

The purpose of this newsletter is to unite all the UNBC campus's (Prince George, Prince Rupert, Terrace, Gitwinksihlkw, Quesnel, Likely, Ft St John) and grow our UNBC Community's Safety Culture together by regularly communicating important Safety information. UNBC's mission is to Ignite, Inspire, and Lead change.

The correlation between Remembrance Day and safety can be understood through the lens of honoring and learning from the past to create a safer future. Here are a few key points:

Honoring Sacrifices: Remembrance Day is about honoring those who sacrificed their lives in wars to protect our freedoms and safety. This act of remembrance underscores the importance of valuing and safeguarding human life.

Learning from History: By reflecting on the past, we can learn valuable lessons about the consequences of conflict and the importance of peace and safety. Understanding the costs of war can inspire efforts to prevent future conflicts and promote global safety.

Advocacy for Safety: Events like the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, which are observed around the same time, highlight the ongoing need for safety in our daily lives. These events advocate measures to improve road safety and reduce traffic-related fatalities.

Community and Solidarity: Remembrance Day fosters a sense of community and solidarity, reminding us that we are collectively responsible for each other's safety. This can translate into broader efforts to ensure safe environments, whether in workplaces, on roads, or in public spaces.

By remembering and honoring the past, we can build a safer and more secure future for everyone and our UNBC Community.

Slips, Trips and Falls Prevention

In British Columbia, November is recognized for several safety initiatives. One notable campaign is Slips, Trips, and Falls Prevention Month, which aims to raise awareness and provide resources to prevent these common workplace injuries.

Common Causes - Slips often occur due to insufficient grip between footwear and walking surfaces, which can be caused by water, oil, grease, weather conditions or even dust. Trips usually happen when a person loses balance after their foot hits an object, such as cluttered or slippery walkways, uneven flooring, or poor lighting.

Injury Risks - As we know these incidents can lead to a range of injuries, from minor bruises and sprains to more severe concussions and fractures.

Prevention Strategies include housekeeping, keeping walkways clear of clutter and ensuring floors are clean and dry. Wearing proper footwear means wearing shoes & boots with appropriate traction. Consider using cleats in the winter. Continuously monitor your walking environment and make appropriate adjustments. Improving lighting in your work areas by replacing any burnt-out lights and paying extra attention when walking on uneven surfaces.

Training and Awareness: Educating employees about the risks and how to avoid them.

Resources: WorkSafeBC provides various resources, including guides and videos, to help employers and workers understand and mitigate these risks. [worksafebc.com/en/about-us/news-events/campaigns/slips-trips-falls](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/news-events/campaigns/slips-trips-falls)

PREVENTING FALLS from SLIPS and TRIPS

That's approximately 28,353 slips and trips annually

ONE STEP AT A TIME

About 12% of all accepted injury claims are from a slip or trip.

PREVENT falls:

- USE appropriate, non-slip flooring materials
- PROVIDE adequate lighting

PRACTICE good housekeeping:

- CLEAN up all spills and debris immediately
- MARK or IDENTIFY spills and work areas
- KEEP walkways clear of clutter and other obstacles
- CLOSE file cabinets and storage drawers immediately
- COVER or TAPE down cords or cables
- WATCH your footwear to all the no-go zones
- KEEP shoes in good repair, clean, and free from contaminants

5 WAYS to REDUCE the RISK of Slipping Tripping

- WALK slowly and watch your feet
- WALK with your feet pointed forward
- WALK with your feet in a straight line
- WALK with your feet in a straight line
- WALK with your feet in a straight line

Common CAUSES

Slips

- Slippery materials (water, ice, snow, oils, powders, granular solids)
- Slippery surfaces (polished tile or stone, smooth painted concrete or metal)
- Inappropriate footwear for the surface

Trips

- Uneven walking surfaces
- Unexpected or unseen steps, platforms or thresholds
- Wrinkled carpeting, or loose rugs or mats
- Obstructions such as an open bottom file cabinet drawer
- Exposed or loose cables, wires or cords
- Clutter on the floor or stairs

Employers should make sure the health and safety program includes slips and trips prevention:

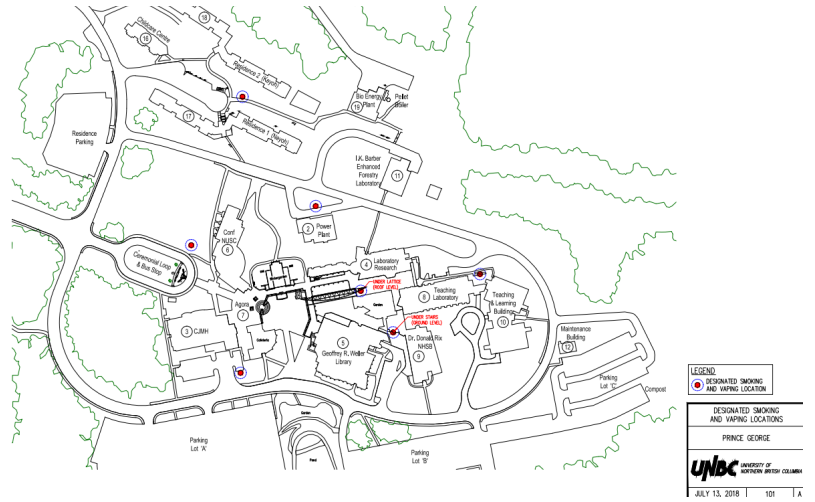
- CONDUCT inspections
- IDENTIFY high-risk areas such as stairs, walkways, and high-traffic areas
- TRAIN managers, supervisors and workers

CCOHS.ca
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

Smoking on Campus

UNBC is committed to supporting the health and wellness of all members of the UNBC Community, and to providing a safe and healthy, smoke and vape free environment, for students, faculty, staff and visitors. The UNBC Smoke and Vape-free Places Policy supports that commitment and ensures compliance with legislated and regulatory requirements.

Smoking is prohibited in all buildings or enclosed spaces including UNBC vehicles, and on all premises, land and property, owned, managed or leased by the University, with the exception of locations that are specifically designated by UNBC for smoking. The map below shows the designated smoking areas on the Prince George Campus. These spaces have been chosen based on hazardous chemical storage locations and building air intakes.



Fun Fact!
Ensuring safety is paramount for our Facilities and Maintenance teams. This commitment is demonstrated by the completion of 560 Safety Crew Talks so far this year before starting any work.

Safety & current events

Safety boards have been updated to include the most recent Joint Occupational Health & Safety (JOHSC) Meeting Minutes.



Annual fire extinguisher servicing is well on its way.

App Store





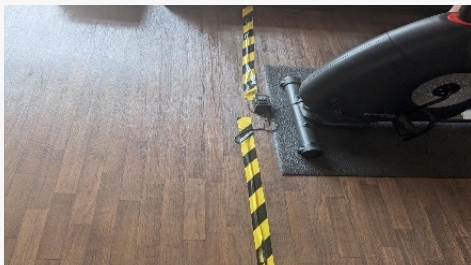
Google Play



Positive Observations

Promoting a Safety Conscious Culture for our UNBC Community

Equipment cords are taped down with caution tape for visibility.



Items stored on carts are placed in the room well away from all the electrical panels providing a clear pathway. **Fantastic!**



If you see any positive safety initiatives, please photograph them, and send the pictures to safety@unbc.ca

Working together for safety

We would like to thank everyone for participating in our growing Safety Community at UNBC!