



(Photo by Daria Perevezentsev)

## New Items

### Workplace Violence Risk Assessment - Annual Review

The Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) requires **the University to assess the risks of workplace violence** that may arise from the nature of the workplace, the type of work or the conditions of work. The University is required to reassess the risks of workplace violence as often as is necessary to ensure its [Governing Council Policy with Respect to Workplace Violence](#) and related [Workplace Violence Program](#) continue to protect workers from workplace violence. If the risk assessment is in writing, it must also be provided to the JHSCs.

OHS completed an assessment of all job categories/titles and developed a [General University Workplace Violence Assessment](#) for all positions across the University in University owned/operated workplaces, which it reviews annually. This assessment is intended to be at a high level, describing potential risks, and measures and procedures to mitigate those risks, that are broadly applicable. Divisions should continue assessing and implementing local measures where applicable. Employees are encouraged to discuss any specific workplace considerations with their supervisors. JHSCs are encouraged to review the assessment. If you have any questions or comments please contact [EHS JHSC](#). For more information, please also refer to the [UofT Workplace Violence Program](#).

### AED Loaner Program

EHS now offers an AED Loaner Program whereby an AED is available for departments/units to borrow for University sanctioned events. For availability of the AED, please contact [EHS JHSC](#).

### Naloxone Information

Effective June 1, 2023, there are new requirements under Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) regarding naloxone kits in the workplace. In particular, if the University becomes aware, or ought reasonably to be aware, of a worker who may be at risk of an opioid overdose at a workplace where they perform work for the University, the University will be required to provide, and maintain in good condition, a naloxone kit in that workplace. For more information, please refer to the [EHS Naloxone webpage](#).

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER

### NEW ITEMS

Workplace Violence Risk Assessment - Annual Review

AED Loaner Program

Naloxone Information

### REMINDERS

COVID-19 Resources

Legionella and Ventilation Testing

Reporting Health and Safety Concerns

UofT EHS Website

EHS JHSC SharePoint

Workplace Inspections

Safety Training

Type 3 Asbestos Abatement Work

F&S Service Alerts

Interested in joining a JHSC?

To support the University community (including workers, students, and visitors), Campus Safety on each campus will be trained on the use of naloxone kits (nasal spray) and equipped as needed.

**Reporting a Risk of Opioid Overdose By A Worker:** If you become aware of a worker who may be at risk of an opioid overdose in the workplace, please contact Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)'s Occupational Health Team at [ehs.occhealth@utoronto.ca](mailto:ehs.occhealth@utoronto.ca). Our Occupational Health Team consists of healthcare providers (occupational health nurses and doctor) who will follow all applicable requirements with regard to privacy and confidentiality. Such a risk may become apparent, for example, through self-disclosure by a worker, observation of opioid use in the workplace, or the discovery of discarded opioid paraphernalia (e.g., used needles) in the workplace.

## Reminders

### COVID-19 and other Respiratory Illness Resources

[UTogether](#) is a one-stop hub of information on how the University is responding to the pandemic. For all the latest information please check the [UTogether](#), and [Safe Environment](#) websites. The University of Toronto continually updates our [frequently asked questions](#) related to COVID-19 and our community

The University of Toronto is committed first and foremost to the health and safety of our entire community. To achieve this, the University has developed F&S Strategies: [Regular Caretaking Service Levels Strategy](#) and [COVID-19 heating, ventilation and air conditioning \(HVAC\) strategy](#). If additional information on ventilation is required, please contact [EHS JHSC](#) with the request. Please note that such requests may require **weeks** to complete depending on the size and complexity of the ventilation system. In the interim, locations can be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

### Legionella and Ventilation Testing

We encourage interested JHSCs to regularly check the [Water Testing Schedule](#) for the most up-to-date information on legionella testing in their building and to contact [EHS JHSC](#) if a JHSC worker member is interested in attending the beginning of legionella and/or ventilation testing. You can find it on our website [here](#). For more information regarding legionella, you can visit our [Legionella FAQs page](#).

### Reporting Health And Safety Concerns

If you have any health & safety concerns including indoor air quality (IAQ) concerns, please report the concern to your supervisor. Supervisors have responsibilities for health and safety in the workplace and workers are responsible for reporting hazards to their supervisor. EHS ([ehs.office@utoronto.ca](mailto:ehs.office@utoronto.ca)) is also available to provide support and conduct an assessment to identify workplace hazards and provide recommendations to address concerns. JHSC members who are approached by workers about health & safety concerns should also encourage workers to report their concerns to their supervisor and EHS.

**Environmental Health & Safety** website contains a lot of information and resources:

- [Monthly JHSC Newsletter](#)
- [Health & Safety \(H&S\) Board](#), [their locations](#), [required posting](#) and links for download. Please inform EHS when a board is installed/relocated as EHS conducts annual updates and audits.
- [Health & Safety Policy](#) and Policy with Respect to [Workplace Harassment](#) and [Workplace Violence](#) which JHSCs are encouraged to regularly review.
- [JHSC coverage per building](#). Please note, updates are regularly made as units move, occupy new space, etc.
- AED Locations are listed on the [U of T Map](#). For more information regarding AEDs, First Aid and First Aid Training, please see [First Aid Training Page](#).
- [CUPE3902 Reimbursement Forms](#) for JHSC-related activities. Once approved by the manager co-chair of your JHSC, please forward a copy to [ehs.jhsc@utoronto.ca](mailto:ehs.jhsc@utoronto.ca) and [HSO@cupe3902.org](mailto:HSO@cupe3902.org).

### **EHS JHSC SharePoint**

JHSC members can view/download minutes, inspections, etc. via [SharePoint](#) and will receive an email when minutes/inspections are uploaded. Please [click here](#) for a tutorial on how to use the new EHS JHSC SharePoint. JHSCs are reminded to regularly send relevant documents to [EHS JHSC](#) for upload.

### **Workplace Inspections**

JHSCs are required to complete workplace inspection of part of their workplace each month such that the whole workplace is completed by the end of the year. EHS offers online training [EHS415 JHSC Workplace Inspection](#), [workplace inspection template](#), [Workplace Inspections Tips for Before and After](#). Please ensure applicable area supervisor completes and sign the inspection form and return a copy to [EHS JHSC](#).

### **Safety Training**

The University offers numerous training courses for its employees, specific to their workplace context ([Administration/Facilities](#) & [Lab Environments](#)) and regularly updates the training courses on an ongoing basis. We encourage the JHSCs to review our training offerings relevant to their specific work and welcome the JHSCs to provide us with any feedback regarding training content. If you have any questions regarding relevant training required for your specific work, please speak with your supervisor. If you have any questions regarding EHS-offered training courses and related University-developed training content, please contact [EHS JHSC](#).

### **Type 3 Asbestos Abatement Work**

Type 3 asbestos abatement air sampling results are available on the Asbestos Data website. For more information, please see [Type 3 Asbestos Abatement Information](#).

### **F&S Service Alerts**

To receive Facilities & Services (F&S) alerts for building related-services (e.g. service outages, shutdowns, Type 2 and 3 asbestos work), please subscribe to [F&S Alerts](#).

### **Interested in joining a Joint Health and Safety Committee?**

Please contact [our 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 [JHSC FAQs](#). Alternatively, you can contact [EHS JHSC](#) or your union directly.