

September 27, 2016

Employer:

I am writing in response to your email dated September 2, 2016 regarding your First Aid Room. Regulation 2004-130 First Aid Section 12(2) (d) states:

*12(2) The requirements for a first aid room are as follows:*

*(d) is equipped with a sink supplied with hot and cold running water with easy access to a toilet.*

In your request you indicated that:

- You are requesting to deviate from the regulation pertaining to having a sink and telephone located in the First Aid room.
- Your staff washroom will be located beside where the First Aid room will be, therefore, a sink and toilet will be in very close proximity to the First Aid room.
- There are also telephones in close proximity but not necessarily located in the First Aid room.
- You are currently in the construction phase at your new building and would need to know if installation of a sink and/or telephone is required.

After reviewing the information received and the further clarification you provided to my office by telephone, I have determined that the use of the sink in the washroom located next to the First Aid Room is acceptable provided that:

1. The use of the washroom is restricted when the first aid provider is administering first aid to an injured employee;
2. If the sink is used during the administration of first aid, the sink is cleaned and disinfected before allowing use by others;
3. The sink remains clean at all times to ensure that it is ready for use; and
4. That all other provisions of the First Aid Room are met.

The placement of a sign in the washroom indicating the above restrictions may be helpful to ensure compliance.

Finally, as the facility is under construction, you indicated that the plan did not include a telephone in the First Aid Room but that including one is a possibility. It is my opinion that the room must be either equipped with a (landline) telephone or that both the first aid provider and victim (s) be provided with a cell phone in the event of an emergency where assistance is required.

By copy of this letter, I have informed WorkSafeNB of my decision. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 738-4107 should you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Chief Compliance Officer