

Pandemic Influenza Planning Update

- This item is to remain on the agenda for the December 2006 meeting.
- L.McCaskell referred to the pandemic article in the Spring/Summer 2006 version of the Health and Safety bulletin. The article covered general instructions for hospitals. L.McCaskell was interested in knowing what the OHA's role in ensuring hospital plans are in place and if there is an opportunity for these plans to be shared. It was suggested that Educational sessions and more detailed instructions be coordinated and available through the OHA
- L.McCaskell advised the committee members that British Columbia's provincial pandemic plan will be amended to require N95 respiratory protection for HCWs at risk of exposure to pandemic influenza
- Interest was expressed for the committee members to receive regular updates on the OHPIP Sub-Committee Training Working Group. This Sub-Committee is scheduled to meet in December to establish a workplan and time frames.

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(T.Siriska)

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Safety Group Update

J. Philipose provided an update on behalf of T. Siriska – which included the following items:

- Two regional Safety Group meetings were incorporated into the OHA Safety Group meeting schedule. The Region 1 meeting was held at the Sault Area Hospital in June and one in Region 5 is scheduled to take place on September 18 in London
- The agenda and speakers have been finalized and confirmed for the Health and Safety Professionals session at HealthAchieve. This session is included as one of the OHA Safety Group meetings for 2006
- Final 2006 OHA Safety Group meeting will be held on November 27, 2006
- The 2007 WSIB Safety Group program will not be subject to the 20 Million dollar cap – this has been removed. The program will continue and program revisions and changes will be given to sponsors from the WSIB over the next few weeks and months.

Health and Safety Advisory Committee Update

J. Philipose and J. Pellegrino provided an update which included the following items:

- The Health and Safety Advisory committee met on September 11, 2006
- The OHA has filled the vacancies on this committee and has added additional members as well – to increase regional representation and Health and Safety expertise (Five new members in total)
- The following presentations were made to the HSAC members:
Anne Duffy, from OSACH spoke to the members regarding the workbook and guide for hospitals on ergonomics.
Paul Casey, WSIB, provided the HSAC members an update on the Safety Group Program review – which highlighted the removal of the 20 Million dollar rebate cap.

	<p>New Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JHSC Survey by CREOD L. McCaskell provided an update to the group on the study of JHSC in acute care hospitals. The survey will provide results on JHSC training and how the committee functions. The letters and survey have been approved by all involved in the study and this has been sent out to Hospitals. • Attendance of OPSEU members of committee at 2006 OHA HealthAchieve L. McCaskell inquired if passes for HealthAchieve could be made available for OPSEU members – specifically for the Health and Safety Professionals sessions as well as the Pandemic Planning forum. S. Shemluck to look into the details and will advise members accordingly. • Update regarding ongoing problems with hospital employers meeting reporting obligations under OHSA L. McCaskell tabled this item as an ongoing concern. Employers continue to fail to meet the reporting obligations under the OHSA. It was mentioned that the OHSA supersedes and is paramount in relation to any privacy issues. L. McCaskell outlined the fact that these obligations are not being followed by Hospitals. Reports are not being received at all – some are months late – others are incomplete. It was suggested this problem area requires a coordination of an educational component in the Hospitals. 	S. Shemluck
4.	<p>Next meeting date: Wednesday December 13, 2006 at the OHA in the Heritage Room 10:00 am – 12:30 pm</p>	
5.	<p>Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 PM</p>	