

Kaffeeklatsch Discussions

February 4th, 2021

Sarah Elliott, Director Safety and Security, along with students, the Readiness Group and the CTLT

Attendees: 46

- In light of the predicted significant drop in temperature expected this weekend the safety and facilities department will be proactively attending all space throughout the main campus to ensure windows are closed and heating is on.

We will be attending all common space, labs and offices to ensure pipes have not frozen that could cause further issues with our building envelope.

This is especially important at this time in light of the majority of employees working remotely and not being on site.

If you are on site over the weekend and notice any areas significantly colder than usual please reach out to security so that the shift engineer can be notified to try and address the heating.

The heating will remain down in the conference centre building over the weekend as piping upgrades continue but alternate heating sources are being brought in to prevent freezing of that area.

Sarah Elliott

- Reminder to everyone about the Family Assistance Program and Health & Wellness department and resources
- **Safety Webpage – Ergonomics Setup** <https://www2.unbc.ca/safety/ergonomic-program-overview>
- **News- BC Middle School & Highschool Mask Protocols**
<https://www.princegeorgematters.com/local-news/new-mandatory-mask-rules-announced-for-bc-classrooms-3353195>
- Masks were already required at UNBC in public spaces
- **UNBC SAFE APP** www2.unbc.ca/emergency-operations/alerts#:~:text=UNBC%20SAFE%20is%20a%20safety,order%20to%20utilize%20the%20services. (can push notifications in case of power outages or alerts)
- **Question:** Two teachers are doing F2F teaching in Education program – they have a Safety Plan – should they add Sarah Elliott as a contact in the plan? **Answer:** Yes. Sarah's number is in the SAFE App and can be added to safety plans as a 24 hour contact.

- As it pertains to our workplace – the UNBC Safety Office will interpret & disseminate safety info from the Public Health Officer as it applies to UNBC and community. Other workspaces – you have to adhere to any information & regulations they have in their workplace.
 - NSC Limited. Is a separate entity and they have separate regulations regarding reporting. They adhere to the sporting guidelines. The employees at the sport centre do the daily UNBC health checks for UNBC. The patrons have to check-in to the facility front desk. Patrons do not have to do the health check-in.
 - All of the info that is on the UNBC Safe App is also on the **Emergency Operations webpage**. <https://www2.unbc.ca/emergency-operations>
 - **Question:** Is the Mental Health First Aid Training under your department? **Answer:** In conjunction with Shelley McKenzie Health & Wellness department - we are not supposed to operate on adrenalin for over a year. There are future dates and delivery options being planned. Faculty / TAs can't attend 2 consecutive days; we are also looking at reading weeks, late April, etc...
 - **Question:** Faculty are front line and have students that are experiencing difficulties – training that is not on two consecutive days would be helpful – Instructors either teach MWF or T/TR so two days in a row is not feasible. There are also a lot of CUPE staff that can also not attend two consecutive days. **Answer:** We will try to find downtime/non-instructional time to hold the course. If you have any suggestions on the most desirable schedule, please let Shelley McKenzie know. I can approach the facilitators about availability
 - If training is to be distributed over several timeslots, can the edges of the timeslots match the edges of the timetable slots! For example start something on the half hour rather than the hour on MWF. I have had to pass up on many training opportunities because an hourlong session straddles two teaching slots and I am teaching in one of them.
 - There are some mental health courses available through our access to LinkedIn Learning - they definitely won't replace the Mental Health First Aid course, but may be useful for yourself and as you support others. You can reach LinkedIn Learning here: wizard.unbc.ca/record=e1000807~S3
 - **Question:** A Student has recently had a parent test positive for COVID-19, and felt they needed to isolate and stop attending face-to-face lab courses. **Answer:** The Public Health Authority said they didn't need to isolate (they only had two 5 minute exposures to the infected person) and could keep attending their lab classes in person. The Northern Health Authority is the definitive authority on what restrictions must be done re: isolation. Privacy must be respected. Close contact is more than 15 minutes, less

than 6 feet apart and without masks, otherwise Northern Health will recommend contact tracing.

- If any students are concerned – they can contact the UNBC clinic for reassurance and information. www2.unbc.ca/wellness-centre/contact
- **Question:** How many cases have been on or connected to UNBC – ballpark? **Answer:** Can't comment on numbers because of privacy concerns. When there is a chance of a larger exposure –we would be able to comment (eg. The daycare exposure). Yes, we have had cases in our community but it has not affected other Faculty, students or staff. Northern Health is the guide to determine when info is shared.
- Social work placements in SD need to wear masks.

Thanks so much for this Sarah - I really appreciate the work that you and your team have put into keeping us safe, both with covid and the more mundane concerns such as slips, ergonomics, etc.