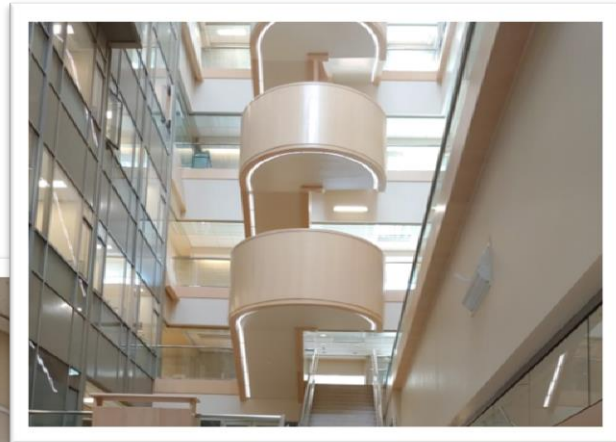


## Pre-Pandemic

We work in one of the most magnificent buildings on the University of Saskatchewan campus, Health Sciences. This maze of beautiful architecture is home to our work unit, the *Health Science Supply Centre*. Everyone who works in Health Sciences is proud to work in this beautiful facility – from the Operations Director, to Research and Student Lab Managers, to our shop and other specialized units who work behind the scenes to support health sciences. Some of us are members of campus unions, such as [CUPE 1975](#).



## Pandemic Shut-Down

The *Health Science Supply Centre* (HSSC) is a 'store' for research and teaching.

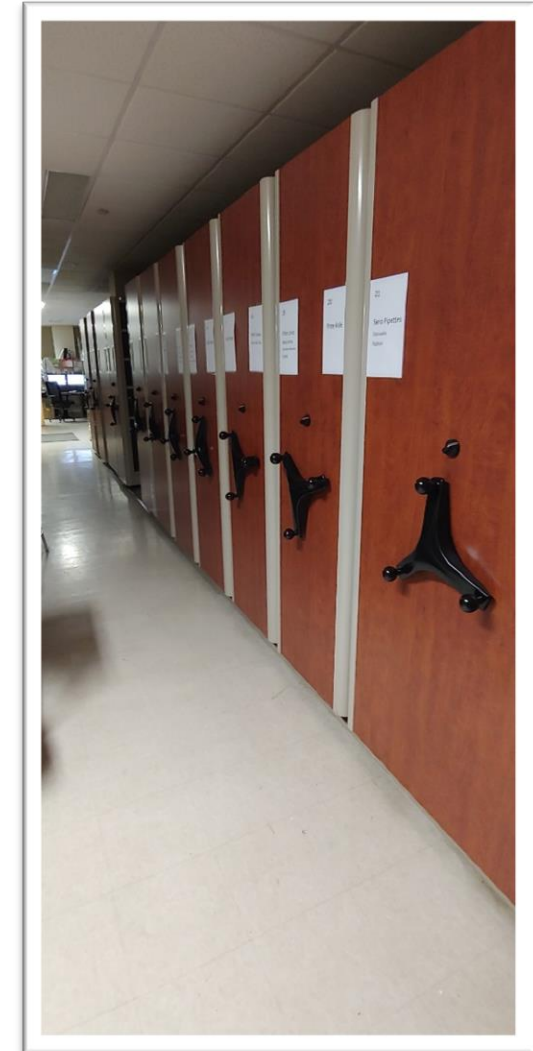
HSSC remained in operation throughout our campus lockdown, which adhered to government protocols.

Our work unit of 7 people quickly organized working from home (for some), online staff meetings, and increasing our health and safety operations. For example:

- Adequate PPE at all times
- Detailed *Working Alone* agreements and training
- Lines of command and communications simplified through use of online software for remote communication
- Close adherence to [University's pandemic planning] timelines for shutdown and re-opening of research

The bottom line here: we were ready to move into pandemic shutdown, efficient emergency operations, and staged re-opening. Why? Because our workplace Occupational Health & Safety unit led the way for safe pandemic operations with:

- OH&S inspections throughout our building and across campus
- Those who worked throughout the shutdown knew their health and safety was supported by our legislated rights.



## Post-Shutdown

As September 2020 approaches our university is increasing the range and hours of activities they permit on campus. After significant [layoffs](#) in our bargaining unit, more members of CUPE 1975 are being recalled to work.

This Labour Day I am more grateful than ever for protection for workers, including health and safety standards, labour law, and unions working for you on the frontline.

