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Report No. 2016-08-32  
Date: September 28, 2016

## HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

### Occupational Health & Safety – Update January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016

**PURPOSE:** To inform the Governing Board of Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) matters.

**BACKGROUND:** Reporting on a semi-annual basis is part of a due diligence process so the Governing Board is aware of OHS significant statistics and activities.

**CONTENT:** Please see Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Update, January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016.

**COST:** N/A

**FUNDING:** N/A

**TIMELINE:** N/A

**APPENDIX:** Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Update, January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended the Governing Board receive the report for information.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Posted to HRSB website September 23, 2016.

**From:** John Swales, Manager, Occupational Health & Safety  
Email: [jswales@hrsb.ca](mailto:jswales@hrsb.ca) Ph: (902) 464-2000 ext. 2204

Tracy O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resource Services  
Email: [tokroneg@hrsb.ca](mailto:tokroneg@hrsb.ca) Ph: (902) 464-2000 ext. 2323

**To:** Senior Staff - September 6, 2016  
Governing Board – September 28, 2016

**OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE**  
**January 1 to June 30, 2016**

**I. SCHOOL INSURANCE PROGRAM (SIP) – REPORTED INCIDENTS**

Group	Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2016	Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2015
Employees*	247	275
Students and other**	1697	1533
Total	1944	1808

\* Employee incidents resulting in a lost time injury or medical attention may also be reported under Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) or Injury on Duty below.

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

**II. INJURY ON DUTY - TEACHERS ONLY\***

\*Teachers are not covered by WCB.

Injury On Duty Applications Approved		
Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2016	Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2015	Jan 1 to Jun 30, 2014
25	10	19

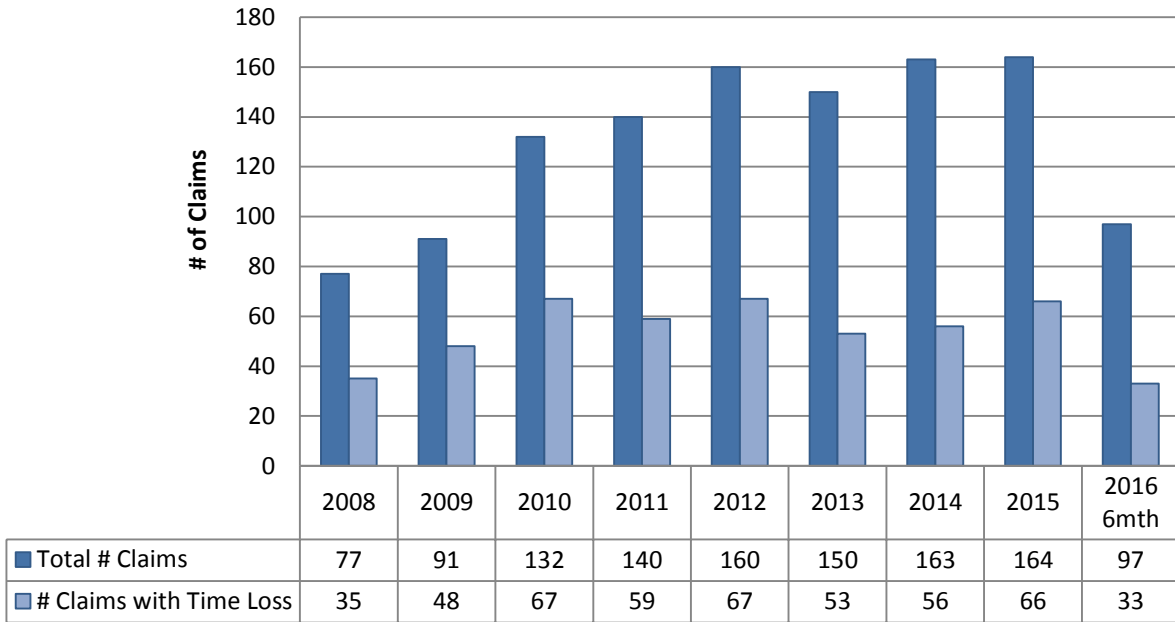
Twenty-five Injury on Duty claims were approved, 16 of which were of five or less days.

**III. WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD (WCB) CLAIMS**

Group	Submitted	No Cost	Medical Costs Only	Lost Time Claims
CUPE	56	21	15	20
NSUPE	27	8	10	9
NSGEU	1	0	1	0
EXCEL	9	3	4	2
LUNCH	4	1	1	2
PEG	0	0	0	0
Totals	97	33	31	33

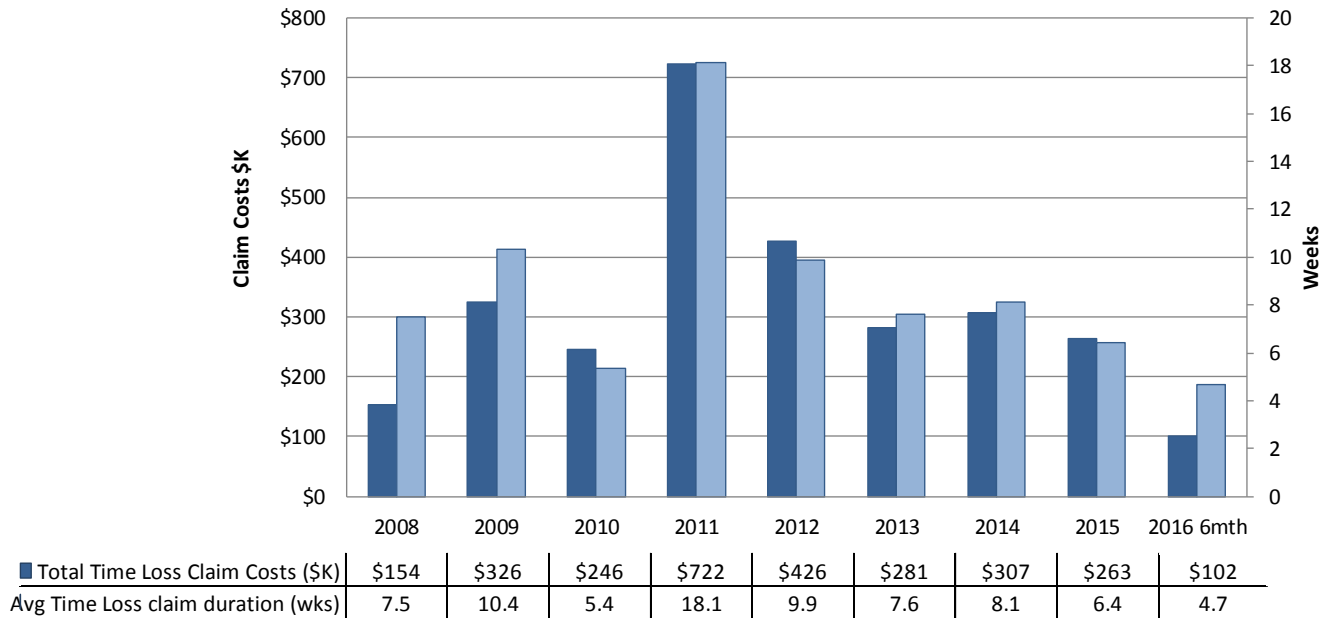
Thirty-three (33) claims resulted in time lost from work and payment of wage benefits. Of these, all employees have returned to full duties, with the exception of eight employees who continue to work while also receiving physiotherapy treatment and two employees who remain completely off work.

### Number of Claims



Data on submitted claims to date suggests a higher number of submitted claims (reported incidents) on a yearly basis. Data on Time Loss claims and average time loss duration to date (with a few claims still maturing) appear to be in line with previous years.

### Claim Costs and Avg Time Loss Duration



Some claims have been more severe in nature resulting in durations of six weeks or more. Costs for some claims in 2015 and 2016 continue to mature.

**IV. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OHS) DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND ADVANCED EDUCATION**

Workplaces Inspected	Reports Written	Recommendations	Total Compliance Order(s) Issued
5	3	2	2

Two reports resulted in recommendations. The recommendations in one report resulted in a meeting between the OHS Division and HRSB to discuss and decide on action. All of the recommendations from that report have been addressed or have a training plan in place to address them. The second report resulted in recommendations with respect to indoor air quality and the school issued work notifications to address the recommendations.

One report resulted in two compliance orders being issued, with respect to out of date material safety data systems (MSDS) sheets and an emergency eye wash station that was not functional at the time of the visit. The MSDS sheets have been updated and a work notification submitted for the repair of the eye wash station.

A fourth inspection regarding a contractor drilling into exterior brickwork to install equipment did not result in a report. Proper practices and personal protective equipment were in use and no orders were issued.

A fifth inspection was conducted on June 30, 2016 and no information has been received from the OHS Division at the date of this report.

**V. HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING**

Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NVCI): Safe Schools facilitated three sessions, training approximately 50 school based teachers in NVCI and Student Services facilitated three sessions to recertify approximately 90 Educational Program Assistants.

Emergency First Aid: Fifteen sessions were attended by 84 Educational Program Assistants, 18 Student Support Workers, 12 International Student Services staff, 36 school administrators, 91 Operations staff and 61 Physical Education teachers (Standard First Aid).

Fall Arrest Training: Thirty eight Operations employees completed Fall Arrest training in March.

**VI. REQUESTS FOR ACTION(S)**

Four requests for action(s) were received during the period:

- ✓ A pothole issue was addressed.
- ✓ A pothole/parking lot issue had funds allocated for work this summer.
- ✓ An accessibility issue was resolved by Operations in consultation with the School Administration.

- ✓ A request for painted parking lot lines to control vehicles in the school grounds has been deferred as other control solutions are discussed.

Concerns were brought forward from schools regarding various indoor air quality conditions. Site visits, inspections and the completion of work notifications resolved concerns.

## **VII. WORK REFUSALS**

One employee refused work for threat of personal safety. The school administration was able to source additional supports such that the employee believed the situation to be reasonably safe and thus withdrew the refusal.