

Appendix 5

Sample TUR workplace policies and contract clauses

Sample TUR workplace policies and contract clauses

1. Sample policies

BC - Langley School District: 35 , Canada
Environmental Management of Facilities and Grounds
Added February 25, 2008

School District: 35 Langley

Policy Subject: USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MATERIALS

Date Passed : 2007-02-13

0000-00-00

Description: USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MATERIALS

Policy No. 4010 (A)

Date Approved: February 13, 2007

Date Amended:

The Board, is committed to undertaking initiatives which support environmentally sound practices, and promote the health and safety for students and employees in schools. As part of these commitments, the District will endeavour to reduce and/or eliminate the use of toxic products in school premises.

A Product Review Committee will assess products for toxicity, identify proper handling of toxic materials and where possible, will source non-toxic equivalent products.

The District will make all reasonable efforts to purchase non-toxic materials, products containing recycled materials and materials which, when ultimately disposed, will minimize or eliminate adverse effects on the environment.

REGULATIONS

1. A Product Review Committee will be established to:

- a. Assess current products/practices and review alternative products/practices that would eliminate or reduce the use of toxic materials within the Langley School District.
- b. Maintain a list of environmentally and health friendly products that will be used exclusively within the District. The District will eliminate the use of household chemicals, products that are of commercial grade and all those that are not subject to Material Safety Data sheet compliance.

- c. Promote the use of biodegradable and environmentally friendly products that will not result in the generation of hazardous waste.
2. The School District will maintain a procurement system for school products, which will ensure the purchase of non-toxic or less toxic products that reduce staff and student exposure; and in the contract bidding process will request the use of non-toxic materials.
3. The School District will maintain a system of disposal for school products that is safe and environmentally responsible.
4. The School District will ensure there is employee and student awareness regarding the use of toxic products/materials and the prevention of pollution.
5. The School District will ensure that the design for any new construction or renovation of school facilities incorporates the use of environmentally sound materials and building systems.
6. The School District will ensure that reduce, reuse, and recycling programs are maintained throughout all schools and buildings.

Found at <http://www.iisd.org/leaders/policybank/policy.aspx?id=212>

2. Sample contract language

CUPE Locals have successfully implemented programs to replace toxic cleaners with green cleaning products, particularly in schools.

For example, CUPE 379, representing non-teaching staff in Burnaby, B.C. schools, with the help of British Columbia's Labour Environmental Alliance Society, created a substitution program for cleaning products. The next step with a program like this is to move it from policy to be embedded in collective agreements.

For example, CUPE recently bargained a committee to review current cleaning practices and promote green alternatives as part of its settlement in the Ontario school boards sector. The following green contract language is the result of this settlement:

Two CUPE representatives will join the Green Clean Working Group made up of Ministry of Education staff and volunteer boards representing procurement, school board officials and facilities management staff.

The Green Clean initiative's goal is "to minimize or potentially eliminate the use of non-green cleaning products in schools across the province resulting in an improved outdoor ecosystem to support student learning and a healthy workplace environment."

The Green Clean initiative's objective is "to create a comprehensive green clean program for Ontario's school boards that is easy for boards to implement and addresses the information needs of all identified audiences."

The Green Clean Working Group will liaise with the successful candidate of a Request for Proposal for the creation of a comprehensive Green Clean Program, to review the research findings, communications products and the design, implementation and evaluation of green clean programs for schools.

Found at <http://cupe.ca/environment/green-bargaining-guide>