



6951 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC  
Mailing Address: PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal, Vancouver BC, V6B 5L5  
Telephone 604 276-3100 Toll Free 1-888-621-7233 Fax 604 276-3247

The *Workers Compensation Act* requires that the employer must post a copy of this report in a conspicuous place at or near the workplace inspected for at least seven days, or until compliance has been achieved, whichever is the longer period. A copy of this report must also be given to the joint committee or worker health and safety representative, as applicable.

A revised version of the *Workers Compensation Act* took effect on April 6, 2020. The B.C. government's revisions aim to make the Act easier to read and understand, and to reorganize the numbering to make laws easier to find. The revisions make no changes to B.C.'s laws concerning workers' compensation, occupational health and safety, and employers' assessment premiums. Please be aware there may be a transitional period where correspondence from WorkSafeBC may include references to either the previous Act or the revised Act. For more information, visit [www.worksafebc.com/WCA2019](http://www.worksafebc.com/WCA2019) or call the Prevention Information Line at 604.276.3100, or toll free within BC at 1.888.621.7233 (SAFE).

Inspection Report #202018343034A		
Employer Name	Jobsite Inspected	Scope of Inspection
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	14500 Silver Valley Road Maple Ridge BC V4R 2R3	COVID-19 Outreach

Date of Initiating Inspection	Date of This Inspection	Delivery Date of This Report	Delivery Method
Apr 22, 2020	Apr 22, 2020	Apr 22, 2020	Email

THERE ARE ZERO (0) ORDERS OR OTHER ITEMS OUTSTANDING

<p><b>ACTION MAY STILL BE NECESSARY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE PLEASE READ FULL REPORT</b></p>
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## INSPECTION NOTES

On April 22, 2020 I, Officer Ray Goulding contacted this employer as part of WorkSafeBC's ongoing commitment to engage with employers and workers to reduce risk and promote safe and healthy workplaces. This inspection was focused on the employer's COVID-19 response measures.

### **COVID-19 Response Measures**

COVID-19 is an infectious disease that spreads primarily through contact with an infected person when they cough or sneeze or when a person touches a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touches their eyes, nose or mouth. Common symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, and sneezing and may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19.

The purpose of this inspection is to review this employer's response to the current COVID-19 pandemic in relation to worker health and safety at this workplace.

Measures for COVID-19 are in flux and as such guidance from public health officials may change on a daily if not hourly basis. Employers will need to readily adopt proactive risk management strategies to minimize the potential for contracting COVID-19 in the workplace.

Following the recommendations of the BC Provincial Health Officer, employers should consider the following when establishing policies and procedures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace, and to ensure these are communicated and understood by their workers:

#### **1. Plan work to allow for physical distancing (workers spaced at least 2 metres apart)**

- If practicable, arrange the workplace to maintain appropriate distance between workers. Where there is not sufficient distance, physical barriers may be used, such as doors, cubicle walls or plexiglass screens/enclosures.
- Actively promote physical distancing.
- Where possible avoid non-essential face to face interactions. Use phones, video conferencing, or other technologies to reduce personal contact.

#### **2. Provide sufficient soap and water or hand sanitizers and post the locations to encourage workers to wash their hands frequently.**

- Actively promote handwashing and respiratory hygiene.
- OHSR 4 85 Washroom facilities outlines regulatory requirements.

#### **3. Enhance cleaning and disinfecting of the workplace, particularly high contact items such as handrails, doorknobs, shared tools or equipment and washroom facilities.** It is not known how long the virus causing COVID-19 lives on surfaces, however there is some evidence that it can live on certain objects for a few hours to days.

- Provide necessary cleaning products and items to maintain a clean and safe workplace.
- Create cleaning protocols and procedures and increase frequency for cleaning activities.
- Ensure contaminated cleaning items are disposed of responsibly.

#### **4. Workers who are displaying symptoms must go home and self-isolate.** Note, returning travellers from anywhere outside of Canada (including the US) must follow current quarantine and public health law requirements upon returning to Canada.

- Communicate COVID-19 signs and symptoms to workers.
- Workers who test positive for COVID-19 are to self-isolate and follow current public health authority instructions.

### **Summary of Discussion**

The employer representative (ER) reported that much of this licensee's operations related to timber harvesting are winding down. Loading and hauling are the primary activities currently taking place. The employer has implemented the following control measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

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- divided their onsite staff into two teams that work in shifts between home and the office to reduce workers at the workplace
- vehicles are assigned to individuals
- limiting travel to one person per vehicle
- cleaning and sanitation of shared vehicles and equipment
- sign placed on the dashboard of cleaned vehicle to show the next worker that it was sanitized and is safe for use
- N95 masks and gloves available to workers
- workers are assigned their own offices
- ER stated that the employer ensures that sub contractors have COVID-19 response measures in place
- information related to COVID-19 is communicated directly to staff via email and safety meetings; additional information posted at various locations throughout the workplace
- 14 day quarantine protocol for workers returning from outside the country and for those that report or demonstrate symptoms consistent with those of COVID-19

**It is to be noted that:**

- Workers are to use personal protective equipment as required by the OHSR
- Workers in B.C. have the right to refuse unsafe work if they believe it presents an undue hazard. WorkSafeBC Guideline - G3.12 "Refusal of unsafe work" provides information about work refusals, including a flowchart illustrating the right to refuse process. Employers must immediately investigate reports of unsafe work and ensure that any necessary corrective action is taken without delay
- Mental health is just as important as physical health and to take measures to support mental well-being. Workers in the workplace may also be affected by the anxiety and uncertainty created by the COVID-19 situation. See Available Resources.

**Available COVID-19 Resources:**

- WorkSafeBC: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates>
- BC Centre for Disease Control: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>
- HealthLink BC: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/>
- Government of BC Managing COVID-19 Stress, Anxiety & Depression:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/mental-health-substance-use/managing-covid-stress>

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 \*\*Refer to regulations referenced for legislative requirements resulting from discussion\*\*  
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For information on workplace health and safety, call toll-free within BC 1-888-621-SAFE (7233), visit the WorkSafeBC web site [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com), or download the mobile APP.

If any person at this workplace has questions or requires further information regarding this inspection report, please contact:

Ray Goulding  
Occupational Safety Officer, Prevention Field Services  
P | 604.232.1956 F | 604.232.5950 | Call Centre 1.888.621.7233  
E | [ray.goulding@worksafebc.com](mailto:ray.goulding@worksafebc.com)

### REFERENCES

In addition to any orders, or other items, and the information provided in the Inspection Notes section in this Inspection Report, the officer may discuss other health and safety issues with the employer arising out of the inspection. The information below sets out the health and safety requirements discussed with the employer, and unless otherwise noted, violations of these requirements were not observed.

Reference	Details Discussed
<b>WCA21(1)(a)</b> Every employer must ensure the health and safety of all workers working for that employer, and any other workers present at a workplace at which that employer's work is being carried out.	Reference for Employer
<b>OHS4.85(1)</b> Except as provided by subsection (2), the employer must ensure that a sufficient number of plumbed washroom facilities are readily available for workers.	Reference for Employer
<b>OHS3.12(1)</b> A person must not carry out or cause to be carried out any work process or operate or cause to be operated any tool, appliance or equipment if that person has reasonable cause to believe that to do so would create an undue hazard to the health and safety of any person.	Reference for Employer
<b>OHS3.12(2)</b> A worker who refuses to carry out a work process or operate a tool, appliance or equipment pursuant to Subsection 3.12(1) must immediately report the circumstances of the unsafe condition to his or her supervisor or employer.	Reference for Employer
<b>OHS3.12(3)</b> A supervisor or employer receiving a report made under Subsection 3.12(2) must immediately investigate the matter.	Reference for Employer

Employer #	Mailing Address	Classification Unit #	Operating Location
11284	DONALD RIX BUILDING 2389 HEALTH SCIENCES MALL ROOM 336 VANCOUVER BC V6T 1Z3	765010	009

Lab Samples Taken	Direct Readings	Results Presented	Sampling Inspection(s)	Workers onsite during inspection	Notice of Project Number
N	N	N			

Inspection Report Delivered To	Employer Representative Present During Inspection	Worker Representative Present During Inspection	Labour Organization & Local
Jeremy Watkins	Jeremy Watkins	Not Available	Faculty Association

WorkSafeBC Officer Conducting Inspection	Contact Details	
Ray Goulding	Phone (604) 232 1956	Email: Ray.Goulding@worksafebc.com

Inspection Time*	Travel Time*
0 hrs	0 hrs

\*The time recorded above reflects the inspection time and travel time associated with this inspection report and includes time spent on pre and post-inspection activities. Additional time may be added for subsequent activity.

### Request a Review

Any employer, worker, owner, supplier, union, or a member of a deceased worker's family directly affected may, within 45 calendar days of the delivery date of this report, in writing, request the Review Division of WorkSafeBC to conduct a review of an order, or the non-issuance of an order, by contacting the Review Division. Employers requiring assistance may contact the Employers' Advisers Office at 1-800-925-2233.

To submit a request online, visit <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/review-appeal/submit-request>

WorkSafeBC values your feedback. To obtain that feedback, an external market research provider may be contacting you to complete a survey.

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