



University of Toronto

(ORIGINATING OFFICE)

TO: Business Board

FROM: Professor Angela Hildyard

DATE: October 3, 2005 for October 11, 2005

AGENDA ITEM: 13

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Health and Safety Requirements – Report on Compliance

At the May 2, 2005 Business Board meeting, Professor Hildyard undertook to provide the Business Board with a quarterly statement with respect to the University's compliance with legal requirements in the area of health and safety. This is the first such quarterly statement.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Business Board is responsible for monitoring health and safety compliance. This report is for information.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

Outlined above.

STATEMENT:

Since May, 2005 there have been no new Ministry of Labour orders issued against the University and all previously outstanding orders have been complied with. On September 1, 2005 three orders involving improper handling of asbestos materials were issued against a general contractor and a subcontractor performing work on behalf of the University at Varsity Stadium. There were no orders issued against the University with respect to this incident. Procedures with respect to the application of the Asbestos Control Program to contractors working at UofT have been reviewed.

We continue to respond to recommendations made in January, 2005 as a result of a security audit by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. The Commission is satisfied with the University's response to date.

The University was fined \$500 with respect to a minor violation under the Environmental Protection Act and the Ozone-Depleting Substances Regulations. The violation was a procedural one involving a failure to provide an annual report regarding the use of ozone-depleting substances in a particular lab and was immediately rectified. The offence is one of “strict liability” to which the defence of due diligence does not apply. Steps have been taken to ensure that the report is submitted on time in the future.

In summary, based on the reports I have received through the operation of our occupational health and safety policy, to the best of my knowledge the University is in compliance with its health and safety obligations.