Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee (Section 21 Committee)* Final Minutes September 25- 26, 2014

Meeting held at the IHSA Voyager Training Centre, 21Voyager Court S, Etobicoke.

Commencing at noon on Thursday September 25, 2014

Present:

John Mavrinac OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair Andy Kostiuk OAFC – Committee Co-Chair

Mike Vilneff OAFC
Jeff Topliffe OPFFA
Warren McGillivary OPFFA
Mark Pankhurst AMO
Rod McEachern FFAO
Denys Prevost OAFC
Terry Gervais OAFC

Joe O'Grady MOL Facilitator

Regrets:

Cathy Hoffman AMO
Jim Jessop OFM
Jeff Atwell OFM

Special Guests:

Dr. Glen Selkirk PhD – CEO Applied Research Innovations Inc./University og Guelph/Humber

Brian Kennedy - Safety Officer - Transport Canada

1. Review of Draft Minutes from Jun 5/6, 2014

Minutes accepted as read

2. Guest Speaker - Dr. Selkirk – Heat Stress

Dr Selkirk presented on the topic of heat stress related to firefighting activites. There was some discussion on the manual appendix "D" on Heat Stress and its relevance to the "regular" worker vs the activities of a firefighter.

Dr Selkirk highlighted the importance of a combination of controls from engineering through to PPE and base layer clothing (referenced study with OPFFA) that optimizes the reduction of thermal strain while maintaining thermal and chemical protection. The importance and effectiveness of rehabilitation was also discussed stressing the need for active cooling and fluid replacement strategies.

Action: Andy/John to review current heat/cold stress guidance, and present guidance note to replace appendix D1 and D2.

3. Non-emergency roof access (prevention officers)

The question of guidance for the safety of fire service prevention officers for hazards they may encounter (i.e. roof access) has be asked to the committee. It was decided to reach out to the Prevention Officer's Association and the Fire Services Women's Group for discussion and feedback.

Action: Andy/John/ Terry to report back in December.

4. Rapid Fire Progression GN# 7-06

After discussion it was decided to revise this guidance in light of recent ventilation and suppression recommendations (NIST).

Action: Andy to revise for December agenda.

5. Hazardous Fire Conditions GN #6-06

After discussion on the draft versions of this note it was decided the September 2013 version should be forwarded out for comment.

Action: Joe to send this note out for comment.

6. Truck Standards GN

A revised draft was presented by Warren/Denys. It was decided to move the reference to NFPA to GN #1-02 (Inspection), add a piece on consultation with the JHSC and put both notes out for comment.

Action: Joe to send these notes out for comment

7. Guest Speaker – Brian Kennedy – Transport Canada – Small Vessel Regulations

This presentation gave a basic overview of the Transport Canada Marine Safety regulatory framework – in other words, what laws apply to non-pleasure vessels (often referred to as "commercial" vessels").

Resources of note include; the Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP) Compliance Report is an easy to follow check list of regulatory requirements. It can be considered a basic "road map" for regulatory requirements for small vessels, and a second tool available is the Small Vessel Commercial Safety Guide, both available from Transport Canada.

8. Ice and Water Rescue GN's -

Revisions were made based on the presentation from item 8 above and it was agreed the "Water Related Emergencies" draft would go forward.

Action: Joe to reformat, GN# 6-3 Water Related Emergencies and updated GN#6-2 to go out for comment.

9. Updated Training Facilities GN – prep for comment

This note to be re-opened for discussion as proposed note on Fire Towers, considerations for potential formaldehyde exposure.

Action: Forward to December agenda for discussion.

10. Rail Emergencies - Discussion

This discussion informed on how the Quebec rail incident has raised awareness of the amount of flammable liquids travelling on rail systems, the federal jurisdictional overlaps, and some of the logistical issues to prepare/respond to incidents that may only occur once in every 10-20 years.

Action: Terry/Mark will begin to prepare "pre-planning guidance" including such things as mutual aid compatability and identifying resources for discussion at a later meeting.

11.GN Review Process

The committee reviewed and agreed on the process to submit issues for discussion to the co-chairs, the assigning of members to sections for review, a 5 year review cycle (excepting new issues) and an annual update of the guidance manual.

Action: Joe to have manual review chart with assignments and guidance note status for review at December meeting.

12. MOL Report – Joe

The ministry is calling for proposals for the inaugural Occupational Health and Safety Prevention and Innovation Program. The program aims to support innovative projects and collaborative partnerships that lead to improvements in occupational health and safety in Ontario. Open to all eligible organizations, the program provides funding of up to \$250,000 per successful applicant.

Learn More >

Ontario is focusing on hazards involving material handling to ensure workers are safe on the job across the province. From Sept. 15 to Oct. 26, 2014, ministry inspectors are visiting plants, factories and other industrial sector workplaces. They are checking that employers are taking appropriate action to assess and address possible hazards.

Learn More >

Ontario is helping to protect vulnerable workers – including temporary foreign workers – with a three-month employment standards blitz that began in September. Ministry of Labour employment standards officers are conducting inspections to determine compliance with the Employment Standards Act, focusing on sectors known to hire a high proportion of vulnerable or temporary foreign workers.

<u>Learn More ></u>

Lasers play a role in many workplaces across Ontario. A worker may be exposed to lasers while scanning a bar code, performing a medical procedure, monitoring a machine cutting through materials or levelling a beam in a construction project, among many examples. A worker exposed to a direct or reflected laser beam may suffer an injury to the eye and/or skin. There are also non-beam hazards associated with the use of lasers.

<u>Learn More ></u>

In March and April 2014, four timber dome structures – often used to protect and store sand and salt used for winter road maintenance – collapsed in various locations in Ontario. Each collapse was started by an unbalanced snow load that was imposed on the structure, usually at the lower panels of the domes. Read and distribute a new bulletin aimed at raising awareness about the potential for serious injuries that could result from such collapses and the need for timber dome structures to have a professional engineer familiar with timber dome construction inspect their structural integrity.

<u>Learn More ></u>

The ministry's Ontario Reactor Surveillance Program aims to assure the public living or working in the vicinity of nuclear installations in Ontario that their health, safety, welfare and property are not affected by emissions from nuclear facilities. The ministry has released its latest annual report to the Assurance Monitoring Group, which includes a brief description of the monitoring programs, summary statistics and concluding discussion.

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Next Meeting Dates:

Proposed:

December 5/6 2014