



EMS S.21 Subcommittee

Meeting #2 - 2016 – FINAL Minutes

Date: June 17, 2016
Chair: Trevor Storey
Location: Room 207 - 21 Voyager Court South, Toronto, ON.

Attendees:

Members: Jennifer Amyotte, Wayne Markell, Roger Mayo (by teleconference for items 1-4), Michael MacIsaac, Ian Nash, Chris Stolte (for Jim Minick), Trevor Storey, Joel Usher

Observers: Rob Nishman, Tim Metcalfe

Regrets: Jim Minick

Facilitator: Karen Hanna

Guests: Brian McInnes, Dr. Steve Fischer, Dr. Renée MacPhee, Neil Salter, Steven Grossman and Rene Hepburn

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1. Introductions/Agenda Review – The agenda was approved as amended; Vivien Wharton-Szatan from the Ministry of Labour was unable to attend. As a result, the Elliot Lake Update will be moved to the September 8th meeting.
 2. Minutes from Meeting #1 – 2016 (March 31, 2016) - Information only; the minutes had been previously approved by the committee and distributed on April 29, 2016.
 3. Guidance Notes
 - a. Guidance Note #9 Workplace Violence and Harassment – Karen Hanna reviewed with the committee the comments that were received on the draft Guidance Note. The committee then recommended that the Guidance Note address the issue of



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flagging of hazardous addresses; the Guidance Note was amended accordingly.

ACTION: Rob Nishman to check with the MOHLTC Manager of CACC Programs and Standards regarding the references to flagging of hazardous addresses. Thereafter, Karen Hanna will proceed with Ministry of Labour approvals of the draft Guidance Note.

- b. Discussion of the CRE-MSD Conference on MSD Prevention in the Paramedic Sector and the development of a draft MSD Guidance Note on Musculoskeletal Disorder (MSD) Prevention – The committee discussed the learnings from the CRE-MSD Conference held on May 10th and were joined for the discussion by Brian McInnes (Provincial Ergonomist, Ministry of Labour), Dr. Steve Fischer (University of Waterloo), and Dr. Renée MacPhee (Laurier University). Dr. Fischer and Dr. MacPhee also updated the committee with other research projects that they are working on such as the national survey on the health and wellness of paramedics. Dr. Fischer and Dr. MacPhee offered to assist Roger Mayo and Joel Usher with the drafting of a Guidance Note on MSD Prevention.

ACTION: Karen Hanna to distribute to Dr. Fischer, Dr. MacPhee, Roger Mayo and Joel Usher the Guidance Note template to assist with the drafting process. Roger Mayo and Joel Usher will circulate to the committee the draft that they develop with Dr. Fischer and Dr. MacPhee. The draft will be presented to the committee at the September 8th meeting.

4. New Ministry of Labour Contact Number for Reporting Workplace Incidents – Karen Hanna gave an overview to the committee regarding a new Ministry of Labour phone number that has been established for the exclusive use of Police, Fire and EMS; the number is 1-844-275-9033. It is intended to be used by first responders to inform the Ministry of Labour of workplace health and safety incidents (such as a fatality or critical injury of a worker) that they may encounter when responding at an emergency scene.



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This new number will give the caller the highest priority when calling in to the Ministry of Labour's Contact Centre, and will reduce wait times for first responders who are attending workplace incidents and are notifying the Ministry. The new phone number is not meant to be used by first responders that wish to report health and safety concerns within their own workplace. If workers within emergency services would like to report health and safety concerns about their own workplaces, they should use the existing phone number for the Ministry of Labour's Contact Centre (1-877-202-0008).

ACTION: Karen Hanna will distribute to the committee the power point presentation on the new Ministry of Labour phone number.

5. Presentation on Bill 163, Supporting Ontario's First Responders Act (Posttraumatic Stress Disorder), 2016 – Neil Salter, Manager, Health and Safety Policy Branch, Ministry of Labour, presented to the committee regarding Bill 163. It was noted that PTSD is not considered to be an occupational illness to which the reporting requirements in subsection 52 (2) the Occupational Health and Safety Act apply.

ACTION: Karen Hanna will distribute to the committee the power point presentation on Bill 163.

6. Presentation from the Prevention Office on the Occupational Disease Action Plan and the refresh of the Healthy and Safe Ontario Workplaces Integrated Health and Safety Strategy – Steven Grossman and Rene Hepburn, Strategy and Integration Branch, Prevention Office, Ministry of Labour, presented to the committee regarding the Occupational Disease Action Plan and the Integrated Health and Safety Strategy.

ACTION: Karen Hanna will distribute to the committee the power point presentation on the Occupational Disease Action Plan and the refresh of the Healthy and Safe Ontario Workplaces Integrated Health and Safety Strategy.



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7. 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 committee members will discuss the results with the associations that they represent and the next steps will be discussed at the meeting on September 8th.

ACTION: Committee members to discuss the EMS Survey results with the associations that they represent. The item will be placed on the agenda of the September 8th meeting.

8. MOL Report - Karen Hanna reminded the committee that the new regulation respecting Noise (O. Reg. 381/15) under the OHSA becomes effective on July 1, 2016. The amendments to Reg. 833 Control of Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents which extend the regulation to construction employers and their workers becomes effective on July 1, 2016. Also, Bill 132, Sexual Violence and Harassment Action Plan Act (Supporting Survivors and Challenging Sexual Violence and Harassment), 2016, will be in force on September 8, 2016.

The Ministry of Labour is currently seeking feedback on a proposal that would require employers to ensure that workers working under the Regulations for Construction Projects (O. Reg. 213/91) complete a construction hazard awareness training program. The proposal - Construction Hazard Awareness Training Regulatory Consultation - is on the Ministry of Labour website. Comments are due by August 12, 2016, and can be sent to WebHSpolicy@ontario.ca .

The Health and Safety Checklist has now been posted on the Ministry of Labour website. Karen Hanna previously presented to the committee on this new resource. <http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/mbs/ssb/forms/ssbforms.nsf/FormDetail?OpenForm&A CT=RDR&TAB=PROFILE&SRCH=&ENV=WWE&TIT=1960&NO=1960E>



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9. Roundtable – Joel Usher discussed paramedics that are represented by the UFCW in Muskoka and asked about participation of dispatchers on the EMS Subcommittee. Karen Hanna indicated that the Terms of Reference for the EMS Subcommittee were established by the Minister of Labour to have the current composition of members and associations represented. Karen noted that the workplace of dispatchers is an office to which the Regulations for Industrial Establishments (Reg. 851) would apply. The intent of the Guidance Notes produced by the EMS Subcommittees is to assist with the protection of the health and safety of paramedics responding to emergency and non-emergency situations where a sector-based regulation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act may not apply.

Ian Nash discussed the method that the committee is currently using to develop Guidance Notes.

Tim Metcalfe discussed helmets used by paramedics; the manufacturer's instructions should be consulted regarding the use and maintenance of helmets, including determinations on when helmets should be replaced. Tim also discussed the certification training that he is doing for PSHSA.

10. 2016 Meeting Dates (all meetings being held at 21 Voyager Court South, Toronto)

- Thursday, September 8
- Thursday, December 8

11. Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.