

**Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee  
(Section 21 Committee)\*  
FINAL MINUTES  
September 26-27, 2013**

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

**Commencing at noon on Thursday September 26, 2013**

**Present:**

Kevin Ashfield	OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair
Andy Kostiuk	O AFC – Committee Co-Chair
Doug Outtrim	OFM
John Mavrinac	OPFFA
Mike Vilneff	O AFC
Jeff Topliffe	OPFFA
Warren McGillivary	OPFFA
Cathy Hoffman	AMO
Mark Pankhurst	AMO

Joe O’Grady                      MOL Facilitator

**Special Guests:**

John Teahan – Tunnel and Sewer Association  
Mike Amoyette - City of Toronto Corporate

**1. Review of Draft Minutes from April 18/19, 2013**

Minutes accepted as read.

**Action:** Joe to finalize the minutes and distribute for posting on the websites.

**2. Business arising from the minutes - none.**

**3. Review of the Fire Services Manual: Forward section – Joe**

It is noted that the language in the “Forward” section differs slightly from that in more recently approved section 21 guidance notes.

**Action:** Joe to seek guidance on this content and report back to the committee. The committee consensus was to ensure future (and revised) notes try to specify which elements are legislated requirements and which are recommended best practices.

**4. Review of GN Tracking/back-items - Joe**

The committee was provided with an update on guidance notes in process. All previous back items were accounted for.

**5. Review of HCN Draft GN – Andy**

There was some discussion on improvements related to general hygiene and cross contamination, rehab areas and offgasing, as well as clarifying legislative references.

**Action:** Mike and Terry to revise for December.

**6. Potential hazards presented by chemical suicides – Draft GN – update**

Updated note approved.

**Action:** Joe to send note to go out for comment.

**7. Discussion: Guidance Note GN #4-9 Respiratory Protection – discussion of comments from MOL Provincial Hygienist**

Some edits were made to this note to ensure fire services understand that a respiratory protection program is “fundamentally job 1” for any fire service employer, and that to be effective a program administrator must be appointed and trained as a best practice to ensure the program is effectively protecting fire fighters.

**Action:** Joe to revise and send note to go out for comment.

**8. Review comments from the field on GN #3-1 and new Hoarding GN**

Comments reviewed. Joe to seek clarification on “direct vs general” capture. Committee decided to request the Hoarding issue as an information/alert through the safety associations rather than a GN.

**Action:** Joe to report back in December and connect with PSHSA.

**9. GN #6-3 – Water and Ice Rescue – follow up from the Barrie FS presentation – John and Jeff**

Reviewed and being updated to include the 4 types of water/ice rescue. Will be brought back to committee in Dec/13.

**Action:** John and Jeff to revise for December

**10. GN #4-11 – Fall Protection from Elevating Devices - update – Joe**

4-11 revised and to be taken back for review with MOL engineer and then Out for Comment. GN#6-29 was reviewed and it was suggested that it needs additional info on hand bars etc. Requested if Denys wants to try rewriting for Dec meeting.

**Action:** Joe to move 4-11 forward to comment, Denys to revise 6-29 for December agenda.

**11. GN#4-2 – Eye Protection – update – Joe**

Approved, this note to go for approval.

**Action:** Joe to move this note forward for approval.

## **12. Presentation on Trench Rescue Safety – John Teahan – Tunnel and Sewer Association**

It was noted that GN #6-28 was meant to apply in circumstances where a trench had collapsed and rescue assistance was required. The association has some concerns around the potential jurisdictional overlap where the situation may be a medical aid from an otherwise “safe” trench. The committee recommended that the Association encourage their members to contact local Fire Services proactively to discuss emergency response to existing projects. Consensus was that GN#6-28 is ok.

**Action:** OFM to confirm “unsafe vs safe trench” is part of OFM Awareness Level Training, MOL to inquire into any recommendations with the Construction program.

## **13. Presentation on Radio Frequency (RF) Safety – Mike Amoyette - Toronto Corporate**

A very informative presentation was given by Mike on the potential hazards related to radio frequency, discussing panel, directional, and microwave antennas and related considerations for fire services.

**Action:** Andy to prepare a draft guidance note for review in December.

## **14. MOL Report –Joe**

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Next Meeting Dates:

**Proposed:**

**Dec 5/6**