

HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

Occupational Health & Safety – Quarterly Update – Q1 2014 January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014

PURPOSE: To inform the Board of Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) issues.

BACKGROUND: Reporting on a quarterly basis is part of a due diligence process so the Board is aware of HRSB OHS significant statistics and activities.

CONTENT: Please see Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Quarterly Update, Q1 2014, January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014.

COST: N/A

FUNDING: N/A

TIMELINE: N/A

APPENDIX: Appendix A - Occupational Health & Safety Quarterly Update, Q1 2014, January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board accept the report for information.

COMMUNICATIONS: N/A

From: John Swales, OHS Manager (jswales@hrsb.ca)
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To: Board May 28th, 2014

Occupational Health & Safety
Quarterly Update
Q1 2014
January 1 to March 31, 2014

School Insurance Program (SIP) – Reported Incidents

Group	Incidents		
	Reporting Quarter	Year Before Quarter	Preceding Quarter
	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '14	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '13	Oct 1 to Dec 31, '13
Employees:	128	108	n/a
Other, incl. students:	633	458	n/a

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
	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '14	Jan 1 to Mar 31, '13	Oct 1 to Dec 31, '13
Injuries on Duty	13	5	6

OH&S Division of Department Labour and Workforce Development

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

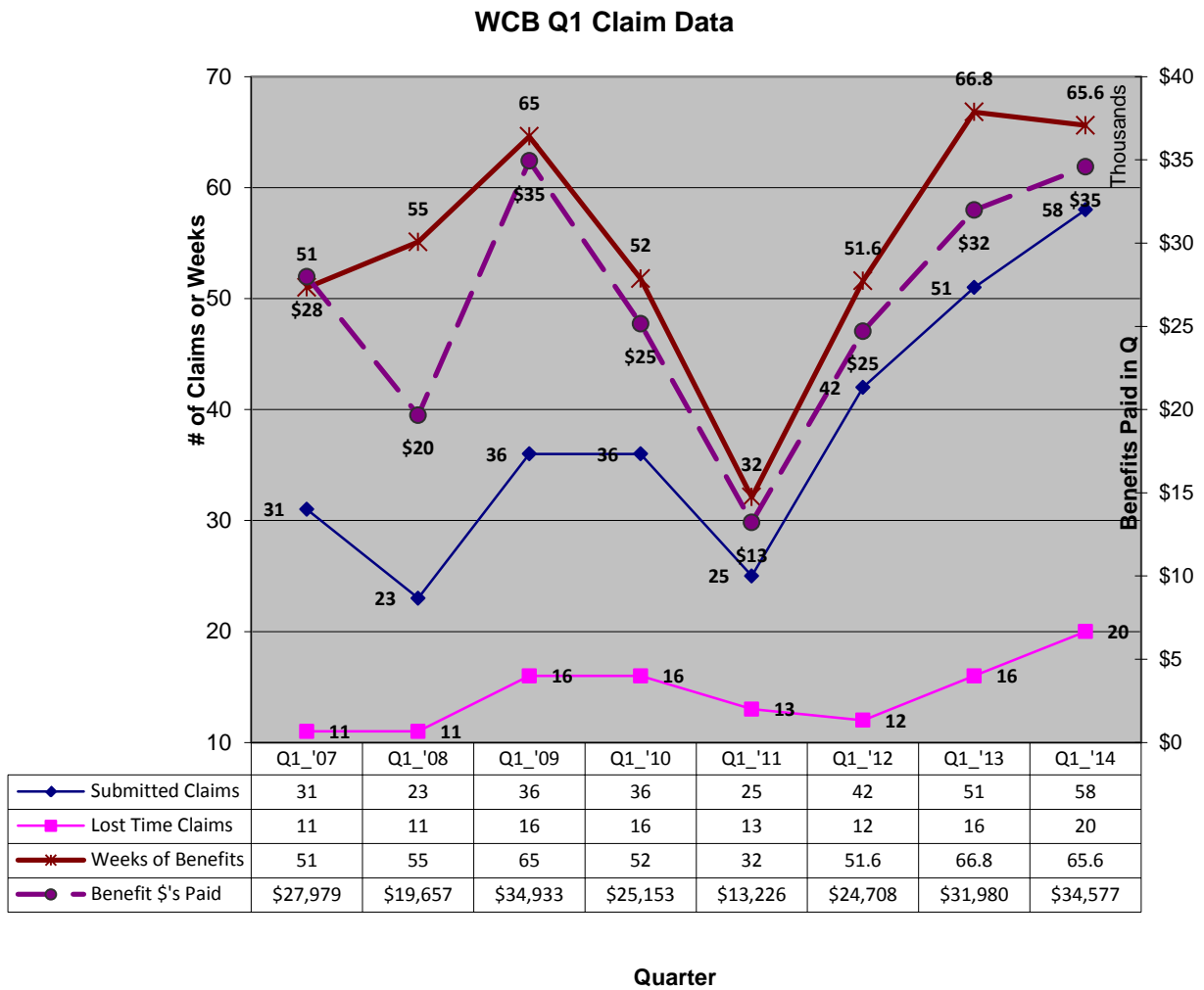
An Officer, responding to a call, conducted a workplace inspection and issued a Compliance Order for the provision of numerous documents. A further visit to the site, employee interviews, fact finding and nine more orders were issued. We are currently working on complying with these orders and will update in the next report.

Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Claims

58 claims were submitted to the Workers' Compensation Board including 20 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	41	14	12	15	49.0	3.3
NSUPE	7	1	3	3	4.2	1.4
NSGEU	1	0	1	0	0	
EXCEL / Lunch	7	1	4	2	12.4	6.2
PEG	2	1	1	0	0	
Totals	58	17	21	20	65.6	3.3

The following graph shows 1st Quarter 2014 WCB data in relation to previous 1st quarter data.



The various working groups of the “DOER’S” committee continue to advance on many fronts. Hazard assessments at workplaces have been completed and there are several minor issues being addressed for improving the inspection for workplace hazards process. The Participatory Ergonomics committee (primarily custodial) have been very active on the issues of chair /table moving, ease of access to bins for garbage dumping and safety preparation for the summer floor cleaning with safe work procedures, training videos and anti-slip footwear. The sub group addressing the work related to learning centers has met several times, involving participants at all the various levels, and has several procedural improvements in development. The ergonomic hazards related to these positions have been surveyed.

Training

29 employees from Operations and Central Office attended NVCi training.

NVCi training was also offered to a select group of 33 EPA substitutes, strengthening the skills of this employee resource group.

Principal and Vice Principals (44) retrained in emergency first aid. Thirteen secretaries and 19 educational program assistants also attended first aid refresher training.

Requests for Action from workplace JOHS Committees (received)

Request for Action forms were received from two school Joint Occupational Health and Safety committees during the period. Issues were raised were temperature fluctuations and indoor air quality. Both issues have been addressed.