

Environmental Health & Safety

MONTHLY JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

November 2021



New Items

NEW EHS JHSC SharePoint

On November 8, 2021, the new EHS JHSC SharePoint will be available to all committee members and the JHSC Module will be phased out by December 21, 2021. JHSC members will receive an invitation email later today to access their account. A step-by-step guide is also attached to this email on how to get started.

For more information or questions, please contact EHS JHSC.

10 Ways F&S prepares campus for fall and winter

As we transition from summer to fall, so does the St. George campus. Here are <u>10 seasonal maintenance activities that F&S does to ensure that the campus is ready for the fall and winter</u>.

UCheck Ambassador Program

Introducing the UCheck Ambassador Program, a friendly and educative way to remind members of our community to complete their UCheck health screening each and everyday they are on campus. The program, which began in October, uses small teams of UCheck Ambassador to visit high traffic locations across U of T campuses. For more information, please see U<u>Check Ambassador Program</u> and <u>U of T's UCheck ambassadors remind</u> <u>community members to complete COVID-19 self-screening</u>.

CUPE3902 Unit 1 and Unit 3 Reimbursement

Winter break is quickly approaching and to ensure our <u>CUPE3902 Unit 1</u> <u>and Unit 3 representatives receive their reimbursement</u> in a timely matter, kindly submit all reimbursement no later than **November 10, 2021**. December reimbursement request for December JHSC activities will be reimbursed in January 2022. Page 1 of 4

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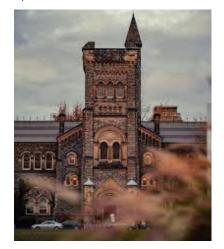
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COVID-19 Self-Assessment via UCheck

As a reminder, Public health guidance requires a self-assessment for all members of our community, including faculty members, librarians, staff, and students, each day they visit any one of the three U of T campuses or any other property owned or operated by U of T. This can be completed online via <u>UCheck</u> or a <u>paper-based self-assessment</u> for those who are unable to access the UCheck online self-assessment or do not have a UTORid.

The University monitors compliance and provides ongoing reminders and educative tools, etc. As per the provisions in the <u>General Workplace Guideline</u>,

UCheck compliance is monitored in several ways at the University:

- A dashboard is available to leadership in all areas that indicates real-time status of health screens. This is available to CAO's for staff, and appropriate leadership for faculty (chair, vice-dean, etc.).
- Instructors/TAs may ask to see students' UCheck status before entering a classroom, but they are not required to.
- Some Ancillary and Library facilities are asking individuals to display their green UCheck screen before entering the building (e.g. Robarts, KPE, Hart House, etc.).
- The <u>UCheck Ambassador Program</u> is a friendly and educative way to remind members of our community to complete their UCheck health screening each and every day they are on campus. The program, which began in October, uses small teams of UCheck Ambassadors to visit high-traffic locations across U of T campuses. These trained ambassadors will ask every individual approaching a building entrance or space if they have completed their health screening in UCheck. For additional information, please also refer to the UofT News article: <u>U of T's UCheck ambassadors remind community members to complete</u> <u>COVID-19 self-screening</u>.
- EHS lab inspections will now include verification of UCheck
- At locations where proof of vaccination is required (e.g. dine-in food establishments) and indoor events
- Where appropriate, supervisors/managers to require UCheck verification at the beginning of the shift, week, etc. to ensure compliance
- Verification measures are documented in the GAT (General Assessment Tool) or EAT (Event Assessment Tool) where applicable and appropriate.

The following prompts are also used to remind faculty, staff and students of UCheck:

- A banner reminder appears in Quercus to complete UCheck
- Instructor slide deck with reminders regarding UCheck, vaccination, masks, etc. please refer to the COVID-19 In-Class Instruction Guidelines for Course Instructors and First Class or Tutorial Slide Deck in the <u>COVID-19 Leadership Toolkit</u> (available through program administrator, Chair or Dean)

Interested in joining a Joint Health and Safety Committee?

Please contact your JHSC for any vacancies. As a reminder, in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, worker members are appointed by their respective union. For more information, please see <u>JHSC FAQs</u> or contact <u>EHS JHSC</u>.





COVID-19 Reminders

EHS COVID-19 Audits

EHS will be performing regular audits in coordination with scheduled JHSC inspections to ensure COVID-19 related measures are in place and will be accessing unit/departmental spaces with the assistance of Campus Safety. If you have any questions, please contact <u>EHS JHSC</u>.

Supplemental Checklist during COVID-19

As a reminder, please ensure your unit completes the <u>Supplemental Checklist during COVID-19</u> during your rounds of inspections and forward a copy along with the inspection report to <u>EHS JHSC</u>.

COVID-19 Resources

UTogether is a one-stop hub of information on how the University is responding to the pandemic, as we work toward a safe return to our campuses in Fall 2021. UTogether: A Roadmap for the University of Toronto covers some important ways the University is promoting health and safety, advancing academic excellence and meeting the needs of our community as we navigate COVID-19. For all the latest information please check the UTogether and Roadmap websites.

The University of Toronto continually updates our frequently asked questions related to COVID-19 and our community.

University of Toronto's General Workplace Guidelines

The University's <u>COVID-19 General Workplace Guidelines</u> (GWG) was sent out to JHSC co-chairs on July 10, 2020. Ongoing updates are made to this document to align with provincial and public health guidelines. While drafting, reviewing and approval of institutional guidelines is an employer responsibility, we encourage the JHSCs to read the document and welcome you to engage with management through your usual channels on any queries or recommendations you may have with respect to the application of the Guideline to worksites within your JHSC's jurisdiction.

You may access the most updated version of the GWG and General Assessment Tool (GAT) on EHS <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Information</u> webpage. We encourage JHSC members to review and submit any questions or considerations to <u>EHS JHSC</u>.



Ongoing Reminders

JHSC Newsletter Webpage

For your reference, all previously sent JHSC newsletters can be accessed here.

JHSC Minutes & Inspection Reports

A reminder to send all minutes and inspection reports to EHS JHSC.

Health and Safety Boards

EHS is conducting its annual audits of health and safety boards on campuses, and updating/removing applicable items. Please inform EHS when boards have been installed, relocated, or removed. <u>A list of required postings</u> and links for download is available from the EHS webpage.

Type 3 Asbestos Abatement Work

Type 3 asbestos abatement air sampling results are available on the Asbestos Date website. For more information, please see <u>Type 3 Asbestos Abatement Information</u>.

Important Policies

We encourage the JHSCs to review the following policies regularly: <u>Policy with Respect to Workplace</u> <u>Harassment</u>, <u>Policy with Respect to Workplace Violence</u>, and <u>Health and Safety Policy</u>.



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