

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.

### Inspection Report #202416973032A

Employer Name	Jobsite Inspected	Scope of Inspection
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	6133 University Boulevard AMS Student Nest Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1	report of unsafe condition - scaffold

Date of Initiating Inspection	Date of This Inspection	Delivery Date of This Report	Delivery Method
Mar 25, 2024	Mar 25, 2024	Mar 27, 2024	Email

**THERE IS ONE (1) ORDER OR OTHER ITEM OUTSTANDING**

**ACTION REQUIRED**

### Summary of Orders or other Items

See "Orders/Items – Full Details" section of this Inspection Report for orders/items cited

Order/Item No.1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Status: <b>Outstanding</b>	Cited: <b>OHS3.10</b>
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#### ORDER STATUS LEGEND

Order Status	Description
Outstanding	Order Outstanding - Action Required to Achieve Compliance
Complied	Compliance Achieved - No Further Action Required
Closed	Order is Closed
Rescinded	Order has been cancelled - No Further Action Required

## INSPECTION NOTES

On March 25, 2024, prevention officer L. Gibbins was notified on a report of an unsafe condition at this workplace. The officer spoke by phone, to two employer representatives (the employer) regarding the report of an unsafe condition.

Additionally, on March 26, 2024, the officer spoke by phone, to a third employer representative (the employer) regarding the report of an unsafe condition and next steps.

The *Workers Compensation Act* (the Act) and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (the Regulation) were used as a bases for compliance.

### **I. UNSAFE CONDITION - Order #1**

One of employer representatives stated that they were aware of the report of an unsafe condition on or about March 14, 2024; however, they did not take steps to investigate the condition. As such, order #1 is issued.

The employer stated that a scaffold system was erected by a team of this employer's workers for another team of workers to use to replace glass.

The following information was discussed in the phone meetings or provides the employer with additional information:

- the team who erected the scaffold system are qualified to do this task,
- workers who are to use the scaffold are instructed to inspect it prior to use; however, there may be a gap in knowledge on how to perform a pre use check as required in section 13.3 of the Regulation,
- the height to base ratio may not be 3:1 as required in section 13.17(4)(a) of the Regulation,
- there is a gap between the work platform and the structure wall that was reported to be between 18 to 29 inches as required in section 13.14(1)(b) of the Regulation, and
- a meeting took place on March 25 to initiate an investigation into the reported unsafe condition.

The employer is reminded that they must follow section 13.2(1)(a) of the Regulation that directs them to meet and use the applicable ANZI or CSA standard.

Additionally, the following are excerpts from *Code of Practise for Access Scaffold CSA Z797-09* that the employer may find useful:

#### *5.9.1 Free-standing or rolling scaffold*

*The height of a free-standing scaffold or a rolling scaffold shall not exceed three times the smallest lateral base dimension of the scaffold (this is referred to as the 3-to-1 stability ratio). Side brackets or other types of platform extensions shall not be used on rolling scaffolds. Outrigger stabilizers may be used to increase the base dimension and allow a greater maximum height (see Figure 12). Where stabilizers have unequal extension, the lateral base dimension is twice the distance from the centreline of the scaffold to the centre of the least extended stabilizer /see Figure 1 3) .*

##### *5.9.2.1 General*

*Where the height of a scaffold will exceed three times the smallest lateral base dimension, the scaffold shall be stabilized by*

- - (a) attachment to a building or structure by means of ties; or*
  - (b) attachment to the support surface by means of guy wires.*

##### *5.12.1 General*

*Unless otherwise permitted by the authority having jurisdiction, guardrails shall be provided at all open sides and around any uncovered opening in a scaffold platform. A guardrail may be omitted at an edge of a scaffold platform where the width of the gap between a wall and the scaffold platform*

*does not exceed*

- (a) the requirement of the authority having jurisdiction; or*
- (b) 0.30 m (12 in), where the authority does not have a requirement.*

## **II. PLAN**

The employer will submit an investigation report to this officer by April 19, 2024 or earlier. The employer will ensure the scaffold remains out of service ('red tagged') until the order is complied.

Additional information may be found on the WorkSafeBC website:  
<http://www.worksafebc.com>

Please contact this officer if you have any questions.

Laura Gibbins, CRSP, BScN  
Occupational Safety Officer  
WorkSafeBC - Prevention Field Services  
Phone: 604-244-6479  
E-mail: [laura.gibbins@worksafebc.com](mailto:laura.gibbins@worksafebc.com)

To report a serious accident/incident call 604.276.3100 or 1.888.621.7233 toll-free within B.C. To report after hours health and safety emergencies call 1.866.922.4357.

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**ORDERS/ITEMS**

**An employer who fails to comply with Occupational Health and Safety ("OHS") provisions of the *Workers Compensation Act*, the Occupational Health & Safety Regulation, or WorkSafeBC orders may be subject to monetary or other sanctions as prescribed by the *Workers Compensation Act*.**

**Orders/Items - Full Details**

Order/Item No.1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Status: <b>Outstanding</b>	Cited: <b>OHS3.10</b>
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A worker stated they reported the following unsafe condition to their supervisor (date: March 14, 2024); however, the supervisor did not investigate the following reported condition and ensure any necessary corrective actions were taken without delay:

- lack of full platforms for worker to work on,
- access to the platforms may present a fall hazard,
- the scaffold was 40 feet and may require to be tied off, and
- the height vs lateral base ratio may exceed 3:1.

The employer stated that the scaffold has been removed from service.

This is in contravention of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation Section 3.10.

Whenever a person observes what appears to be an unsafe or harmful condition or act the person must report it as soon as possible to a supervisor or to the employer, and the person receiving the report must investigate the reported unsafe condition or act and must ensure that any necessary corrective action is taken without delay.

Measures to Ensure Compliance:

By April 19, 2024, the employer will submit an investigation report on the unsafe condition and corrective actions taken prior to the scaffold being put back into service

**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>OHS13.2(1)(a)</b>  A ladder, window cleaner's belt or work platform must meet and be used in accordance with the applicable CSA or ANSI standard in effect when the equipment or structure was manufactured, except as otherwise determined by the Board	Refer to inspection text
<b>OHS13.3</b>  A ladder, window cleaner's belt, work platform and associated components must be inspected before use on each shift, and after any modification, and any condition that might endanger workers must be remedied before the equipment is used.	Refer to inspection text
<b>OHS13.14(1)(b)</b>  The platform of each scaffold must not leave more than one opening in the work platform, which must be no greater than 25 cm (10 in) in width.	Refer to inspection text
<b>OHS13.17(4)(a)</b>  A scaffold must be effectively guyed or secured to a building or structure if the height of the scaffold exceeds 3 times its minimum base dimension.	Refer to inspection text.

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Employer #	Mailing Address	Classification Unit #	Operating Location
11284	C/O WCB CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR HUMAN RESOURCES 6TH FLOOR 6190 AGRONOMY RD VANCOUVER BC V6T 1Z3	765010	002

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
Michael Cunningham	Bill Provenzaio	Not Applicable	CUPE local 116

WorkSafeBC Officer Conducting Inspection
Laura Gibbins

*Inspection Time	*Travel Time
2.25 hrs	0.00 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.**

WorkSafeBC's online services provide employers with tools to view information and to complete a variety of transactions with us in an easy, fast, and secure way. Through an online services account, you can view and download your inspection reports and compliance agreements, submit Employer Incident Investigation Reports, view your Health & Safety Planning Tool Kit, and more. Visit [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com) to log in or create an account.