



**To:** All University Sector CUPE Local Union Presidents, OUWCC Campus Representatives

**From:** David Simao, OUWCC Chair

**Date:** August 6, 2021

Dear Comrades:

Enclosed you will find a series of documents produced by the OUWCC, in collaboration with CUPE Health and Safety, that I hope will assist you and your Local's Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) representatives in your efforts to ensure worker and student safety remains the paramount concern as your Employer campuses prepare to resume in-person instruction in September.

Included in this package are a memo from CUPE National Health and Safety Representative Andréane Chénier, outlining the re-assessed risk of airborne transmission of the virus which causes COVID-19 and the steps that should be taken to minimize that risk to acceptable levels. A template letter your Local can send to your Employer, and a 'script'— a walkthrough of the steps your JHSC Chair should take in the weeks to come — complete the package.

In normal times, your members' health and safety is critically important, as is the work your Local's JHSC performs on behalf of members. These times are anything but normal, and that work safeguarding members' health and safety is now more important than ever before. With the Ford Conservatives trying to project an image of everything returning to normal and University administrations seemingly only too happy to go along with the charade, it falls to you, your JHSC and your membership to take health and safety off the back burner and put it at the forefront where it belongs.

In the coming weeks, if you or your members encounter unsafe or dangerous situations make sure you take the necessary steps to protect your members, and when you have a moment, contact OUWCC and let them know, so we can keep an incident log.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Simao".

David Simao

OUWCC Chair