

Safe & Well Waypoint

INCIDENT DATA AND THE JOINT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE (JHSC)

BACKGROUND: In the previous communications, we identified the JHSC as a recipient of incident reporting data (SPIRiT). They use the data to guide discussion and follow up during inspections. This communication explores the JHSC's roles and responsibilities and provides information on how to identify who is on the committee. The JHSC contributes to workplace health and safety as a result of their involvement with health and safety issues, and by assessing the effectiveness of the IRS.

WHAT IS THE JHSC'S ROLE?

The JHSC is an advisory body that helps to stimulate or raise awareness of health and safety issues in the workplace, recognizes and identifies workplace risks, and develops recommendations for the employer to address these risks. To achieve its goal, the committee holds monthly meetings, conducts regular workplace inspections and makes written recommendations to the employer.

WHY ARE JHSC'S IMPORTANT?

JHSCs involve representatives from workers and management. This co-operative involvement ensures that everything possible is done to identify and eliminate or mitigate workplace health and safety hazards. As mentioned in early communications, the data produced by the incidents reported help the organization and the JHSC identify gaps in our standards and practices.

(Reminder – under the internal responsibility system your first point of contact regarding workplace hazards and injuries is your supervisor.)

DO YOU KNOW WHO THE MEMBERS OF OUR JHSC ARE?

The members of the JHSC are posted on the safety boards and listings indicated on Waypoint's Intranet Site. Worker members are appointed by their bargaining unit. Please contact your Union for more information on their selection process.

(Policy Reference: Staff Incident Investigation, Reporting and Follow-up Policy and Planned Health and Safety Inspections Policy)

REMINDER:

As part of the IRS, everyone in the workplace has a role to play in making the workplace safe. Report hazards, injuries and incidents immediately to your supervisor and complete an incident report in SPIRiT before the end of shift.