



EMS S.21 Subcommittee

Meeting #1 - 2016 – Minutes

Date: March 9, 2017

Chair: Trevor Storey

Location: Centre for Health & Safety Innovation, Meeting Room B
5110 Creekbank Road, Mississauga, ON L4W 0A1

The following is a summary of subjects discussed at the above meeting. Please advise of any errors or omissions.

Attendees:

Members: Trevor Storey (Chair), Jennifer Amyotte, Roger Mayo, Ian Nash, Chris Stolte, Joel Usher, Wayne Markell
Observers: Rob Nishman (MoHLTC), Monica Szabo (PSHSA)
Regrets: Joseph Nicholls
Facilitator: Craig Lawrie, MOL
Guests: Corey Freedman (MoHLTC) – by teleconference

	Topic/ Presenter	Comments/Action Items
	Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Craig Lawrie introduced himself as the MOL facilitator for the committee. Craig took over from Karen, as Karen has taken a new position with the MOL in the Policy Branch.Joseph Nicholls will be replacing Mike MacIsaac as an employer representative appointed by the OAPC, (temporarily). (Note: current membership list attached at end of these minutes)
1	Approval of Agenda	The agenda of the meeting was approved with one addition, members wanted to discuss emergency call to request assistance from police and fire. It was agreed to leave the item for discussion at round table.
2.	Minutes of previous meeting and action items	Minutes of the previous meeting (December 8, 2016) were presented and accepted. Action items from the previous meeting were reviewed, with the following outcomes: ACTION: Ian Nash and Mike MacIsaac were to work on a communication note for the field regarding the role of the section 21 subcommittee and guidance notes that are available. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mike MacIsaac has left the committee. Ian Nash reported that he is still working on this, and has some ideas about it. There was a general discussion about other ideas, such as using social media and having the OAPC share info directly with JHSCs. ACTION: Tim Metcalfe was to send the excavation safety document to the document to Karen Hanna for distribution to the committee. This was completed. ACTION: Cliff Moore's (MOL) presentation to the committee regarding Elliott Lake was to be sent to members however not all committee members recall seeing this. Craig will send a copy to members. (Note: attached to these minutes at end).

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		<p>ACTION: Dr. Fischer was to integrate the comments that the committee made on the draft MSD 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. This was completed and will be discussed further later in the meeting.</p> <p>Related to an item in previous minutes, there was a short discussion related to PTSD – members heard from Monica (PSHSA) about the activities that they have been involved with regarding the PTSD plans. PSHSA was specifically tasked with coming up with resources to assist employers with developing PTSD plans required by the Minister.</p>
3	Review of Terms of Reference (Craig and all members)	<p>Terms of reference for the committee were reviewed and discussed. Items arising from and related to the terms of reference are:</p> <p><u>Labour Co-Chair</u> – the labour members of the committee identified that Ian Nash will be taking over (from Trevor Storey) as the labour Co-Chair of the Committee.</p> <p><u>Employer Co-Chair</u> – the employer representatives indicated that by convention, the employer representative that is also a Board member of the OAPC takes on the role of Co-Chair for the committee. Joseph Nicholls, recently appointed by OAPC will become co-chair (taking over from Mike MacIassac).</p> <p>Chris Stolte confirmed that he is the full time member representing SEIU on the committee.</p> <p>In accordance with the Terms of Reference, members of the committee are to be confirmed by the Health Care Section 21 Committee and by the Minister of Labour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Craig will present the new membership list to the HC Section 21 committee at their next meeting. <p>Other committees get letters from the Minister to confirm membership. It appears that this has not been the practice in the past.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Craig to determine how membership is “confirmed” by the Minister; and see what would be appropriate in terms of recognition of committee membership. <p>There was a discussion about the possibility of expanding the membership; however it was agreed that the committee membership was currently an appropriate representation for the field.</p> <p>Joel Usher asked for clarification about who (e.g. which workers – vehicle techs; Communications staff; or just medics) within a service were meant to be part of the discussion and guidance provided by the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Craig will do some research, review terms of reference and look at the other committees (fire, police and health care) to see if those committees speak to issues which may affect the support and allied workers within a service.

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4 Guidance notes: Status and update of guidance notes (Craig)	<p>The guidance notes currently within MOL approvals include GNs 6,7, 8 and 9. GNs 6 (Motor Vehicle Advanced Technology Hazards) and 7 (MGO and Clandestine labs) were recently returned from the MOL legal services and there were a few minor edits made. These were presented to the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: The committee agreed that the edits were appropriate and these notes should move forward to being finalized for distribution. Craig to ensure that these two GN's are finalized and distributed to the committee members and sent to PSHSA for posting once completed. <p>Craig will keep the committee apprised with respect to the status of the remaining two notes.</p>
5 Guidance notes: MSD – comments and next steps. (Craig/All members)	<p>The MSD guidance note was discussed. The posting for public comment was closed on Feb 24/2017. Only one comment was received, (from the MoHLTC), to point out that any engineering controls (changes) that an employer wanted to make to vehicles or equipment still had to meet the MoHLTC standards. It was agreed that this was a caveat that could be put into the note.</p> <p>Craig reviewed comments that he had made on the note, 1) to clarify that reference to WSIB statistics regarding injury statistics were reported as being "allowed" lost time injury claims, (rather than injury reports); 2) that reference to the sector having the highest number of MSD injuries should be framed as highest "rate" or "frequency" and 3) that there should be a reference to the ACGIH as a reputable standard providing guidance with respect to ergonomics and in particular whole body vibration.</p> <p>The committee agreed that these would be acceptable.</p> <p>The committee also agreed that the note should include something to acknowledge the contributions of Drs Fischer and MacPhee in the development of the note.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Craig will make edits to the note as discussed, and also communicate with Drs Fischer and MacPhee regarding status of the note. <p>Roger Mayo discussed a recent research paper that has come out related to use of powered cots and MSD prevention. His suggestion is that this is important reference information that may be included in the GN and asked if the committee could complete one more review, prior to the note being forwarded to the health Care Section 21 Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: The members agreed with this. Once Craig has made edits as discussed above, the working group will review the GN once more.
6 MOL Report (Craig)	<p>Craig reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The MOL is currently drafting sector plans for the fiscal year 2017/18 – they will be posted on the MOL website when finalized. - The schedule and topics for MOL enforcement blitzes and initiatives has been developed and at the time of the meeting were waiting for final approval. <p>[Note: Shortly following the meeting the following provincial initiatives and blitzes were confirmed – <u>Noise initiative</u> (all sectors/all year long); <u>Preventing "struck by"</u> injuries initiative (industrial sectors/all year long); <u>New and young workers blitz</u> (May to Aug, 2017); <u>Slips trips and falls blitz</u> (Oct – Nov, 2017); <u>Machine Guarding and Electrical hazards blitz</u> (Jan and Feb 2018). Information about these will be posted on the MOL website].</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The MOL has posted a few new guidelines on the MOL website that may be of interest, including the guide to the new Noise Regulation and a guide for the entertainment industry.
7	Synthetic Opioids (J. Amyotte and Guest - Corey Freedman (MoHLTC) by telephone)	<p>Jennifer introduced the discussion – by providing her background to the topic. This was an open discussion primarily for information exchange and discussion. Jennifer wanted to point out that while there has been a lot of concern and media attention, the true risks to EMS of exposure to synthetic opioids can primarily be managed by following routine practices – similar to precautions taken for infection control purposes.</p> <p>Corey Freedman contributed to the discussion, and relayed some of the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At this time, there have not been any documented cases of any EMS staff exposure. - The MoHLTC has been meeting and discussing with experts about the issue and strategies. - They have received advice from experts at the Poison Control Centre, and also looking at what the experience and advice is from BC, where to date there seems to much more of a concern. - At this time the general advice is to follow a point of care risk assessment approach, similar to routine practices. - The Branch will be sending a memo or communications to ambulance/paramedic services regarding this. - He will forward the BC guidance for distribution to the committee. <p>• Action: Craig will forward the BC document to members of committee. (Note: attached to these minutes)</p> <p>Corey Freedman contact information in case there are any questions is:</p> <p>Corey Freedman, MHI, AEMCA Paramedic Standards and Certification Coordinator Certification and Patient Care Standards Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care t: 416.326.3608 c: 437.999.6649 e: corey.freedman@ontario.ca</p>
8	Roundtable (all members)	<p>Joel Usher – discussed the use of the 10-2000 code (or emergency call button). When the call is made by button push or verbal 10-2000 and no other communication follows, the response involves police only. Was wondering if there should be contact with local fire service also in case the need for assistance is not exclusive to policing. General discussion occurred around this.</p> <p>Rob Nishman brought copies of the Fleet-Net Radio System operating procedures Manual (November 2001) to review as part of the discussion. The committee discussed that it may be something to look into whether or not an emergency call from an EMS crew could include police and fire. This issue relates to a MoHLTC communications function. Rob agreed that for information purposes he would look further into this and report back to the committee.</p> <p>Chris Stolte – stated that SEIU is hoping to plan a worker health and safety forum in the fall – he will provide more information as it is available.</p>

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		<p>Trevor Storey – ORNGE is working on the PTSD plans. Also mentioned that they have a Peer support program, and a social worker on staff to assist with peer support and the PTSD planning.</p> <p>Most members spoke about their progress with respect to the PTSD plan that services are currently working on.</p>
9	Confirm dates for next meetings and Adjourn	<p>The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Next Meeting is set for Thursday June 15, 2017</p>

Dates of other planned meetings:

- Thursday, September 21
- Thursday, November 30

Attachments:

1) Current membership and contact information



EMS subcommittee membership list March 2017.pdf

2) MOL presentation on roles during incident response (presented at meeting of December 8, 2016).



Elliot Lake External Outreach Presentation (EMS) Nov 15 16.pdf

3) Guidance from BC - “Guidance statement regarding Personal Protective Equipment for Emergency Medical Services and Health Care Workers dealing with overdose victims”



BC UpdatedGuidance-statement-PPE-EMS-HCW-Jan2017.pdf