



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES AND EQUITY

TO: Business Board

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DATE: April 17, 2008 for April 28, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: 5(c)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Health and Safety Requirements – Quarterly Report on Compliance

Professor Hildyard has undertaken to provide the Business Board with quarterly statements with respect to the University's compliance with legal requirements in the area of health and safety. This is the first quarterly statement for 2008.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

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

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

Outlined above.

STATEMENT:

1. Ontario Ministry of Labour (MOL) Orders

The Ministry of Labour visited the University on two separate occasions during this reporting period. The first visit on February 14, 2008 related to a call received regarding ice not being cleared and workers slipping and falling after major snow events, and an incident involving an OISE/UT worker where the worker slipped on outside stairs and incurred a fractured upper arm. The MOL ordered U of T to submit a compliance plan to ensure U of T paths and roads used by employees and students are free of obstructions/hazards/accumulations of snow/ice. The University has complied.

On 26 March 2008, the Ontario Ministry of Labour visited the University of Toronto Scarborough. The consultative visit involved management and the Joint Health and Safety Committee respecting the Asbestos Management Program. Advice was provided, but no orders were issued. A follow-up meeting is pending for April 2008.

2. Regulatory Audits

The CNSC (Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission) conducted an unannounced inspection on February 11, 2008 at the University of Toronto Mississauga. The inspection resulted in seven non-compliance items. Radiation Protection Services have addressed six items. The seventh item concerned the accessibility of records respecting the radiation program from all campuses. In accordance with our risk management approach to environmental health and safety management, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, in close collaboration with Research, Facilities and Services, and academic and research faculties, is investigating a web-based chemical, biological, and radiation safety data management system. This will facilitate proactive hazard identification processes. The implementation of this data management system will address the seventh non-compliance item.

Summary

In summary, based on the reports I have received through the operation of our occupational health and safety policy, and except with reference to the item described in paragraph 2, to the best of my knowledge the University is in compliance with its health and safety obligations.