

Queen's University Library

Joint Health and Safety Committee

Oct 21, 2021 9:30 AM Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

Present:

A. Cooper (CUPE 1302), G. Akenson (QUFA), E. Xu (USW), N. Petri (Safety Officer/Library Management and Recorder), D. Langham (Director, EH&S), H. McMullen (Library Management), D. Conner (CUPE 1302), K. Hernden (Library Management), S. Dean (Library Management)

Regrets: B. Hulme - Resource (Facilities & Maintenance Coordinator)

1. Approval of agenda

2. Approval of minutes – Sept 23, 2021 – accepted as posted

3. Business Arising

a. COVID-19 update - provided by D. Langham

- Things are stable at the moment. Both in Kingston and campus. According to Health Unit, the case numbers are going down in Kingston area and the provincial area. We are waiting for another week to see what happens after people have come back from Thanksgiving holiday. Likely we won't see a huge increase in case numbers like before.
- There are not many changes from the provincial government since last meeting, but the Provincial Government lifted some capacity limits for sports arenas. For example, there is no capacity limits for fully vaccinated people in stadium to watch sports games. Still, there is no change for the ARC. As hockey season is approaching, we can have fully vaccinated people occupy in stadium. The other impact in the campus is in the area of performing art. Now fully vaccinated people can come to their facilities. We are adapting as changes are made to restrictions.
- We are still in step 3 and will move from step 3 soon. Last week the provincial government indicated there will be changes coming. We don't know the timeline of moving from step 3 and what moves might be made. The changes usually come on Friday's. We'll have to see how any changes impact the University operations.
- Queen's University specifics: In the September 28th meeting, the university's Fall Planning Operations Working Group discussions focused on how things are coming along with respect to vaccine declarations. Staff and students' vaccination rates are high. In the Oct 15th meeting, they focused on domestic and

international travel. We are again permitting member of the Queen's Community to travel internationally. People need to make sure to comply with campus health and safety policies. All related info is posted on EH&S and other COVID-19 related websites. For in person gatherings the university will hold off until November to make any changes. Announcements will come out this week or next week from the province.

- Reports on Ventilation review were distributed earlier. PPS is continuing to inspect and monitor ventilation system, especially in those classrooms with more than 100 people capacity and small classrooms in old buildings. For the Law Library, there is a second documents posted which details a recent test in their staff areas. For details see posted reports.
- G. Akenson questioned what staff and students' full vaccination rate are. D. Langham answered staff are at 97%, students at 96%. The info can be found on VP Finance Administration website.
- S. Dean advised on HR the side, there are steps for vaccinating validation process. October 15 was the due date to declare two doses of approved vaccines. There are HR processes taking place if someone does not have their second dose and there is no approved accommodation. Staff, students, faculty anyone who is not fully vaccinated or with an approved accommodation can't participate in the on campus university activities.
- G. Akenson also questioned: Regarding all ventilation reports if there are examples/cases for comparison. D. Langham advised that they did many measurements in many areas. The reports are based on the results of measurements.

4. Other/New Business

D. Conner asked: If it is possible for individual staff to ask for ventilation assessment in their workspace? As she noticed that the assessment numbers in the three rooms in Law Library are different between the reports and what physically see. N. Petri advised that the recent assessment area was based on an agreement with QUFA. Individual offices are not being assessed.

5. Safety Officer's Report

N. Petri advised that there were no injuries or lost time injuries

6. Report from Members

D. Conner – Nothing to report.

N. Petri – Nothing to report

K. Hernden – Nothing to report.

- A. Cooper – Nothing to report.
- G. Akenson – Nothing to report
- E. Xu – Nothing to report.
- D. Langham – Nothing to report
- H. McMullen – Nothing to report
- S. Dean – Nothing to report

7. Next Meeting - November 25, 2021

Chair – N. Petri; Minutes – K. Hernden