



HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 14, 2021  
Teams Meeting

MINUTES

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

#	Item
1	The Minutes of the August 10, 2021, meeting were approved with no changes.
2	<p>COVID-19 Roundtable</p> <p>(a) Free rapid antigen test kits are available from the Ottawa Board of Trade <a href="https://www.ottawabot.ca/rapid-antigen-screening-kits/">https://www.ottawabot.ca/rapid-antigen-screening-kits/</a></p> <p>(b) City of Ottawa vaccination policy</p> <p>The City of Ottawa implemented a vaccination policy on September 7, 2021, requiring that City employees, volunteers, contractors and students be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination to the City. A meeting with the City is scheduled for September 15, 2021 to discuss the implications for our industry.</p> <p>NCHCA has asked for clarification including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will personal information be collected and managed? Is it up to our members to gather the information? Once it is provided to the City, who will have access to the information?</li> <li>• How will the policy be enforced?</li> <li>• How will the vaccination status of subcontractors, truck drivers delivering to jobsites, etc. be managed? Who is responsible for doing this?</li> <li>• The turnaround time is very short with the first vaccinations required by September 15, 2021. When will the City begin requiring/collecting vaccination information? Is November 1, 2021 the date, or will proof of first vaccinations be required September 15, 2021?</li> <li>• Our industry is in a unique position of working outdoors, and robust OHS policies</li> </ul>

	<p>are in place to ensure our sites are safe. Is there a possibility of discussing an exemption for our workers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are very concerned with the impact that this policy will have on project delivery and anticipate delays due to reduced workforces. Has this been considered and how will these delays be managed?</li> <li>• There is no reference to testing in the policy. Is this an option for unvaccinated workers?</li> <li>• Do we understand correctly that workers that are not fully vaccinated, and have not provided a medical exemption may complete the “mandatory COVID-19 education course” instead? Will the City be making its course available to us?</li> </ul> <p>Members are reviewing their vaccination policies and some are issuing mandatory policies. Vaccination bonuses have been offered. Rate of vaccination has gone up but still about 20% unvaccinated.</p>
3	Ministry of Labour – no update.
4	<p>Ministry of Transportation</p> <p>A memo was issued regarding requiring drivers to be vaccinated to keep their licence.</p>
5	<p>Theft</p> <p>Reports of thefts of catalytic converters, generators rental units, docking station and monitor from trailer.</p>
6	Ottawa Police – no update.
7	Ontario Provincial Police – no update.
8	Fleet Safety Council – no update.
9	Workplace Safety & Insurance Board – no update.
10	<p>Ontario Regional Common Ground Alliance</p> <p>This organization is mainly GTA based. It has a lot of useful information such as the Dirt Report and gathers statistics on damages to underground utilities. It offers a Damage Prevention Technician Certification Program.</p>
11	<p>City of Ottawa</p> <p>(a) Meeting with Technical Standards and Safety Authority September 14, 2021</p> <p>The City of Ottawa invited NCHCA to meet with TSSA to discuss an apparent increase in gas line damages. Mike Goldberg (TSSA), Bruce Kenny (City), Steve McEachen (NCHCA President), Michelle Richer, Neil Falls and Kathryn Sutherland attended the meeting.</p>

	<p>(b) The August Liaison Meeting Notes have not yet been received.</p> <p>(c) The next Liaison meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2021.</p>
12	<p>NCHCA</p> <p>(a) NCHCA's Bursary Program has been reinstated for 2021. Applications are due by September 30, 2021. The application form is available online at <a href="http://www.nchca.ca/bursary">www.nchca.ca/bursary</a>.</p> <p>(b) The first of four Recruitment Project Workshops will take place on September 16, 2021. It will be an ideation workshop to identify the challenges and opportunities for each focus area. We will elicit a range of ideas of what is possible, what exists already, how to overcome obstacles and amplify potential, and to identify low hanging fruit.</p> <p>The four focus areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exploring ways to improve the working conditions in the industry</li> <li>• expanding the current labour pool</li> <li>• connecting with high school students and the school system</li> <li>• supporting people to develop their careers at all levels of the industry</li> </ul> <p>More information about the Project is available on NCHCA's website at <a href="http://www.nchca.ca/recruitment-project">www.nchca.ca/recruitment-project</a>.</p> <p>(c) The CHEO Construction Parade is scheduled for September 18, 2021. Thirty companies are registered.</p> <p>(d) Excess Soil Bulletin #5 Soil Tracking System Requirements was provided for information.</p> <p>(e) NCHCA's Fall Dinner Dance has been cancelled due to covid concerns and restrictions.</p>
13	<p>Health &amp; Safety items for NCHCA's September newsletter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Award winner</li> <li>• City of Ottawa vaccination policy</li> </ul>
14	<p>Committee members were invited to review the health &amp; safety information on NCHCA's website and make suggestions.</p>
15	<p>August Safety Award Nominations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No nominations.</li> </ul>
16	<p>Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 12, 2021</li> <li>• November 9, 2021</li> <li>• December 14, 2021</li> </ul>
17	<p>The meeting closed at 11:00.</p>