

UPCE Health & Safety Bulletin  
January 2010

Welcome to the UPCE Safety & Health Bulletin. Some of the articles are pertinent to all UPCE members, while others are targeted toward UPCE Local -Joint Occupational Safety & Health Committees and Workplace Health & Safety Representatives. There will be more Bulletins in 2010, which will contain information, reminders, updates, and more. Please let us know if there is something you would like to see in an upcoming bulletin. Remember, we must all work together to ensure a Safe and Healthy workplace.

### **Your New National Joint Occupational Safety & Health Committee (N-JOSH)**

A new National Joint Occupational Safety & Health (N-JOSH) Committee was formed with Canada Post in January, 2009. The UPCE Members are:

**Janet May-Hewson** (Union Co-Chair)--Winnipeg, MB  
**Michelle Rey** (Member)--Regina, SK  
**Gena Clowater** (Member)--Fredericton, NB

We met with Canada Post's N-JOSH Committee members five times in 2009, and had a productive year. Some of the items we are working on are: L-JOSH Committee Member Training; Bullying and Violence in the Workplace; Escalations from L-JOSH Committees; Flu Prevention; Safety Talks; Hazard Prevention; Protective Footwear, and Accident Investigations. Please let us know if we can assist your L-JOSH Committee or Reps with anything. We will communicate with you more in 2010. Please also note our Health & Safety page on the UPCE website, where you can find N-JOSH minutes, links, and contact information.

*Link:* <http://www.upce.ca/en/node/16>

### **Report Health & Safety Issues to your L-JOSH Committee or Representative**

Notify a UPCE member of your L-JOSH Committee or your UPCE Health & Safety Representative of any Safety and/or Health issues in your workplace. Nothing is too big, or too small, to resolve! Your Committee or Representative is there to ensure that every member is safe and healthy in their workplace. Issues that are not known to your Committee or Rep, are unable to be resolved. If you have previous experience, or an interest in Health & Safety, please let a member of your Local Executive know, so that you may be considered for any upcoming L-JOSH Union Rep positions.

### **Nine Joint Occupational Safety & Health Committees Meeting Per Year**

Please keep in mind that each Local Joint Occupational Safety & Health Committee (L-JOSH) is required to meet NINE times per year, to be compliant with the Canada Labour Code.

CLC Section 135. (10) Meetings of committee

(10) A work place committee shall meet during regular working hours at least nine times a year at regular intervals and, if other meetings are required as a result of an emergency or other special circumstances, the committee shall meet as required during regular working hours or outside those hours.

R.S., 1985, c. L-2, s. 135; R.S., 1985, c. 9 (1st Supp.), s. 4, c. 26 (4th Supp.), s. 2; 1993, c. 42, s. 8(F); 2000, c. 20, s. 10.

Source

[http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/L-2/page-2.html#anchorbo-ga:l Il-qb:s 135\\_1](http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/L-2/page-2.html#anchorbo-ga:l Il-qb:s 135_1)

CLC Section 135. (10) Réunions du comité

(10) Le comité local se réunit au moins neuf fois par année à intervalles réguliers pendant les heures ouvrables, et au besoin — même en dehors des heures ouvrables — en cas d'urgence ou de situation exceptionnelle.

L.R. (1985), ch. L-2, art. 135; L.R. (1985), ch. 9 (1<sup>er</sup> suppl.), art. 4, ch. 26 (4<sup>e</sup> suppl.), art. 2; 1993, ch. 42, art. 8(F); 2000, ch. 20, art. 10.

Source French:

[http://laws.justice.gc.ca/fra/L-2/page-2.html#codese:135\\_1](http://laws.justice.gc.ca/fra/L-2/page-2.html#codese:135_1)

**Meeting Minutes to National Office and National Joint Occupational Safety & Health Committees**

Please ensure your monthly L-JOSH Committee Minutes are sent by mail or email to the UPCE National Office and to the UPCE N-JOSH Committee Members:

**UPCE National Office** sepc-upce@psac.com

**Janet May-Hewson** janimay@mts.net

**Michelle Rey** rey.family@sasktel.net

**Gena Clowater** glclowater@hotmail.com

We should have nine sets of minutes on file for each L-JOSH Committee by December 31, 2009, to be compliant with the Canada Labour Code. If your L-JOSH Committee has not sent their minutes, please do so as soon as possible. CPC Management is responsible for creating the meeting minutes, in both official languages, which must be signed by both Union and Management Co-Chairs. Please let us know by email, if you have any issues with having regular meetings, as soon as possible.

**L-JOSH Committee Member & Representative Training**

Most UPCE L-JOSH Committee Members and Health & Safety Representatives should have received their 2 day training session from Canada Post by now. Please advise all 3 N-JOSH Committee members by email, if you, or a Management member of your L-JOSH Committee, have not received your training to date.

### **Changes to Your L-JOSH Committee Member & Representative**

If a member of your L-JOSH Committee or the Health & Safety Representative for your Local changes, including your Worksite Management Reps, please advise all 3 N-JOSH Committee members, as soon as possible. We are tracking this information to ensure training and communications are targeted correctly to all UPCE worksites.

Also, please advise us by email, if your UPCE worksite does not currently have an active L-JOSH Committee, or Health & Safety Representative.

### **Unresolved L-JOSH Issues**

Please ensure that **any issue which remains unresolved on your L-JOSH Committee minutes for three consecutive meetings, is escalated to your N-JOSH Committee via email**. Remember that keeping a record of issues in writing is vital! We are attempting to track issues through meeting minutes, but this is not an effective solution yet. Please email us, as soon as possible, so that we may assist in a resolution.

Article 15.02 (b) The Corporation shall:

- (i) provide and maintain work places, equipment, work methods and tools that are safe and without risk to health;

Canada Post is obligated to resolve Health & Safety issues, under the UPCE Collective Agreement.

### **Happy New Year & Looking Forward to 2010**

We are looking forward to continuing and expanding our Health & Safety mandate into 2010. Please remember to be safe and healthy during 2010.

In Solidarity from your N-JOSH Committee Members,

Gena Clowater, Janet May and Michelle Rey