

As part of McMaster's continuing commitment to health and safety it is important that everyone works together to provide a healthy and safe workplace every day. This is the basic principle of a workplace internal responsibility system. Supervisors, as part of the internal responsibility system have specific requirements legislated by the Occupational Health and Safety Act to ensure that workers are working in a healthy and safe environment. They are responsible for advising workers of the existence of any potential or actual danger to the health or safety of the worker of which they are aware. A great place to begin fulfilling this responsibility is workplace inspections.

Both the Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) and supervisors are required to conduct regular inspections of the workplace. Managers/supervisors are required to inspect their work areas on a frequency not less than quarterly within an established inspection schedule. The frequency of the documented inspection must be appropriate to the hazards in the area. All areas under the senior manager's control must be inspected annually.

When it comes to workplace health and safety, supervisors must demonstrate due diligence by taking every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker. These required inspections help to identify health and safety issues and bring those issues to the attention of the individuals responsible for corrective action. Completed inspections help to make the work environment safer and reduce the risk of injury to workers.