

January GMM Report – Arghyadeep Sarkar, Health and Safety Officer

Central Joint Health and Safety Committee (CJHSC) has been meeting regularly to discuss various safety norms which need to be applied across various building in McMaster University. Covid-19 issues has been our primary form of discussion. Our goal is safety to all our members.

Lastly, some of COVID-19 protocols have been laid out by the University recently. They are as follows-

1. **Do the online training:** The mandatory COVID-19 Awareness training is available in Mosaic. Training must be completed once in advance of coming to campus.
2. **Wear a mask:** Masks are mandatory for all indoor spaces on campus.
3. **Follow signs and keep physically distanced:** Clear, easy to read signage throughout campus signals appropriate physical distancing and room capacities.
4. **Use the COVID-19 reporting tool:** If you or anyone on your team has tested positive for COVID, has symptoms, or has come into contact with a confirmed case of COVID, use the tool in Mosaic to help McMaster take appropriate safety actions.

For more detail knowledge, please visit (<https://hr.mcmaster.ca/resources/covid19/workplace-health-and-safety-guidance-during-covid-19/>)for more info. The members who require experimental research are being only being allowed and that too self-voluntarily. Occupancy in the labs has been reduced to half capacity. Please make sure if you are going to the University, you are well co-ordinated with your supervisor as to regards to your own safety. However, if certain members are still being enforced to work under these extremely difficult circumstances without proper personal protective equipment and are feeling endangered, please do contact us. We, as a union rep are ready to help to the best of our capacity. If any members would like to come forward and request any health and safety concern, the union would be happy to assist in that process. Any members experiencing problems of this nature are encouraged to send an email to healthandsafety@cupe3906.org and share their stories.

Lastly, we have elected 2 members to Joint Health and Safety Committee reps in the last GMM in December. There are currently few positions for CUPE members to be filled across various building at Mac. According to the records, the following Joint Health and Safety Committees are without CUPE 3906 representatives: DeGroot (Units 3), Ivor Wynne/David Braley (Units 2 and 3), Libraries and Museum of Art (Units 1, 2, and 3), McIARS (Units 1, 2, and 3). If you like to be in one of the committees, please put up your nomination. We will hold elections to fill up these positions.