

HSE Newsletter

British Columbia Institute of Technology – Health, Safety and Environment

October 2023, ISSUE 1023

https://www.bcit.ca/safetyandsecurity/safety/ohs_news

Education/Training Opportunities for Employees

The following courses are available through the Employee Learning Centre:

[Violence Prevention in the Workplace](#)
[Incident Investigation Training](#)
[Workplace Inspections](#)
[Ladder Safety](#)
[Musculoskeletal Injury \(MSI\) Prevention](#)
[Employee OHS Orientation](#)
[Supervisor OHS Skills](#)
[WHMIS](#)

Target Audience

All employees*
Supervisors/Managers/JOHSC members
All employees conducting safety inspections/JOHSC members
All employees who use ladders
All employees**
All new employees***
All new supervisors
Employees in non-office areas

* For employees starting at BCIT before February 2023, since it was at that time incorporated into the Employee OHS Orientation and Supervisor OHS Skills.

**For employees starting at BCIT before October 27, 2021, since it was at that time incorporated into Employee OHS Orientation.

***For new employees, or in a new area with different hazards as your previous one, or returning from an extended leave of absence or there is a change in hazards since you began working in your current department.

Note: other courses are available in the [Employee Learning Centre](#) which are hazard specific. Have a look to see what's available.

Spill Management Program

BCIT's spill management program was finalized and published in June 2023, and can be found [here](#) on the HSE Sharespace. In general, departments are expected to assess spill hazards in their area, determine the different types of spill risks present, have response procedures appropriate for the different spill risks, and have an emergency procedure in place for any spill risks that the department would not be able to clean themselves (for any reason, such as volume, hazard, location, etc.).

Spill management documentation and planning is required under both Occupational Health and Safety Regulations and for fire code requirements. As well, proposed changes to the regulations will require that organizations actively perform drills on their procedures involving hazardous chemicals, such as spill events. Therefore, it is important that departments are aware of the requirements and expectations and start planning to develop and implement these processes.

A necessary starting point is developing a hazardous chemical inventory – you can't know what spill procedures you need if you don't have a list of what can spill. A inventory template is available [here](#), and any inventories can be set up in our online inventory system, Campus Optics.

For any questions about spill management or chemical inventories, or if your department wants help with this process, please contact [John Di Bella](#).

BCIT First Aid: [BCIT FirstAid@bcit.ca](mailto:BCIT_FirstAid@bcit.ca)

BCIT OHS: ssemhse@bcit.ca

WHY THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT NEWSLETTER?

Health and Safety is a priority at BCIT. HSE newsletters contain first aid statistics, compliance concerns, and updates of new legislation and interest articles.



Road Safety at Work – Shift into Winter

Any work-related driving puts employees at risk. Winter increases the risk, especially when drivers go too fast for the road and weather conditions. Nearly 40% of all work-related crashes resulting in injury and time off work occur from November through February in BC.

For more information visit [Road Safety at Work - Shift into Winter](#).

Free COVID-19 Test Kits

In our ongoing efforts to support our staff and community we are offering FREE Covid-19 test kits at our office. These kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis and we encourage you to pick them up at your earliest convenience.

The kits may be picked up at:

SSEM office

Location: SW01-1000

Operating hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00am and 3:00pm

Mandatory OHS Education/Training

The goal is for all new employees to complete their mandatory OHS courses within 30 days of starting at BCIT or assuming a new supervisory role (Supervisor OHS Skills).

2023, Q3	Total # employees	Total employees completed course	Employees completed within 30 days of hire	% total complete within 30 days of hire	% total complete
Employee OHS Orientation	702	531	451	64.2%	75.6%
WHMIS	702	592	511	72.8%	84.3%
Supervisor OHS Skills	33	20	14	42.4%	60.6%

Employee First Aid Statistics

