



## EMS S.21 Subcommittee

### Meeting #3 - 2016 – FINAL Minutes

Date: December 8, 2016  
Chair: Michael MacIsaac  
Location: Centre for Health & Safety Innovation, Meeting Room B  
5110 Creebank Road, Mississauga, ON L4W 0A1

#### Attendees:

Members: Jennifer Amyotte (by teleconference), Roger Mayo, Michael MacIsaac, Ian Nash, Chris Stolte (for Jim Minick), Joel Usher

Observers: Rob Nishman, Tim Metcalfe

Regrets: Wayne Markell, Jim Minick, Trevor Storey

Facilitator: Karen Hanna

Guests: Brian McInnes, Dr. Steve Fischer, Dr. Renée MacPhee

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1. Introductions/Agenda Review – The agenda was approved with the addition of an item from Tim Metcalfe regarding the Excavation Safety Handbook for Emergency Responders produced by the Greater Sewer & Watermain Contractors Association. Karen reported that there are four EMS Subcommittee Guidance Notes that are still undergoing the Ministry of Labour approvals process.
  2. Minutes from Meeting #2 – 2016 (June 17, 2016) - Information only; the minutes had been previously approved by the committee and distributed on July 21, 2016).
  3. Results of the EMS Survey – Tim Metcalfe presented to the committee the results of the EMS survey that the Public Services Health & Safety Association conducted on behalf of the committee. The survey revealed that almost 75% of respondents indicated that



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they have not previously reviewed or read the EMS Section 21 Subcommittee Guidance Notes. As a result, there was discussion of the need for the committee to develop a communications strategy to enhance the awareness of the committee and the Guidance Notes among the paramedic community. It was recognized that Joint Health and Safety Committees and the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs could be very helpful to spread the word about the Guidance Notes and the work of the committee. There was a discussion regarding the development of a one page communications piece on the EMS Subcommittee and the Guidance Notes.

**ACTION: Ian Nash and Mike MacIsaac to work on the communications piece and make it available to other committee members for comment by mid-February.**

4. Excavation Safety Handbook for Emergency Responders – Tim Metcalfe showed the committee the Excavation Safety Handbook for Emergency Responders produced by the Greater Sewer & Watermain Contractors Association. The intent of the document is to provide awareness on the hazards that can be encountered when excavation activities take place. Tim indicated that the document is one in which comments from the first responder community are being sought. The document will be distributed to the committee and comments on the document can be sent to Tim.

**ACTION: Tim Metcalfe to send the document to Karen Hanna for distribution to the committee. Comments should be sent to Tim Metcalfe before the next committee meeting.**

5. Elliot Lake Update – Cliff Moore, Provincial Specialist (A), Industrial Health and Safety Program attended on behalf of Vivien Wharton-Szatan, Provincial Coordinator, Industrial Health and Safety Program, to provide an update on Elliot Lake. A power point presentation was presented and will be distributed to the committee.

**ACTION: Karen Hanna to distribute the presentation to the committee.**



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### 6. Guidance Notes

- a. Draft Guidance Note on MSD Prevention – Dr. Steve Fischer, University of Waterloo and Dr. Renée MacPhee, Laurier University, presented the draft of Guidance Note #10 on the Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs). Roger Mayo and Joel Usher contributed to the development of the draft Guidance Note. Brian McInnes (Provincial Ergonomist, Occupational Health and Safety Branch, Ministry of Labour) attended the meeting to discuss his comments on the draft Guidance Note and Karen Hanna also provided comments on the draft Guidance Note during its development. There are several academic papers that are referenced in the References and Resource Information Section of the Guidance Note. The committee felt that although Guidance Notes would not usually have references to academic papers, in the case of this Guidance Note, the committee felt their inclusion to be important as the research conclusions led to the recommendations (i.e. the occupational health and safety precautions and control measures) contained in the Guidance Note. Karen indicated that it is possible that these references may be removed during the Ministry of Labour approvals process. The draft Guidance Note will now be posted for stakeholder comments. The committee conveyed its sincere appreciation to Drs. Fischer and MacPhee for the assistance that they have provided to develop the draft Guidance Note.

**ACTION: Dr. Fischer to integrate the comments that the committee made on the draft Guidance Note and send the final draft to Karen Hanna for distribution to the committee and posting on the website of the Public Services Health & Safety Association. Committee members are encouraged to broadly distribute the draft Guidance Note to their stakeholders for comment. Comments are to be sent to Karen Hanna by Friday, February 24, 2017, and will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.**



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7. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Update – Tim Metcalfe reported that the Public Services Health & Safety Association is working on a one day training program to assist paramedic services with the development of PTSD prevention programs. A webinar is being planned for January.
  
8. MOL Report - Karen Hanna reported that there are leadership changes in the Occupational Health and Safety Branch (OHSB) in the Ministry of Labour effective December 5, 2016. Carol Sackville-Duyvelshoff, OHSB Director, will lead the development of a Risk Management Framework for the Provincial Occupational Health and Safety System. While undertaking this work for the next year, the OHSB Director will be Dr. Leon Genesove, Chief Physician.  
  
Karen also reported that Sector Plans for the Operations Division's health and safety programs have been posted on the Ministry of Labour website. Also, Bill 70 Building Ontario Up for Everyone Act (Budget Measures), 2016, was introduced on November 16, 2016, and received Royal Assent on December 8, 2016. Schedule 16 of Bill 70 amends the Occupational Health and Safety Act to allow the Chief Prevention Officer to establish standards for accreditation and recognition programs for health and safety management systems, to accredit a health and safety management system, and to give recognition to an employer meeting any applicable criteria.
  
9. Roundtable – Joel Usher discussed a death that occurred in Kawartha Lakes as a result of using a homemade generator. It is important from an awareness perspective to be made aware of such incidents. Ian Nash and Joel Usher discussed the use/wearing of Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitors/detectors by paramedics to warn them of exposure to this toxic gas.



## **EMS S.21 Subcommittee**

### **10.2017 Meeting Dates**

- Thursday, March 9
- Thursday, June 15
- Thursday, September 21
- Thursday, November 30

**11.** Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.