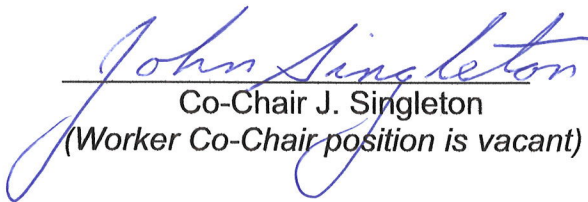
C. Irving asked that individuals in old buildings not touch or try to turn down the heat by closing off radiator valves. There have been a couple of burst radiators in buildings on campus recently. If there are heat concerns in your building please reach out to K. McKegney directly.

**5) Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.*

**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE Wednesday, February 16, 2022.**

Minutes approved by:

  
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Co-Chair J. Singleton  
(Worker Co-Chair position is vacant)