

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Everyone • Everything • Everyday



OH&S Report Card – NEW!

The PEI OH&S Act states that facilities with 20 or more employees must have an OH&S committee that meets on a monthly basis (unless granted an exemption by the Director of the OH&S Division). For facilities that have 5-19 employees an OH&S representative is required. The Act also states that the committee members or representatives must ensure that workplace inspections are being done on a regular basis.

Health PEI would like to ensure that we are in compliance with these regulations by having committees or representatives complete an annual report every fiscal year. This report also gives facilities the opportunity to identify OH&S challenges they are having so we can work towards a safer and healthier workplace for everyone. The 2016-2017 report can be filled out at the following link:

<http://questionnaire.simplesurvey.com/Engine/Default.aspx?surveyID=bcf2f5b6-1064-4392-8073-8d1d80e1903a&lang=EN>

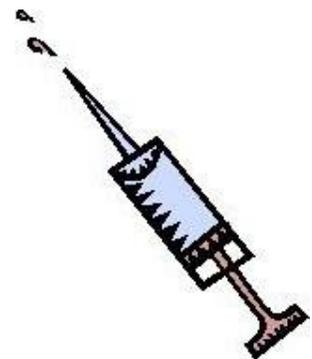
The deadline for submission is Friday, June 30, 2017.

If you have any questions about the report, please contact Robyn Murphy, OH&S Officer – Safety & Compliance.

Hazard Alert!

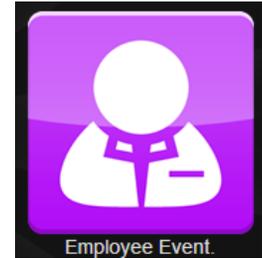
Needlestick and Sharps Injuries

Needlestick and sharps injuries are among the most dangerous injuries in healthcare due to the possible transmission of serious diseases. Across Health PEI acute care sites there have been 15 reported incidents or near-misses involving needlesticks or sharps from January 1 to May 25, 2017. Attached to this newsletter you will find the WCB Prevention Update on Needlestick injuries which should be reviewed by staff in an attempt to lessen our incident rate. If you have concerns or questions about the types of needles or sharps being used in your area, please bring them to your manager or supervisor's attention.



Incident Reporting on PSMS

Employee health and safety is important to Health PEI. To help manage risks and address hazards in the workplace it is crucial that staff report all incidents, including near misses, on the Provincial Safety Management System (PSMS). If you can't find the desktop icon on your computer, contact ITSS at 3600.



Reporting Serious Injuries

When a serious injury occurs at the workplace there are proper procedures to follow to be in compliance with the PEI OH&S Act. Below is the article of the Act that explains this process. The only major change to this process at present is that you no longer provide written notice, you must call the WCB OH&S Emergency Phone Number at **902-628-7513**.



36. (1) Where an accident occurs in the workplace in which a worker is seriously injured in a manner which causes or may cause a fatality, suffers a loss of limb, unconsciousness, substantial loss of blood, a fracture, an amputation of a leg, arm, hand, or foot, a burn to a major portion of the body, or the loss of sight in an eye, the employer shall ensure that written notice is sent, by the fastest means available, to the Director within 24 hours of the accident.

(2) Where an accident is reported under subsection (1), the employer shall notify the committee, where one exists, or the representative, if any.

(3) Except as otherwise directed by an officer, no person shall disturb the scene of an accident that results in a serious injury or a fatality except to the extent that it is necessary

- (a) to attend to persons injured or killed;*
- (b) to prevent further injuries; or*
- (c) to protect property that is endangered as a result of the accident.*

Allergy Awareness

The IDM has recently had some inquiries regarding food allergies in the workplace. Each situation will present differently and may require an individual approach. If you're looking for resources about anaphylaxis and how to keep people at risk safe, please visit: <http://www.allergyaware.ca/>



IDM Team Health Care Future Student

The IDM team is pleased to announce that we are hosting a Health Care Futures student named Nicholas Mulligan from June 12 to August 25, 2017. Nicholas will support the IDM team, which may include policy review and research, gathering data on workplace injuries and hazards, conducting surveys or needs assessments, preparing communication documents and presentations to inform and educate, preparing return to work packages, gathering data and drafting report on Recover@Work pilot. Nicholas will be working out of Garfield Street and Queen Elizabeth Hospital, but will be visiting different sites across the Island when needed. Welcome aboard Nicholas!

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A member of the Integrated Disability Management Team