

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT

June 2019

Facilities and Operations (F&O) is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment for students, employees, contractors and the public. We all have a role to play and a joint responsibility to health and safety. This is a priority for the University of Alberta, as outlined in Objective 19 of our Institutional Strategic Plan: *For the Public Good*.

In addition to simply being the right thing to do, all F&O employees have legal obligations to protect themselves, coworkers, and others in the vicinity of where work is being conducted. Key elements to protect people include assessing and controlling hazards and following safe-work procedures.

In 2018, the Government of Alberta updated the Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulations, and Code with the new Act to Protect the Health and Well-being of Working Albertans. The Act provides updated responsibilities for owners, employers, supervisors, employees, and contractors. It further defines the process and rights for a worker to refuse unsafe work. The University has developed training to ensure all University of Alberta personnel are aware of these changes.

There has been continued development of a University Workplace Impairment Policy in response to the legalization of cannabis in 2018 this year. F&O leadership expects all employees to be fit-for-duty when they arrive at work and while they conduct their duties for and on behalf of the University.

F&O has taken great strides in elevating its health and safety management system, including the development of a new safety manual, addressing elements such as, hazard assessment and control, safety training, worksite inspections, incident investigations, contractor safety management, and safety committees. Each element houses specific safety programs, processes and procedures that will form a solid foundation in our aspiration to secure a Certificate of Recognition.

All F&O employees are expected to be active participants in establishing a safe place for themselves, their coworkers, and, indeed, all with whom we interact. Ultimately, everyone is entitled to a safe work environment and to return home at the end of each day.



Andrew Sharman, MSc, CMILT
Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
University of Alberta