

## **HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

# October 12, 2021 (10:00-12:00)

# Teams Meeting

## **MINUTES**

In attendance	Nicky Iannucci, Earlana Lavergne, Mihkel Fortey, Ty Arslan, Isabelle Lemieux, Debbie Mohr-Caldwell NCHCA: K. Sutherland
Regrets	Michelle Richer (Chair), Neil Falls (Vice Chair), Tracy Kearney, Greg Swan, Chris Keeping, Iman Faris, Luke Stewart, Jason Gordon, Darcy McIvor, Joelle Perreault Wayne Tackaberry, Brandon Preece, Michael Aiken NCHCA: Steve McEachen
Guest	Carina Sa, AMS

#	Item	
1	The Minutes of the September 14, 2021, meeting were reviewed. No changes were made.	
2	COVID-19 Roundtable	
	The committee had the following comments and concerns regarding the City of Ottawa vaccination policy update:	
	<ul> <li>Labour shortages due to the City's policy will result in project delays and penalties to contractors. Current jobs and jobs bid for next year are at risk. May impact VPM scores.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Mandating vaccination could open companies up to legal issues. At the recent RESCOM conference, specifically said that the province is the only one that can mandate a mandatory policy. However City contracts require that contractors follow all City policies.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Being asked to swear that everyone is fully vaccinated is problematic.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>At a recent RESCON meeting, a lawyer presenting advised that cannot retain employee vaccination information.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Medical information is private information. Not sure we can even ask for it but we have to attest to it. What are the consequences? The attestation form is too generic. One-off deliveries should be excluded.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>At the end of the day, cannot control our staff. Where does our responsibility end? How will we be audited if cannot keep medical information? It is not the why, it is the how.</li> </ul>	

	Must be double vaccinated for LiUNA and OCA training.
	<ul> <li>In speaking with MOL, there is no mandate to have all course participants vaccinated, but you still have to follow all protocols. I</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Suggestion: If cannot confirm that everyone is double vaccinated, go back to 2020 precautions and follow all protocols.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Can ensure our own staff are vaccinated, but not truck drivers, for example. There should be accommodation depending on what the person is doing, such as a driver that will not be in contact with anyone else.</li> </ul>
3	Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development
	News Release re reduction of WSIB premiums in 2022
	<ul> <li>Working at heights certification is undergoing a 5-year review. No real changes to the standard or to the course are being made. There is currently no timeline mandated for refresher courses. Ontario recognizes working at heights certification from Newfoundland.</li> </ul>
4	Ministry of Transportation – no update.
5	Theft
	Multiple tools (drills, drill bits, etc) were stolen from a locked seacan. Two days later, it was attempted again. The seacan was barricaded closed so they broke into the city inspectors trailer and removed items like shoes and food.
6	Ottawa Police – no update.
7	Ontario Provincial Police – no update.
8	Fleet Safety Council
	<ul> <li>September meeting notes were provided for information.</li> <li>Now processing membership renewals.</li> </ul>
9	Workplace Safety & Insurance Board
	Contractors are using the option for three paid days for vaccination.
	Mental health claims will not be accepted on their own, will be accepted if in conjunction with another claim. Educators have very specific conditions. Mental health issues have to be diagnosed and supported by medical records.
	Generally, WSIB has been lenient on claims related to COVID. Adverse reactions are accepted.
10	Ontario Regional Common Ground Alliance – no update.

### 11 City of Ottawa

- (a) NCHCA met with TSSA and the City of Ottawa on September 29, 2021. So far this year, gas line strikes are down 8% in the Ottawa area and down 14% across the province.
- (b) Liaison meeting notes September 17, 2021 were provided for information.

In accordance with D-005, Paid duty officers are required in three situations:

- When within 30m of an intersection,
- When equipment is going to obstruct signal heads, and
- There is a realignment across the intersection.
- (c) NCHCA correspondence to Mayor Watson and City of Ottawa Councillors re Road Cut Permit delays was provided for information.
- (d) Next Liaison meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2021

### 12 NCHCA Update

- (a) 2021 Bursary Program application date has been extended to October 15, 2021.
- (b) Correspondence to the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services was provided for information.
- (c) CHEO Construction Parade, September 18, 2021
  - Ottawa Business Journal Parade Video with NCHCA President Steve McEachen
  - CHEO Parade Video

#### 13 Health & Safety items for NCHCA newsletter

- Advertise the Health & safety award
- Provide tips for members. Suggestion: make sure propane tanks are ready to go for the winter season.

#### 14 NCHCA website

Register to access members-only information at: <u>www.nchca.ca/access-members-only-information</u>.

15 September Safety Award Nominations no nominations.

Thomas Cavanagh Construction nominee was approved for the September Safety Award.

Mitch Babluck recognized that a co-worker was showing signs of a heart attack and quickly got his co-worker lifesaving medical attention.

#### 16 Future Meetings

- November 9, 2021
- December 14, 2021

17 Closing