

**Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee
(Section 21 Committee)*
Final Minutes
March 6-7, 2014**

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

Commencing at noon on Thursday March 6, 2014

Present:

John Mavrinac	OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair
Andy Kostiuk	O AFC – Committee Co-Chair
Jeff Atwell	OFM
Mike Vilneff	O AFC
Jeff Topliffe	OPFFA
Warren McGillivary	OPFFA
Cathy Hoffman	AMO
Mark Pankhurst	AMO
Rod McEachern	FFAO
Denys Prevost	O AFC

Joe O’Grady MOL Facilitator

Regrets:

Darren Storey – FFAO
Terry Gervais - O AFC
Chris Francescone - OPFFA

Special Guests:

Richard Burton – MOL Prevention Division

1. Review of Draft Minutes from December 5/6, 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 GN 6-32 Elevator Rescue - response to update on elevator rescue training from Mark Tevyaw – Technical Specialist, TSSA

The group discussion led to some questions; should there be an objective standard for this training?, can OFM & PSHSA develop training recognized by TSSA?...What about IFSA/ASME?

Action: Denys and Joe to investigate and report back on these questions.

4. Discussion item - NIOSH Report HETA 2012-0028-3190 – precautions during training exercises and simulated smoke

Andy indicated that there is currently testing in Ajax, the results of which should help inform the committee on this concern.

Action: Andy - Awaiting information for an update.

5. Cylinder handling, storage, and transport issues

Draft note was discussed, and to go out for comment.

Action: Joe to send draft out for comment.

6. Electrical Safety Handbook – review of electrical guidance notes

Guidance notes 7-1, 6-16, 6-19, 6-20, 6-34, and 6-35 were reviewed with minor changes. These notes to be revised and placed back in the manual.

Action: Joe to revise and make available for the manual update.

7. GN 6-03 – Water and Ice Rescue – update

Some issues were discussed including; trainer requirements, incident command, PFD's and Transport Canada requirements, physical testing, recommending post operation reviews, and small vessel operator requirements.

Action: Jeff to revise and bring back in June. Explore possibility to invite Transport Canada rep for the June meeting as well (Jeff/Joe)

8. Awareness Training and Working at Heights – Update from MOL Prevention Division

Richard Burton – Manager of Training and Safety Programs at MOL's Prevention Office attended to explain and discuss the implementation of the new awareness training and proposed working at heights standards and their application to fire services in Ontario. The committee raised the potential concern of the limited capacity of the OFC to provide training and the number of firefighters to which these requirements would apply in light of the training they currently receive.

9. Update on Ontario Traffic Manual Book 7 – review of GN 6-10

Revised and ready to be released.

Action: Joe to finalize note for placement in the manual.

10. PSHSA- statistics for review and discussion

The committee discussed the merits of PSHSA statistics to assist in providing an evidence based approach to identifying issues that the committee should be considering. The conversation blended with item 11 below and it was decided to ask PSHSA to sit as an observer for one year to trial this relationship.

11. OFS Section 21 Terms of Reference (ToR) – discussion on updating the ToR

It was agreed to update the terms of reference to include observer status for the OFM as well as any necessary administrative corrections for the next manual revision pending this year.

Action: Joe to revise the terms of reference, obtain MOL approval, and include this revision in the manual update.

12. Discussion on fire service hygiene practices and the potential impact on preventing exposures

The committee discussed its role and some of the difficulties involved in basic hygiene issues in the fire service. Although no consensus was reached in terms of any direct approaches at this time the committee will continue to gather best practices and new supporting information in the review process of the guidance manual to help improve hygiene practices for fire fighters.

13. S21 input into MOL strategy for interaction with Fire on emergency scenes

The committee discussion on incident scenes, established safe zones, incident command and liason with the incident command officer provided some valuable advice to inform the training inspectors receive with respect to fire services. Joe will work towards enhancing the training package with this information.

14. Solar Panel course update

The committee noted that while current guidance and training is fine for awareness, other jurisdictions (i.e.: California) have access standards and there are many new systems being built.

Action: John and Denys to begin an update to the solar guidance note. Joe to contact ESA to promote discussion on this topic.

15. Truck standards update

A discussion on vehicle standards in general and on the inspection and maintenance of department vehicles. It was noted the FireFighters Regulation (O.Reg.714/94) does not require vehicles to meet specific standards of manufacture, so it is important to understand a particular vehicles capabilities and limitations before assigning it to tasks in order to ensure fire fighters are not placed at risk.

Action: Jeff to revise GN #1-2 for discussion at the June meeting.

16. MOL Report – What’s new?

Inspection Blitz Schedule For 2014/2015

The schedule for the ministry's proactive enforcement blitzes in workplace health and safety, and employment standards is now available. The ministry will conduct "provincial blitzes," which are province-wide and sector-specific, as well as "provincial" and "regional" initiatives, which involve smaller-scale enforcement.

[Learn More >](#)

Guide To OHSA Regulatory Requirements For Basic Awareness Training

The ministry has produced a new guide that explains the new requirements for mandatory basic occupational health and safety awareness training for all workers and supervisors in Ontario, which come into effect July 1, 2014.

[Learn More >](#)

Mining Health, Safety And Prevention Review Seeks Input

The Ministry of Labour has begun holding public consultations across Ontario to seek input on how to ensure an even safer and stronger mining sector. Consultations have already been held in Timmins, Kirkland Lake and Sudbury. Upcoming consultations will be held in Red Lake, Marathon and London.

[Learn More >](#)

Greenhouse Worker Safety Video

Greenhouses are busy operations – it's important that all workplace parties play a role in maintaining a safe and healthy workplace. Learn what happens when a Ministry of Labour inspector visits a greenhouse.

[Watch The Video >](#)

Blitz Results: Waste Management And Recycling

In November and December 2013, Ministry of Labour inspectors conducted a blitz focusing on hazards involving work in recycling and waste management at industrial and health care workplaces. Learn what inspectors found.

[Learn More >](#)

Consultation On Occupational Exposure Limits

The ministry has begun consultation on proposed new occupational exposure limits (OELs) for a number of hazardous substances regulated under the Occupational Health and Safety Act. This year, in addition to proposing new OELs, the ministry is proposing two initiatives to expedite the process of adopting more protective OELs.

[Learn More >](#)

Day Of Mourning

Every year on April 28 we pay our respects to, and remember, the thousands of workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness as a result of work-related incidents.

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Next Meeting Date:

Proposed: June 5/6 2014