

JOINT CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SAFETY

December 8, 2005

9:00am-12:00pm- OHA Office – 200 Front Street W. Suite 2800 Ontario Room

MINUTES

Present: OPSEU – Frank Pezzutto, Brendan Kilcline, Lisa McCaskell, Joan Murray
 Chair – Brendan Kilcline
 OHA – Steve Shemluck, Nancy Kemp, Terry McMahon, John Pellegrino
 Minutes – Iris Cooney, Chris Harper

#	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION ITEM
	<p>Call to order: 9:10 AM Motioned that due to Terry’s obligations at 10:30 AM if Brendan Kilcline would Chair the meeting. Motion was passed.</p> <p>Joan Murray was introduced. She has been OPSEU’s alternate member on the JCCHS and will replace Frank Pezzutto who is retiring. A posting for Joan Murray’s position (alternate) will be conducted by OPSEU.</p>	<p>OPSEU</p>
<p>1.</p>	<p>Approval of Minutes for September 20, 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes were approved as amended 	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Business Arising and ongoing issues from minutes of September 20, 2005</p> <p>a) Competent Supervisor Document Discussion Nancy K provided an update and copies of documents from the HCHSA regarding ‘competent supervisor’ training. OPSEU requested clarification of the spot check process. Nancy K. indicated that the WSIB conducts spot checks on 10% of Safety Group participant organizations annually. Terry M. will provide to the group a copy of his organization’s report.</p> <p>Group had a general discussion around the level of and/or definition of supervisor that would be trained under the OHSA. Lisa M. agreed to come back with information regarding whether laboratory charge techs would fall under the definition of supervisor in the OHSA.</p> <p>b) SEMD Update-ALL</p> <p>Needle Stick DVD Presentation was made by John P. Committee members agreed that for some personnel it takes longer to become accustomed to the new equipment. OPSEU raised the issue of whether the MOHLTC would continue to fund the transition to SEMDs and the possibility that employers would revert to traditional devices if funding is not continued. Committee members agreed that it is important for employers to make the transition to SEMDs both from a health and safety and cost perspective. Although SEMDs are more expensive than traditional devices, the decrease in sharps injuries and associated costs will result in long-term savings for employers. The point was also made that the costs of SEMDs are also expected to drop as sales volumes rise.</p> <p>c) Lifting Devices Update Nancy K. updated group with regards to recent purchase and</p>	<p>NK</p> <p>LM</p>

	<p>implementation of lifting devices using special MOHLTC funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy has attempted to obtain information from the Nursing Secretariate on how much of the May funding was distributed and which members received and utilized the \$16 million of available funding. These numbers are not being distributed by MOHLTC. Nancy K. will inform the Committee when the figures are available. • OPSEU stated that it would be of interest to review back injury rates after the recent installation of Lifting Devices. OHA representatives reported that hospitals now will report to the MOHLTC their annual back injury statistics. It was also reported that the Institute for Work and Health is conducting a study on the results of the introduction of recently funded lifting devices. <p>d) Sonographer Project Update Draft of the Questionnaire was presented by Lisa M.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members agreed to review the questionnaire before the next meeting and to discuss their comments then. • Members briefly discussed where the ergonomic assessments might be performed and how the results of the assessments will be linked to the data collected in the questionnaire. • Nancy K. will be going back to respondents of her earlier query to confirm their organizational size and to confirm their commitment to participating in the project. • Lisa M. will investigate the boundaries of the area serviced by the Toronto OHCOW clinic as it was thought that it would be more efficient for the same OHCOW team to conduct the assessments at all participating sites. She will communicate this information to NK prior to the next meeting. • OPSEU will distribute the survey to OPSEU health and safety representatives through its own networks, although the survey will be identified as a JCCHS initiative. • Lisa M. will present at the next meeting a draft cover letter, which the committee will review. <p>e) Draft Communication on Employer’s Reporting Obligations Update</p> <p>Steve S. and Terry M. will work with the existing draft and communicate proposed edits before the next meeting. Distribution will be addressed at the next meeting. No previous joint communiqués have been distributed by the OHA and OPSEU.</p>	<p>NK</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>NK</p> <p>LM</p> <p>LM</p> <p>SS, TM</p>
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3.	<p>New Business</p> <p>a) Standing Safety Group Update Nancy K. reported there has been a total received rebate of 1.3 million that will be distributed to the 76 Safety Group members. It is distributed based on the percentage of the premium paid by each organization. A WSIB Value for Money audit on the work of the Safety Group is being conducted which will be ready Spring 2006. There is no decision yet on the future of the safety group program. Until WSIB makes a decision on the future of the Safety Group, the WSIB is not accepting any new sponsor members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brendan will attend at least one Safety Group meeting in 2006. Nancy K. will provide the meeting schedule for Brendan's review. <p>b) Pandemic Influenza Planning Update OPSEU requested an update on Pandemic Influenza planning from the OHA. Specifically, the OPSEU reps were interested in plans to address employee H&S during a pandemic. The OHA has a Pandemic Influenza planning session scheduled for January 2006.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nancy K. will inquire about the status of pandemic planning at the next HSAC meeting and report her findings to the next JCCHS meeting. 	<p>BK/NK</p> <p>NK</p>
4.	<p>Next meeting dates: Poll for 2006 meetings</p> <p>Wednesday February 15/2006- OPSEU Wellesley Offices-9am-12pm Wednesday May 10/2006-OHA Offices-9am-12pm Wednesday September 13/2006-OPSEU Wellesley Offices-9am-12pm Wednesday December 13/2006-OHA Offices-9am-12pm</p>	
5.	<p>Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 PM</p>	

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