

**Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee  
(Section 21 Committee)\*  
FINAL MINUTES  
June 29-30, 2010**

**Meeting at the Hilton Windsor, Windsor**

**Commencing at noon on Tuesday, June 29, 2010**

**Present:**

Matt Pegg	O AFC – Committee Co-Chair
Terry Allen	AMO
Kevin Ashfield	OPFFA
Ed Godden	OFM
Cathy Hoffman	AMO
Andy Kostiuk	O AFC
Rod McEachern	FFAO
Darren Storey	FFAO
Mike Vilneff	O AFC
Wayne Sutherland	Public Services Health & Safety Association (Observer)
Karen Hanna	MOL Facilitator

**Regrets:**

Ellard Beaven	OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair
Darrell Ellwood	OPFFA
Shayne Mintz	O AFC
Gerry Pedwell	OPFFA

**1. Review of Minutes from April 7-8, 2010**

The minutes were accepted as written.

**ACTION:** Karen to finalize the minutes and distribute for posting on the websites.

**2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**3. Minister Fonseca’s Letter of May 31, 2010 – O. Reg. 278/05 and O. Reg. 714/94**

The Co-Chairs received a letter from Minister Fonseca dated May 31, 2010, regarding O. Reg. 278/05 and O. Reg. 714/94. The Minister indicated in the letter that he appreciated the committee’s work in raising important issues about both regulations. He further indicated that “The Ministry of Labour is continuing to review your concerns, and staff are developing options for my consideration on how best to address the issues you raise.” Karen then read to the committee messaging that was sent from the Minister’s Office regarding the two regulations.

**Key Messages - Asbestos Regulation**

- The Minister has directed MOL staff to prepare as quickly as possible for his consideration draft regulatory amendments to the regulation to address firefighters’ concerns.

- The Minister is prepared to take the regulatory proposal forward to Cabinet for approval in the Fall 2010. Although we can't predict Cabinet's decision, we would hope to have the regulation in effect by January 1, 2011.
- As you may know, new regulations may only come into effect twice a year, on either January 1 or July 1.

#### Key Messages – Protective Equipment Regulation

- The Minister's Office has asked for additional information on this issue and we are providing that as soon as possible.
- MOL staff will inform the S.21 Committee as soon as direction has been received.

Matt reported that the two OAFRC resolutions were passed and that he was able to have a couple of follow up conversations with the Minister and the Premier about these issues post-OAFRC conference. Matt further reported that he received an e-mail from Tim Beckett, OAFRC President, indicating that Matt was invited with other OAFRC representatives to meet with Minister Fonseca on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** Co-Chairs to send a follow up letter to the Minister with a chronology of letters sent to date and indicating the support of the committee to move forward.

#### 4. MOL and OMAFRA Comments on Draft GN # 6-31 Agricultural Silos

The Committee reviewed the comments received on the draft GN from the Ministry of Labour and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

**ACTION:** Karen to finalize the GN and send it through the MOL approvals process.

#### 5. MOL Comments on Draft GN Fit Testing and Facepiece Seal

Karen reported that she had requested that her colleague, who is on the CSA Z94.4 Technical Committee, review the draft GN. CSA Z94.4-02 is currently out for public review and it is expected that it will be revised and published in the near future as CSA Z 94.4-10. Some of the clauses from the 2002 edition of the CSA Standard have been revised and renumbered in the proposed 2010 edition of the standard. There is additional information in the proposed 2010 edition regarding facial hair and an Annex M that includes examples of acceptable and unacceptable facial hair. Karen was advised that the Section 21 Committee should hold off on proceeding with the draft GN at this time until the new CSA 94.4-10 standard is finalized and published.

**ACTION:** The draft GN will not proceed until the CSA 94.4-10 is published.

#### 6. MTO Comments on GN # 6-10 Highway Traffic Control

The Committee reviewed the comments that the Ministry of Transportation provided on the revised GN.

**ACTION:** Karen to finalize the GN and place it in the manual.

#### 7. TSSA Comments on Draft GN Elevator Rescue

The Committee reviewed the comments that the Technical Standards & Safety Authority provided on the draft GN.

**ACTION:** Karen to finalize the GN and send it through the MOL approvals process.

#### **8. Report on June 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting with PSHSA**

Andy and Rod reported that they, along with Ellard, attended a meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup> with Monica Szabo and John Parish of the Public Services Health & Safety Association to discuss a possible update of the Electrical Safety Handbook for Emergency Responders. The PSHSA is trying to get the WSIB to assist with the funding that would be required to update the manual.

**ACTION:** Andy, Rod and Ellard to update the Committee as to the status of this initiative at future Section 21 Committee meetings.

#### **9. Intrepid Magazine Articles**

Matt reported that the Spring 2010 edition of the OPFFA's Intrepid Magazine is devoted entirely to health and safety. Ellard has provided an introductory message in this edition of the magazine and both Matt and Karen have articles that appear in this edition. It was mentioned that a digital subscription to Intrepid can be obtained by visiting the OPFFA website.

#### **10. NFPA 1971 Technical Committee Update**

Matt provided an update on the current activities of the NFPA 1971 Technical Committee. He indicated that the Report on Proposals phase has been completed and that the Report on Comments phase is next and will be out shortly. The 2012 edition of NFPA 1971 is expected to be issued at the end of 2011. The standard is approximately 151 pages in length. Matt noted that the limited vapour protection testing for PPE was defeated by the Technical Committee. The 2012 edition of the standard indicates that visors and goggles need to meet the ANSI testing standards. Matt also reported that a review of NFPA 1851 will commence in November 2010.

#### **11. PSHSA Municipal and Community Affairs Advisory Council**

Matt reported that Kevin, Ed and Matt have been asked to join this newly established Council of the Public Services Health & Safety Association. The membership of the council is expected to be finalized in September, as well as the elections of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all PSHSA councils.

#### **12. Revision of GN # 6-13 Dealing with Potentially Violent Situations**

The Committee reviewed the additions to the GN to include the Bill 168 amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). It was decided that the GN would be renamed as GN # 6-13 Violence and Harassment in the Workplace. In order to raise awareness in the fire service with respect to the recent changes to the OHSA, the Committee decided to send the revised GN out for comment.

**ACTION:** Karen to send the revised GN out for comment.

#### **13. Draft GN Routine Medical Precautions**

The Committee discussed the draft GN. It was decided that Andy would revise the GN and make the appropriate revisions to GN # 4-1 Application of Firefighters – Protective Equipment Regulation, as the GN provided advice with respect to PPE to be worn while attending to medical emergencies.

**ACTION:** Andy to revise the two GNs.

#### **14. All-Terrain and Off-Road Vehicles**

Darren reported that the FFAO has been hearing from their members that they would like the Committee to work on a GN on ATVs and off-road vehicles. There was a discussion as to whether to do a new GN or to revise GN # 6-7 Driving Skills for Emergency Apparatus Response.

**ACTION:** Darren and Kevin to draft a new GN or revise GN # 6-7.

#### **15. PPE Management Program**

For the information of Committee members, Matt brought to the meeting a binder from Brampton Fire and Emergency Services regarding their PPE management program.

#### **16. MOL Report**

Karen reported that June 30<sup>th</sup> was the final day for stakeholders to comment on the Tony Dean Panel consultation document which is posted on the MOL website. The Dean Panel is expected to complete their final report to the Minister of Labour before the end of 2010.

#### Next Meeting Date

**November 25-26, 2010, in Toronto**