

## HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

### Occupational Health & Safety – Quarterly Update – Q2 2014 April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To inform the Board of Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) issues.
<b>BACKGROUND:</b>	Reporting on a quarterly basis is part of a due diligence process so the Board is aware of Halifax Regional School Board Occupational Health and Safety significant statistics and activities.
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Please see Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Quarterly Update, Q2 2014 - April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014.
<b>COST:</b>	N/A
<b>FUNDING:</b>	N/A
<b>TIMELINE:</b>	N/A
<b>APPENDIX:</b>	Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Quarterly Update, Q2 2014 - April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014.
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	That the Governing Board accept the report for information.
<b>COMMUNICATIONS:</b>	N/A

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**To:** Board September 24, 2014

Occupational Health & Safety  
Quarterly Update  
Q2 2014  
April 1 to June 30, 2014

School Insurance Program (SIP) – Reported Incidents

Group	Incidents		
	Reporting Quarter	Year Before Quarter	Preceding Quarter
	Apr 1 to Jun 30, '14	Apr 1 to Jun 30, '13	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '14
Employees:	106	Unavailable	128
Other, incl. students:	674	Unavailable	633

*SIP Incident Report forms are submitted by school administrators for incidents occurring to school community members during school related activities.*

Incidents resulting in a lost time injury or medical attention may also be reported under Workers' Compensation Board or Injury on Duty below.

Nova Scotia Teacher's Union (NSTU)

*This group of employees is not covered by WCB.*

NSTU	Injury On Duty applications approved		
	Reporting Quarter	Year Before Quarter	Preceding Quarter
	Apr 1 to Jun 30, '14	Apr 1 to Jun 30, '13	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '14
Injuries on Duty	9	6	13

OH&S Division of Department Labour and Workforce Development

Workplaces Inspected:	Workplaces with Compliance Orders Issued:	Total Compliance Orders Issued:
1	9	9

All nine orders were complied with and the orders were closed in May. The actions taken may be common to other schools and have therefore been shared with and discussed by the DOERs committee for development and implementation at a system-wide level.

A provincial Occupational Health and Safety Officer made an informal visit to Central Office to discuss past year changes to safety regulations for employer representatives and contractors on roof projects.

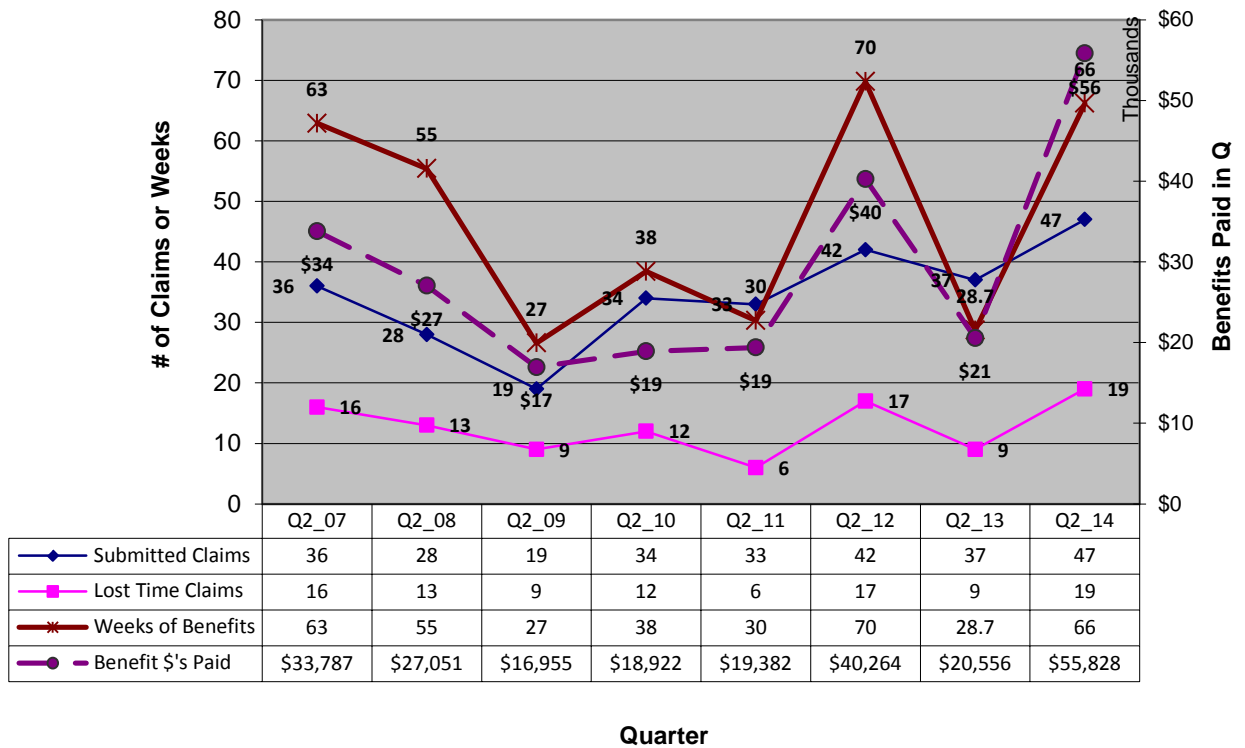
Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Claims

47 claims were submitted to the Workers' Compensation Board including 19 with a claim for Benefit Weeks/Lost Time ("LT").

Submitted to WCB	Submitted	No Claim	Med Costs Only	Benefit Weeks +/- Med costs (LT Claim)	Weeks of Paid Benefits	SEVERITY (Weeks / LT Claim)
CUPE	19	3	10	6	12	2.0
NSUPE	20	0	9	11	36.2	3.3
NSGEU	2	0	1	1	9	9.0
EXCEL / Lunch	6	0	5	1	9	9.0
PEG	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	47	3	25	19	66.2	3.5

The following graph shows 2nd Quarter 2014 WCB data in relation to previous years of same-quarter data.

WCB Q2 Claim Data



The committee of DOERs continued regular meetings.

Steps have been taken to purchase a dolly which will permit transport of chairs, tables, desks, bookcases and may also be used as a cart to promote safe and ergonomic transfer of items. A pilot was completed and the implementation was increased to use in 30 schools.

Practical testing of anti-slip shoes for use while floor stripping was conducted. With the support of Operations, all custodial staff were provided with these for use during the summer clean up.

Preparations for all vice-principals to attend a full day Hazard Identification and an Incident Investigation workshop in late August commenced.

A small group of DOERs members toured learning center environments of an elementary, junior and high school inspecting, viewing and discussing concerns and issues with staff. The larger group of employees working with occupational safety concerns related to the learning centre environment held a two day work shop to receive training and to identify significant issues for further development of procedures. The experiences gained through complying with the above mentioned Occupational Health & Safety Compliance Orders were shared and will be drawn upon. This work will carry through into the fall.

A provincial Occupational Health and Safety Officer made an informal visit to Central Office to discuss changes to safety regulations for employer representatives and contractors on roof projects.

### Training

80 Educational Program Assistants (EPAs) attended Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training.

88 EPA's were provided with First Aid Training.

40 Physical Education Teachers received First Aid Training.

A select group of staff received updated training on Automated Electronic Defibrillators (AED) at a school with a specific medical requirement.

### Requests for Action from workplace JOHS Committees

Request for Action forms were received from two school Joint Occupational Health and Safety committees during the period. One issue was a concern for an area where mould had been identified in previous years. The second issue is in relation to the condition of the foundation and moisture issues in the basement classrooms.

### Work Refusal

A work refusal was reported by an employee assigned to work with a particular student. Meetings were held with the school administration and the employee. Procedures to create a safer work environment were mutually agreed upon, developed and implemented.