

OHS Newsletter

British Columbia Institute of Technology

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https://www.bcit.ca/safetyandsecurity/safety/ohs_newsletters.shtml

For COVID-19 updates, refer to [Breaking News](#).

For more information, contact covidinfo@bcit.ca

DID YOU KNOW...reporting incidents is an important part of keeping ourselves and others healthy and safe at work?

What is an incident?

An undesired event that result in loss, or, that under slightly different circumstances, could have resulted in loss.

What incidents should be reported?

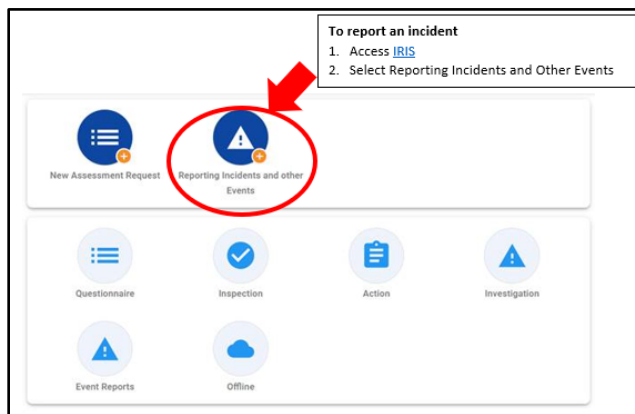
All incidents, regardless of the outcome, should be reported to your supervisor immediately, and also report using the newly launched Incident Reporting and Information System (IRIS).

An incident at BCIT

Two workers were asked to move and discard a large railway display. The display was taken apart into two large pieces and determined to be manageable size. When lifting the second piece of the displace onto a cart, the piece began to flex and tip and the cart moved latterly. One of the workers had to exert themselves in order to steady the cart and strained their back. Factors contributing to this incident included overexertion from lifting item too large/heavy/awkward – the item began to fall resulting in exertion injury to the back.

Incident recommendations

Recommendations from the incident investigation include workers assessing the work environment commencing a task and to dismantle the table into smaller pieces first so that it can be lifted and carried safely.



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WHY HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER?

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



2020 Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees (JOHSC) Evaluations Summary

As of January 2021, BCIT has completed the JOHSC evaluations for all six campuses, as required by WorkSafeBC’s Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 3.26. The purpose of conducting the annual evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of JOHSCs and determine if they meet OHS legal requirements.

Highlights

The JOHSCs rated themselves on Overall Committee Effectiveness from Somewhat Effective to Very Effective. Over 2020, none of the JOHSCs had sent a 21-day recommendation to the employer, which is means to request action on health and safety issues. Some significant risks which the JOHSCs identified were:

- Mental health
- COVID-19 Safety Plans
- Working from home
- Security on-site

A substantial amount of constructive feedback has been received to improve the effectiveness of the JOHSCs. More information about JOHSCs and completed evaluations can be found [here](#).

First Aid Statistics

