



JOINT CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SAFETY
Wednesday, February 24, 2010
10:00am-2:00pm
OPSEU Headquarters

Attendees:

Chanta Bair
Rachel Bredin
Tim Savage
Robyn Fremeth
Brendan Kilcline, Co-Chair
Tom LeBlanc
Brenda Rantz, Co-Chair
Lisa McCaskell
Joan Murray

#		AGENDA ITEM	Speaker
1.	10:00 AM	Call to order	T. Savage
2.	10:10 AM	Approval of Minutes of December 9/09 Add attendees onto the minutes from Dec 9/09 Approved.	All
3.	10:18 AM	Review of Agenda <u>Additions:</u> Carex Discussion in the New Business section Add Slips Trips and Falls to Business Arising	All
4.	10:20 AM	Business Arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workplace Violence Survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <u>Letters of Agreement from Sites/Draft Cover Letter:</u> The Committee agreed that the draft letter to hospitals requesting agreement to have workplace violence risk assessments done using the OSACH tool and with the	

severity of H1N1 illnesses remains unchanged and there continue to be active cases in Eastern Europe. T.Savage suggested that since the North American population now has group immunity because of the high vaccination rate, there is no expectation that the pandemic will re-emerge here.H1N1 will be taken off the JCCHS future agendas.

- Safety Group Update

R. Bredin provided an update on Safety Group:

- 67 members in safety group (technically 62 due to organization's with multiple sites)
- 2/3 of these members are in the Advantage program.

The first Safety Group meeting was on Monday, February 22. R. Bredin reported that Dr. Leon Genesove from MOL spoke to the group about Supervisory Competency. John Zwolak, WSIB Advisor, spoke about the future of the Safety Group Program (moving to a safety management system)

Common element this year is Supervisory competency since it ties in so well with Workplace Violence/domestic violence.

- HSAC Update

T.Savage reported that the first meeting for the year was Tuesday, February 23. Louise Logan, CEO of the new Health and Safety Association (HSA) Health and Safety Association for Government Services (HSAGS) and Patti Boucher from HSAGS presented to the group. HSAGS is the new HSA that includes the previous OSACH and two other HSAs.

New Business:

- Bill 168

T. Savage reported that the Section 21 Committee is creating a Workplace Violence Guidance Note to assist all healthcare sectors. The Committee agreed that it is important for our committee to develop a guidance document for the hospital sector for Bill 168. The Committee discussed a number of issues that contributed to the difficulty of effectively addressing workplace violence in the health care sector: flagging patients with a history of violence may raise ethical and

		<p>privacy issues; the process to remove names of people from a flagging system must be addressed; the issue for staff responsibility to identify risk and to put controls in place was also raised; staffing numbers and qualifications may also become issues when assessing risks and putting effective controls in place;.</p> <p>T. Savage will draft a Workplace Violence guidance note for the next meeting. It will focus on the processes and gaps to ensure there are mechanisms in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <u>Request from CAREX</u> <p>L. McCaskell reported that CAREX Canada has requested assistance in putting together a data base of potential exposures to various workplace carcinogens. The organization approached OPSEU in particular to ask for assistance in gathering data on various healthcare professions who may have had exposures to specific oncology drugs and to ethylene oxide as a sterilant. L. McCaskell asked if the OHA and this committee would be interested in helping with the project.</p> <p>T. Savage suggested that if asked, the hospitals would all report that they have control programs and that none of their workers are exposed or potentially exposed.</p> <p>T. Savage confirmed that the OHA is not interested in helping with the CAREX request. The OHA would only be interested in a cohort study and/or one that measures actual exposures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <u>Projects 2010/11</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Workplace Violence Guidance note b. Guidance note concerning Supervisor Competency. T. LeBlanc will send committee members MOL presentation on supervisor competency. L. McCaskell will send committee documents on supervisor competency presented to committee some years ago. c. Slips Trips and Falls. <p>Accident Investigation to be added onto the next Agenda</p>	
5.	1:56 PM	Next Meeting Date: May 19, 2010 at OHA Adjournment	