

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH, OCEAN and ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES**

**EOAS/ESB LOCAL SAFETY TEAM  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Zoom Room**

**9:30am – 10:30am**

**Present:** Roger Beckie (Chair), Kate Blackburn (Dean's Office), Cole Lord-May (Graduate Student Representative), Denise Feighan (PIMS), Brian Hunt, Bethany Ladd, Kevin Lin (Data Science), Tim Morgan, Peggy Ng (Statistics), Kimberly Tietjen (Secretary)

**Regrets:** Peggy Ng (Statistics), Anne-Martine Doucet (Graduate Student Representative), Marc Bustin

**Action Items:**

- **Meeting called to order: 9:30 AM**

**Adoption of previous Safety Committee Meeting Minutes:**

Approved: Roger Beckie

Seconded: Tim Morgan

**1. ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTS: N/A**

**2. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Review of Laboratory & Office Safety Inspections
  - RB advised that an email was sent out this morning regarding the safety inspections. Marg Amini and Ross McCulloch will be training to take over inspections from Mike and Rich. The inspections will be proceeding over the next 6 to 8 weeks. Any deficiencies or corrections arising from the inspections will be brought back to the PI's.
  - TM confirmed that all departmental vehicles are inspected at least twice per year by the UBC Garage. BH advised that boats need a routine safety inspection and that at least the safety equipment has to be certified somehow to make sure it's current.
- Review of Field Safety Protocols and Training
  - BH focused his research particularly on small boats. We have risk assessments for large vessels, but the safety aspect is managed by Coast Guard. BH got in touch with Chris Payne who manages the boats. Chris had put some documentation together earlier in the year from the Pacific Biological Station.
  - BH reached out to Hakai Institute, Institute of Ocean Sciences, and West Van Labs. He reviewed the material from each and identified the gaps in the EOAS procedures. He will share the research on the Owncloud folder. BH will review with Chris to ensure that the material is not too cumbersome, and mentioned it might be good to have some material that the captain needs to be aware of but is not necessary for everyone else. BH emphasized the importance of clearly defining the roles.
  - TM questioned whether we have any field safety protocols and training in regards to scuba diving, in terms of certifications and processes.
    - RB responded that Zoology and Botany may be able to assist with that. TM commented that what certifications you have will determine what you are allowed to do.

- BL reached out to BGC and Marty reached out to Lorax. Both documents are on the Owncloud folder now. Procedures at BGC are dependent on the project, but they have a safety team that reviews the paperwork and a core team who are trained and authorized to give approval. BGC's required safety training is a two-day occupation first aid course and Bear Aware, and depending on the project they'll have various other task-specific training.
  - BL commented that BGC's tips and strategies to imbue a safety culture were interesting: safety is not about forms because they are necessary but they don't make people safe. Forms are filled out but conversations about the content should be had.
  - RB got in touch with Teck. They have a dedicated safety officer. They have an online risk matrix of all the things that could go wrong that populates depending on which activities are selected via the online form. The person who is submitting the fieldwork request needs to be able to address all of those potential issues. If we want to pursue something similar, the JOHSC would have to advise all of our legal obligations. Teck also has daily meetings with the team before you go out into the field. Teck also provides personal stories to remind people that safety affects not just your fieldwork but also your communities and families.
  - RB got in touch with Botany and spoke about equity, diversity, and inclusivity. They have an aspiration to get all of the departments doing fieldwork together to work on a comprehensive risk matrix with IT. We want to build a process that is generalizable. Comments on that aspiration?
    - TM advised that Botany and Zoology has recently had their process approved by the JOHSC.
    - KB likes the idea of normalizing it into a safety culture making it a conversation of what risks could happen and creating consistency across the board. KB mentioned that she was asked to find out about first aid requirements from WSBC and she can't find any consistency. KB advised she would follow up with SRS.
    - DF commented that it sounds like a good idea but that it will be important to keep it from being too cumbersome.
    - CL-M agreed that it sounds good. An experienced supervisor or Post-Doc will have an inherently higher risk tolerance than someone who is new and it is important to make sure that you're on the same page.
    - KL likes the idea of a centralized web form that all the departments can use. It might be a good idea to find some funding since it would support both teaching and research. This is something that could potentially be included on the Strategic Plan going forward.
    - BH is concerned that it might be difficult to know where to start. Meeting with department heads or other safety teams is a good way to go. Zoology commissioned someone to develop these forms and that everybody could use it, so make sure to coordinate with the other departments.
    - BL commented that the aspiration is great but we also need to make sure that we aren't creating more work for ourselves. We need to make sure that we're progressing as a department and not stalling because we're working on this big thing. BL requested that an action item for the next meeting be to look into what trainings we should have available on the EOAS website.
- Subject to discuss for next month's meeting: What is the best way to imbue the safety culture?

### 3. NEW BUSINESS: N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 10:33am

**Next Safety Team Meeting – Tuesday, November 10, 2020**