

## PACIFIC COAST UNIVERSITY

FOR WORKPLACE HEALTH SCIENCES

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Rod Cook

## Appointment to Board of Governors

The Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences (PCU-WHS) is pleased to announce the appointment to its Board of Governors of Rod Cook, Vice President Workplace Health and Safety Services, Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) of Ontario.

Rod brings decades of leadership and expertise in key areas such as strategy, human resources management, and health and safety. He achieved distinction amongst his industry peers when he won the notable Morley Gunderson Prize from the University of Toronto in 2018 for his outstanding career achievements and service. This appointment will be vital in shaping the provincial and national role of occupational health and safety and putting a greater emphasis on building and supporting safer workplaces.

Rod is especially passionate about shining a spotlight on the transformative role healthy workplace culture plays in both business and personal success, and has a strong vision for change. "In my experience, a healthy workplace culture is critical to business success," he said.

"A culture of health and safety contributes to improved individual and organizational outcomes. Customers and employees want to be confident in an organization's health and safety practices. Going forward, this will be a top priority for every organization."

Wolfgang Zimmermann, President of PCU-WHS said, "With increasing evidence of organizations moving towards an integrated workplace health approach, which seeks to leverage a combined OSH/Disability Management strategy for improved outcomes, and the upskilling of HR professionals to be better equipped to handle mental and physical health impairment challenges, Rod's background is ideally suited in supporting our efforts in this regard."

"In light of our long-term and valuable relationship with the WSIB, we are very pleased that Rod has agreed to join our governance team as we continue to drive our innovation, thought leadership and best practice agenda in all aspects of the workplace health spectrum," said Ken Neumann and Dean Winsor, Labour and Employer Co-Chairs of PCU-WHS respectively.

"In today's challenging times, which are creating major health, economic and other unprecedented issues for many, we continue to work hard in maintaining our innovation agenda, and very much look forward to Rod's experience and enthusiasm in support of our collective efforts."

PCU-WHS is a statutory, not for profit, degree granting University which is focused in the areas of workplace safety, health promotion, disability management and return to work, and rehabilitation. All programs are offered online through small class sizes which are instructor led by faculty who are experts in the field. Courses are created with input from industry leaders ensuring students will have the right blend of skills and knowledge employers seek.

For further details regarding program options and educational opportunities working toward a career in Disability Management / Return to Work, please contact the University using the following links: Email: <u>info@pcu-whs.ca</u> Web: <u>www.pcu-whs.ca</u>