

**Carleton University - Joint Health and Safety Committee and Union Leadership
COVID-19 Update Meeting #38 – December 1, 2021
Microsoft Teams, 10:00 am**

The Executive Director ORM, 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 on the Return to Campus activities

1. The new variant, Omicron, is being monitored by the university, and any Public Health restrictions are implemented which may be implemented. The federal government is requiring a PCR test from anyone coming into Canada from anywhere but the US. The next couple of weeks will provide details on the impact of Omicron and what that will mean regarding additional restrictions.

Information #1. Tony provided an update on the Return to Campus activities

1. We are monitoring to see if any requirements are made for booster shots. Presently the booster is not a requirement to be deemed fully vaccinated. If the requirements change, cuScreen will be modified to capture the additional information.

Questions:

1. Faculty are concerned about the purpose and process regarding the Travel form? The communication has been perhaps not as good as it should have been. The purpose of the form is a guidance for the faculty to provide them with resources to assist with safely planning their trip. At present, unless the Dean requests the form to be completed, there is no obligation to complete and submit the form to the Office of Risk Management. Faculty can voluntarily submit the form if they require assistance with their travel risk management plan.

2. Faculty have expressed concern regarding confidentiality of cuScreen data. The only purpose of gathering the information obtained on cuScreen is to confirm that all individuals have attested and submitted their documents. The data is controlled on campus, there are only 2 individuals on campus who have access to the data. A review of the system was conducted by the Privacy Office and the IT security section of ITS. The system passed with high marks. *(Note since the meeting it has been confirmed that staff verifying documents downloaded have limited access to the system.*

“Data are encrypted both in transit and storage and exceeds the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) requirements.” – CU website currently.

3. There are concerns about the type, size and general variety of masks available in the procurement system. The concern was that requests to purchase masks and charging these purchases to research funds were being denied. It was clarified that masks are being provided by the university. As such they are an operating cost and cannot be billed as a research cost. The masks provided by the university are all 3 ply masks and meet public health recommendations. N95 masks must be fit tested and are provided to those who require the extra level of PPE.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 10:00 AM**, Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment