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K-12 workplace health & safety updates

Violence Prevention Toolkit

We'd like to thank everyone who took part in last month's workshop on the new K-12 Violence Prevention Toolkit. We'd also thank panelists Tom McKenna, CUPE Occupational Health and Safety specialist, and Hans Loeffelholz, BCPSEA sector lead for OH&S, for their presentation on this vital resource.

A copy of the workshop presentation is attached, and will be post on bcschool.cupe.ca, to share more broadly with CUPE members in the K-12 system.

The toolkit includes many resources and is now available on the BCPSEA website.

More information on the toolkit, along with workplace posters and a video outlining the toolkit resources, is also available on the WorkSafeBC K-12 violence tools website.

This toolkit was developed by a WorkSafeBC working group that included CUPE and other education system stakeholders. All the resources were reviewed by CUPE National health and safety representatives to ensure consistency. They were also reviewed by the K-12 coordinators in CUPE, employer representatives, and WorkSafeBC staff. Feedback on the tools is also welcomed and can be provided on the BCPSEA website.

The WorkSafeBC workplace violence prevention strategy working group will continue to meet regularly. It will assess how the toolkit is being used by school districts to prevent violence in the workplace. The resources in the toolkit will be updated and revised annually, or sooner if needed.

ACTION NEEDED: ventilation reports

All school districts in the province are **required to report on ventilation improvements and measures put in place in each school**, in accordance with health and safety guidelines. The Deputy Minister of Education says these reports need to be completed by school districts and submitted to school-level Joint Occupation Health & Safety (JOHS) committees **as soon as possible**.

We are asking all JOHS committees to **share the completed ventilation system overview reports with the CUPE K-12 coordinators** once they've been submitted by school districts. If your JOHS Committee has not received this report, please request it from the district Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer or Facilities Leads. A copy of the ventilation system overview report template is attached.