The JHSC Management co-chair Tony Lackey, chaired the meeting. Given the special nature of the meeting, quorum was not required (although it was attained).

Information #1. Tony provided an update related to new COVID restrictions and protocols.

The Ottawa community went into the white zone last week. Not too many changes on campus other than Athletics which is now shut down. There is one national sports team activity still taking place, the national wheelchair rugby team, which is a permitted activity.

The Bookstore has moved back to limited activity. The rest of campus has been shifted to essential activities only, unless it is a requirement of anyone’s job it is encouraged that everybody work from home.

All indications point to further increased restrictions which could possibly include a Stay At Home order, but this may not apply to schools.

There is a plan to return to campus in September. The CUSP committee has provided a high level plan to a number of stakeholders, including senate. The next planning element is to examine the operational needs in order to resume campus activities. What practical supports need to be in place, including cleaning, supplies and protocols for all of the areas? Presentations will be delivered in the next month, including to the JHSC, to add further details.

Q1 – Will the building inspections wait till May? There is an inspection scheduled for Health Sciences later this month and currently, under the Occ H&S Act need to go forward, pending the new orders that are to be announced later in the day by the province. Under the current White zone restriction, the inspection would be fine to proceed on a volunteer basis.

Information #2. Nancy provided further updates related to COVID-19.

The EHS department is working on a face-to-face document for those activities that may take place in the fall. The document will focus on preparatory steps that need to be taken prior to activities resuming in the fall.

The ministry of education has tightened up screening requirements for any children in the Ontario school system. Children with one symptom are told to stay home and get tested, this included all siblings in the same household.

Information #3. Kristie Tousignant provided information.
Information was provided on protocols in place for COVID-19 testing, applicability of testing towards variants, and the proper use of PPE equipment by the health staff.

Kristie indicated that the University is liaising with Ottawa Public Health to establish an on-campus vaccination clinic. Kristie is looking to have access to vaccine doses in order to be able to vaccinate the entire CU community. This will be dependent on the dosages being delivered into the city and how they are allocated. Once the University has obtained vaccine doses, further messaging will be sent out to the community.

Kristie provided a review of the University’s COVID symptom reporting program including isolation procedures for those individuals in residence. This ensures that the virus transmission is limited as much as possible. The University obtains contact lists for 48 hours pre-testing and/or pre-symptomatic. Once a positive test result is confirmed, all contact individuals are contacted to ensure that they isolate and get tested on day 7. The key is for individuals to remain isolated. The University also conducts high level cleaning and fogging.

Questions

Q1 – Is the library closed? The library is available for curbside pickup at this time.

Q2 – How is the fall semester currently expected to run? Currently the plan is still up in the air due to the numerous variables that are still impacting the ability of the community to return to normal operations. The University will wait to make a final decision concerning the fall until further details are revealed. There is hope that some sort of on campus activity will take place in the fall semester.

Q3 – What type of work is involved in fogging/high level cleaning? When there is a positive case, the University has retained a third party provider to come in and fog the entire space, FMP follows up with a further fogging once the quarantine period is completed, and also completes precautionary fogging in areas such as Health and Counselling.

Q4 – What is the estimated time for when the CU community will be vaccinated? No firm dates have been provided. As soon as the University is able to secure vaccine doses, communication will be released immediately.

Next meeting(s)

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at 10:00 AM, Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment