

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.

***What a great September, there were several orientation events that took place at the main campus including fire drill fortnight which was two full weeks of fire drills. As a standard of practice for UNBC these campus wide fire drills are completed every September.***

### **Fire Emergencies**

This year, the fire department was involved in two fire emergencies that took place during the first week of the drill. One fire emergency involved a lab where ethanol was accidentally spilled and ignited while sterilizing instruments. Ethanol flames are serious as the flame is invisible and odorless. This fire could have easily gotten out of hand, but with quick thinking and response by the student, she pulled the fire alarm with no hesitation. Great job! The UNBC staff preparedness and coordination along with the fire department response, prevented the fire from spreading.

The other event that occurred was unexpected smoke in the cafeteria kitchen which turned out to be a minor issue. During both fire emergencies, individuals exited their buildings and remained at their closest muster areas until all clear was given to re-enter the buildings. To our UNBC Community, your active participation and support during these emergencies was greatly appreciated!

These incidents highlight the importance of evacuating for every fire alarm and demonstrate the value of fire drills and serve as a reminder to us all to keep safety and fire prevention at the top of our minds!

### **Fall season and wildlife Safety**

The fall season is a fascinating time in the animal kingdom. Especially when it comes to rutting (mating season Sept – Dec) for many mammals such as deer, elk, moose. This season is characterized by increased

activity and aggression in males as they compete for the attention of females. A couple key mating behaviors are vocalizations (mating calls) that can be heard echoing through the forests. There may be physical displays with the males often engaging in fights using their antlers or horns to assert dominance.

The fall also means bears are more active and focused on finding food and getting ready for hibernation with the raking of the leaves, twigs and other plant materials into a den area (hollow trees, under roots, in rock crevices). Both rutting and hibernation prep can lead to increased encounters with humans.

### **Here are some basic Safety Tips**

- *Being aware of your surroundings is the first step to effective wildlife safety. Especially in the early morning hours.*
- *Drive Carefully: especially during dawn and dusk.*
- *Learn & recognize animal aggression signs <https://www.unbc.ca/safety/wildlife>*
- *Give all the animals space.*
- *The best method of avoiding unwanted encounters with wildlife is to make a lot of noise. (bells, horns, bear spray and bear bangers)*
- *Always report Campus wildlife activity to UNBC Security at 250-960-7058 or use the SAFE APP*

### **Fun Fact!**

UNBC (and regional campuses) total over 1.008 million square feet in space

App Store



Google Play



## Message from Anne: Overdose Prevention and Response

The Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, in partnership with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) developed a new initiative to help combat the toxic drug crisis in our post-secondary institutions. The project involves providing all publicly funded post-secondary institutions with an initial supply of nasal naloxone. The nasal naloxone kits are now available in 17 wall-mounted cabinets across UNBC's Prince George campus, including in the Student Housing Residences and the Northern Sport Centre. The nasal naloxone kits have also been installed in our UNBC Terrace Campus and Quesnel River Research Centre.

Each cabinet will sound an audible alarm and flash a red light when opened to help identify the emergency event location. In case of emergency, leave the cabinet door open. Follow the instructions for administration, call 911 and the Campus Security. The B.C. Centre for Disease Control website, *Toward the Heart*, is a Safe Substance Use/Harm Reduction resource. The website offers a full list of sites offering naloxone kits in our campus communities, well as online training and how to respond to an overdose with a naloxone.

## Safety & current events

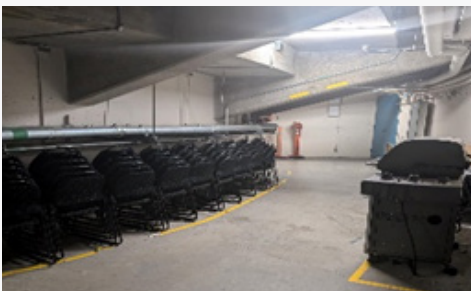
17 Naloxone kits in cabinets are now placed throughout the main campus.



## Positive Observations

*Promoting a Safety Conscious Culture for our UNBC Community*

Storage room has yellow boundary lines to identify the chair storage zone and to ensure a clear walking path.



The stored unit has delineators and caution tape around it & even a barrel on the corner to act as a buffer.



If you see any positive safety initiatives, please photograph them, and send the pictures to [safety@unbc.ca](mailto:safety@unbc.ca)

## Fall season reminders

- **Driving Safety:** From Oct 1 to April 30 winter tires or chains are mandatory on many highways in BC. Information on winter tire regulations and winter driving preparation, visit: [www.shiftintowinter.ca](http://www.shiftintowinter.ca).
- **Road Conditions:** Be aware of changing road conditions, including wet leaves, fog, and early snow. For road conditions or to plan your route visit: <https://www.drivebc.ca/> or download the app <https://www.drivebc.ca/mobile/>
- **Flu Season:** Fall marks the beginning of flu season. Practice good hygiene. Wash your hands regularly and for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
- **Drink plenty of water:** Stay hydrated, even in cooler weather. Carry water with you during outdoor activities.

**Working together for safety**

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