

Université d'Ottawa | University of Ottawa

Bureau de la gestion du risque | Office of Risk Management

139, Louis-Pasteur (pièce 265) | 139 Louis Pasteur (Room 265)

PERSONAL TRAVEL DEVICES

The advent of omnipresent personal travel devices (such as e-scooters, bicycles, unicycles, skateboards, roller skates, hover boards, one-wheels) as well as personal vehicles brings with it an opportunity to use these devices in the workplace, including exploring new ways of working and performing existing tasks more efficiently.

However, we all have obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act:

- The University must take every reasonable precaution under the circumstances to protect workers.
- Supervisors must take every reasonable precaution under the circumstances to protect workers.
- Workers must not use or operate any equipment, machine, device or thing or work in a manner that may endanger themselves or any other worker.

Use of personal travel devices is generally unstructured and unpredictable, which makes it harder for the University to meet its duty to ensure worker health and safety. Therefore, **we strongly discourage** the use of these devices by workers performing work tasks **when there is no approved structure**. This includes tasks such as travel from one building to another on campus.

You can use devices as provided for and/or approved by your work unit and supervisor, since these devices will have been:

- Evaluated and approved for specific use.
- Regularly inspected and maintained in good operating condition.

You will also receive:

- Prior instruction on the safe use of the device(s).
- Protective devices and equipment for use with the device(s).

You can come to work on any of these devices. However, once at the workplace, we strongly encourage you to only use devices provided and/or approved by the University or your supervisor.

If you have any questions, contact your faculty, service and/or the Office of Risk Management.