

6951 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC
 Mailing Address: PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal, Vancouver BC, V6B 5L5
 Telephone 604 276-3100 Toll Free 1-888-621-7233 Fax 604 276-3247

The *Workers Compensation Act* requires that the employer must post a copy of this report in a conspicuous place at or near the workplace inspected for at least seven days, or until compliance has been achieved, whichever is the longer period. A copy of this report must also be given to the joint committee or worker health and safety representative, as applicable.

Inspection Report #202419660074A

Employer Name	Jobsite Inspected	Scope of Inspection
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	3333 University Way Kelowna BC	Emergency Washing Facilities

Date of Initiating Inspection	Date of This Inspection	Delivery Date of This Report	Delivery Method
Nov 12, 2024	Nov 12, 2024	Nov 18, 2024	Email

THERE ARE ZERO (0) ORDERS OR OTHER ITEMS OUTSTANDING

**ACTION MAY STILL BE NECESSARY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE
PLEASE READ FULL REPORT**

INSPECTION NOTES

I conducted an inspection of this workplace with occupational safety officer Derek Faulkner on November 12, 2024. This report has been issued as a result of this employer requesting information on emergency washing facilities.

The following information was discussed:

Emergency washing facilities

In a building off campus, Innovation Precinct 1, the employer is currently planning on installing a new laboratory module that would allow workers to interact safely with lithium. The pre-fabricated lithium module would have a fume hood for workers to utilize. The lithium module would be separated from the remainder of the laboratory with a vestibule that has two (2) crash doors that swing outwards from the lithium module. Due to the reactivity of lithium to moisture, the lithium module is required to be completely water free.

The employer has done a risk assessment in accordance with *Table 5-2* and determined their risk level, for the purposes of providing adequate emergency washing facilities, to be high risk. Furthermore, by *Table 5-3*, the employer has also determined that they are required to have "continuous flow wash facilities... no more than 6 meters of the hazard area". The employer provided a copy of their current plans for the location of the emergency washing facilities. Due to the reactivity of lithium to moisture, the current plan calls for the emergency washing facilities to be located on the laboratory side of the double crash doors, in excess of 6 meters of the hazard area.

The Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHS Regulation) contains legal requirements that must be met at all workplaces under the inspectional jurisdiction of WorkSafeBC. However, it may not always be possible for an employer to comply with a particular regulatory requirement in certain workplaces or while conducting certain work processes. In such cases, we may issue a variance or an acceptance. The employer has been invited to explore the variance and acceptance process with WorkSafeBC as it relates to the location of their emergency washing facilities. A link to the process has been provided in the Resources section below.

RESOURCES

Links to the following resource materials were provided in the email delivery of this inspection report. Alternatively, they can be found by using the search function on worksafebc.com.

- WorkSafeBC - Variances to & acceptances under the OHS Regulation

If there are any questions regarding this inspection report, please contact me using the contact information below for further clarification or assistance.

Ramneek Rattanpal
Occupational Hygiene Officer, Prevention Field Services
WorkSafeBC
2300 Leckie Road
Kelowna BC V1X 6G6
Tel: 250.470.1761
Email: ramneek.rattanpal@worksafebc.com

More information can be found under the *Workers Compensation Act* and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation at worksafebc.com.

REFERENCES

In addition to any orders, or other items, and the information provided in the Inspection Notes section in this Inspection Report, the officer may discuss other health and safety issues with the employer arising out of the inspection. The information below sets out the health and safety requirements discussed with the employer, and unless otherwise noted, violations of these requirements were not observed.

Reference	Details Discussed
<p>OHS5.85</p> <p>The employer must ensure that appropriate emergency washing facilities are provided within a work area where a worker's eyes or skin may be exposed to harmful or corrosive materials or other materials which may burn or irritate.</p>	<p>Discussed the need for emergency washing facilities as it pertains to the lithium module.</p>
<p>OHS5.87</p> <p>The employer must ensure that access to emergency eyewash and shower facilities is not blocked by material or equipment.</p>	<p>Discussed access to emergency washing facilities as it relates to the double crash doors separating the lithium module from the rest of the laboratory.</p>
<p>OHS5.88</p> <p>The employer must ensure that the selection of emergency washing facilities is based upon an assessment of the risks present in the workplace, according to Table 5-2.</p>	<p>The employer has conducted a risk assessment in accordance with <i>Table 5-2</i> and determined a high risk rating.</p>
<p>OHS5.89(1)</p> <p>The employer must ensure, except where it is not practicable to provide a permanent water supply, such as at a remote or transient worksite, that emergency eyewash and shower facilities are provided and located as specified in Table 5-3.</p>	<p>The employer has conducted an assessment for the emergency washing facilities required in accordance with <i>Table 5-3</i>.</p>

6951 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC
Mailing Address: PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal, Vancouver BC, V6B 5L5
Telephone 604 276-3100 Toll Free 1-888-621-7233 Fax 604 276-3247

Employer #	Mailing Address	Classification Unit #	Operating Location
11284	C/O WCB CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR HUMAN RESOURCES 6TH FLOOR 6190 AGRONOMY RD VANCOUVER BC V6T 1Z3	765010	214

Lab Samples Taken	Direct Readings	Results Presented	Sampling Inspection(s)
N	N	N	

Workers onsite during Inspection	Notice of Project Number
0	

Inspection Report Delivered To	Employer Representative Present During Inspection	Worker Representative Present During Inspection	Labour Organizations & Local
Adrian Hingston	Adrian Hingston	Not Applicable	BC Government and Services Employees' Union (BCGEU) Faculty Association

WorkSafeBC Officer Conducting Inspection
Ramneek Rattanpal

*Inspection Time	*Travel Time
4.25 hrs	0.75 hrs

*The time recorded above reflects the inspection time and travel time associated with this inspection report and includes time spent on pre and post-inspection activities. Additional time may be added for subsequent activity.

Request a Review

Any employer, worker, owner, supplier, union, or a member of a deceased worker's family directly affected may, within 45 calendar days of the delivery date of this report, in writing, request the Review Division of WorkSafeBC to conduct a review of an order, or the non-issuance of an order, by contacting the Review Division. Employers requiring assistance may contact the Employers' Advisers Office at 1-800-925-2233.

To submit a request online, visit <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/review-appeal/submit-request>

WorkSafeBC values your feedback. To obtain that feedback, an external market research provider may be contacting you to complete a survey.

WorkSafeBC's online services provide employers with tools to view information and to complete a variety of transactions with us in an easy, fast, and secure way. Through an online services account, you can view and download your inspection reports and compliance agreements, submit Employer Incident Investigation Reports, view your Health & Safety Planning Tool Kit, and more. Visit [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com) to log in or create an account.