

OHS Newsletter

British Columbia Institute of Technology

OCTOBER 2021, ISSUE 1021

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

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

For more information, contact covidinfo@bcit.ca

OHS Lunch and Learns

11:00AM and 12:00PM sessions available. Register on the [PD Registration system](#).

- [Topic: Masks](#), presented by Jasper Tam on October 27th
- [Topic: Working Alone](#), presented by Brittany Denunzio on October 28th
- [Topic: Ergonomics](#), presented by Rebecca Chen on November 9th
- [Topic: Ventilation and IEQ](#), presented by John Di Bella on December 1st

Upcoming IRIS Training

- [November 18th](#) - 9:00AM – 11:00AM
- [December 15th](#) - 9:00AM – 11:00AM

EyesafeBC Prescription Safety Eyewear Program

BCIT rolled out a new prescription safety eyewear program in mid-June 2021. This program operates through a collaboration with [EyesafeBC](#) a non-profit prescription eyewear program administered by the BC Association of Optometrists. Under this new prescription safety eyewear program, BCIT employees, who are required to wear safety eyewear at work, will be eligible to claim coverage of up to \$275 for prescription safety eyewear every two years. Any expenses incurred over \$275 must be paid by the employee. All prescription safety eyewear is compliant with [WorkSafeBC 8.14\(3\)C\(i\)](#) and [CAN/CSA Z94.3](#). There are over 350 Doctors of Optometry in more than 85 communities in BC participating in this program. View the participating optometrists [here](#).

Benefits of the program:

- Prevents workplace injuries which can result in significant human and financial costs
- Provides fitted safety eyewear best suited for the employee's work environment
- Secure online administration
- Provides annual utilization reports and monthly billing statements

From the launch of this program in June, 33 employees have received prescription safety eyewear. To determine if your department is participating in the prescription safety eyewear program and for more information, refer [here](#).

WorkSafeBC OHS Newsletter: [September/October issue](#)

BCIT First Aid: BCIT_FirstAid@bcit.ca

BCIT OHS: ssemohs@bcit.ca

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.



Launch Of New OHS Programs

New/updated OHS Programs have been launched:

- [Confined Space Program](#), describes who is able to enter confined spaces, as defined under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation section 9.1.
- [Indoor Environment Quality Assessment Program](#), shows how BCIT ensures regularly occupied indoor environments are healthy and comfortable for employees to occupy.
- [Working Alone and in Isolation](#), provides guidance for employees who are required to work alone and those responsible for checking the wellbeing of those who work alone or in isolation.

For more information, contact ssemohs@bcit.ca

October, Ergonomics Month

To reduce the risk of musculoskeletal injuries, resources are available on the [BCIT website](#), including the [online ergonomic self-assessment](#), which 135 employees have used. View WorkSafeBC’s [Ergonomic Enews](#), and [Health and Safety Enews](#) for more information regarding ergonomics.

First Aid Statistics

