

**British Columbia Regional Union Safety and Health Committee
(BRUSH)
Minutes
August 2, 2017**

In Attendance: Linda Harding (Chair), Bill Fleming (GSU), Jennifer Horsley (UPCE), Monique Backer (UHEW), Mariah Moraes (USGE), Kirsty Havard (USGE), Earnest Hooker (UCTE), Leanne Hughes (CIU), Johanne Ackerman (UTE), Desery Ng (CEIU) and James Little (PSAC).

Regrets: Wayne Little (UTE), Colleen Girard (UNDE), Brenda Todd (CEIU) and Wes Todd (CEIU) and Jamie Mills (REVP BC)

Agenda

Accepting the Agenda:

Review Previous Minutes

Business Arising

New Business

1. BC Fed Activities
2. Terms of Reference Update
3. Invitation and Ideas for Guest Speakers
4. Fentanyl Crisis
5. Food Safety First Survey
6. CCOHS White Paper on Impairment from Cannabis

Round Table

Adjournment

Roll Call

Linda conducted a Roll Call

Accepting of the Agenda

Accepted with no amendments.

Review Previous Minutes

We reviewed the previous minutes all tasks have not been completed. Linda will review and send the BC Fed three-year plan once it has been approved by the

BC Fed Occupational H&S Committee. The delay is directly related to the appointment of the new government. The plan was originally developed with the old government in mind and because we have a new government the plan will likely change.

Accepted

Business Arising

No Business Arising

New Business

BC Fed Activities

Linda gave a brief of the June BC Fed H&S Committee meeting. They introduced a lot of power point presentations from the Workers Compensation Board which we will send out to the BRUSH Members. The WCB has sent us copies of the decks for issuing.

Of interest one of the new WCB regulations requires a 6-meter smoke free area outside of buildings which replaces the previous 3 meter smoke free perimeters in BC. The smoking ban now includes vaporizers as well.

They did a review of the 3 year plan however it will be postponed until we know what is happening with the change of government.

TASK: Linda will provide BRUSH with 3-year plan once approved by the BC Fed

Terms of Reference (TOR) Update

We will send out the Terms of Reference for BRUSH members to review. We will ask members for suggested changes to two areas, number of meeting per year and how to properly identify BRUSH members in good standing for the purposes of running for office and delegate status at regional conventions.

TASK: Send TOR out to members.

Invitation and Ideas for Guest Speakers

We had some members make some suggestions at the last meeting and they were not captured in the minutes so we are asking members to resend their ideas to James and Linda. We would like to ask a member of the National H&S Office to do the first engagement on Psychological Health and the Garding Minds Survey and how we can work that into our work.

Fentanyl Crisis

James explained the Fentanyl issue with emphasis on CBSA and Fish Cops. We have had several enquiries in the last couple of months with respect to the lack of

departmental and agency policies and procedures with respect to exposures to fentanyl in our workplaces. It appears the departments and agencies are working in isolation with respect to the issue and this is causing a great deal of concern for our members.

It appears that some departments and agencies have begun the process of dealing with potential member exposures and the use of Narcan in the workplace. We hope that the issue is being considered at the highest levels of the organizations and that all government departments and agencies will soon have formal procedures in place which will include training in the use of Narcan.

At our request, the PSAC has developed a bulletin on the issue which is currently in translation. We will issue the bulletin as soon as we can and hopefully members will gain a greater insight to the issue. The BC Federation of Labour has also produced some information on the subject which James will distribute to our BRUSH members.

PWGSC has coincidental contact as well and they are expecting a paper issued very soon.

Narcan and Naloxone are provided in all federal correctional institutions but not with the parole members. They have developed post exposure protocols.

Purolator does not have a protocol in place and because they are in the business of delivering packages the risk for an exposure is great.

CBSA has training on how to use the Narcan (one hour).

RCMP is dealing with this as well.

TASK send our policy and the BC Fed info.

Food Safety First Survey

The Agriculture Component has developed a very good survey which has just been released. Please complete the survey and encourage your members to do the same.

<http://agr.sondages-surveys.ca/s/v2-a-food-policy-for-canada/?l=en>

Please add this to your next workplace H&S meeting agenda for discussion.

CCOHS White Paper on Impairment from Cannabis

We have issued this as well and everyone should have a copy and we would like to ask that the issue be added to your workplace committees agenda for discussion at your next H&S Meeting.

The question was raised about a quick test and there is nothing acceptable other than a urine or blood test.

Round Table

Linda spoke on behalf of Jamie (REVP BC) who sends his regrets but thanks members for their continued participation on the workplace H&S Committees and the BRUSH.

Monique : Fraser Valley Hospital will give out free Narcan to anyone who sits through a short 10 min educational on its use.

Johanne: problems with chemical sensitivities in the workplace.

TASK: Send Johanne copies of the PSAC sent free book and make a copy of the video which is on the web. Ask Patrick.

Next meeting – September 20, 2017

Adjourned