

MINUTES of Inter-Agency Agriculture Compliance Committee meeting held on March 6, 2018

Location:

Employment Standards Branch office - Langley

Attendees:

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

Meeting was brought to order at 11:30 a.m.

Roadside Inspections:

- Discussed 2017 stats. ESB still issuing determinations from 2017 and will update 2017 stats accordingly. CVSE will determine dates for the 2018 roadside inspections, and will send to the other committee members for review.
- Locations of the roadside inspections are situated well off travelled roads and WorkSafeBC conducts a risk assessment for each location prior to the inspections. WorkSafeBC will provide safety information to the other agencies prior to the inspections as required.
- While driver, passenger, and vehicle safety is the foremost priority at the roadside inspections, all agencies are committed to being mindful of the dignity of drivers and passengers, and all agencies will continue to work together to discuss ideas and options for maximizing worker dignity at all inspections.
- 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: 12:30

Next Committee Meeting:

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