

MINUTES of Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee meeting held on October 18, 2017

Location:

Employment Standards Branch office - Langley

Attendees:

Sat Combow, WorkSafeBC (chair)
Mike Nielsen, WorkSafeBC
Doug Pasco, WorkSafeBC
Bruce Calbick, CVSE
Melanie Zabel, ESB (via conference call)
Jaspaul Uppal, ESB
Rachael Larson, ESB

Meeting was brought to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roadside Inspections:

- Discussed Q3 stats. CVSE will determine dates for the 2018 roadside inspections in the New Year, and will send to the other committee members for review.
- Locations of the roadside inspections can be changed if required. Locations of inspections are typically away from regular traffic so as to maximize safety.
- All agencies will continue to keep in mind the potential disruption to any workers who may be in the process of being transported at the time of inspection. Depending on the distance between the roadside inspection site to the workers' worksites, CVSE, where appropriate, will make all attempts to facilitate the driver dropping off the workers at their worksites and then returning to the inspection site, provided the vehicle is deemed safe for immediate transport. If the vehicle is pulled from service, all agencies will endeavour to keep the driver and workers informed. If the delay is going to be lengthy, the driver will be given the the option to arrange the pick up of workers in an alternate ride to their worksite.
- Best practices at the roadside inspections for the three agencies was discussed. CVSE will control the vehicles as they come in and pass them along to the other agencies as they finish their mechanical inspections. All new officers, from any agency, will make sure to introduce themselves and their role to the other agencies.
- WorkSafeBC will continue to conduct risk assessments prior to roadside inspections and provide provide safety information to the other agencies prior to the inspections, as required.
- WorkSafeBC will continue to provide portable toilets during roadside inspections.
- ESB will continue to publish quarterly statistics on the website:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards/specific-industries/information-for-agriculture-workers-and-employers/farm-workers-inter-agency-compliance-committee>

- Note: some statistics for each quarter may be updated during subsequent quarters.

Education Initiatives for Farm Workers and Employers:

- All agencies will continue to conduct outreach and education at and during roadside inspections.
- Agencies will continue to participate in various speaking engagements throughout the season.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:30

Next Committee Meeting:

- Tentatively scheduled for mid to late February 2018 at the Langley ESB office.