

**Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee
(Section 21 Committee)*
FINAL MINUTES
November 20, 2009**

Meeting at the Holiday Inn Select, Toronto

Commencing at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, November 20, 2009

Present:

Ellard Beaven	OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair
Chris Powers	O AFC – Committee Co-Chair
Terry Allen	AMO
Kevin Ashfield	OPFFA
Ed Godden	OFM
Cathy Hoffman	AMO
Andy Kostiuk	O AFC
Richard McCurdy	OPFFA (Alternate for Darrell Ellwood)
Rod McEachern	FFAO
Matt Pegg	O AFC
Darren Storey	FFAO

Wayne Sutherland MHSA (Observer)

Karen Hanna MOL Facilitator

Regrets:

Darrell Ellwood	OPFFA
Shayne Mintz	O AFC
Gerry Pedwell	OPFFA

Special Guest:

John D’Alosio Toronto Fire Services

1. Review of Minutes from June 4-5, 2009

The minutes were accepted as written with one minor revision.

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

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

With respect to Item 13, Electrical Safety Handbook for Emergency Responders, Wayne followed up with John Parish of the Municipal Health and Safety Association (MHSA). MHSA will try to determine whether the WSIB has any grant money available to develop a first responder training program and resource material. The Research Advisory Council (RAC) has a grant program that MHSA may be able to apply to in order to receive the funding to develop a program with related training material for firefighters responding to hydro vault or other electrical type emergencies. There is already an Awareness manual, but an advanced manual and program for larger incidents (with a practical component for first responders) may be developed.

ACTION: Co-Chairs to write a letter of support to MHSA.

3. Welcome of New Members

Two new members were welcomed to the Section 21 Committee. Kevin Ashfield of Toronto Fire Services is joining the committee as an OPFFA representative. Cathy Hoffman, Director, Human Resources, Municipality of Chatham-Kent is joining the committee as an AMO representative. Ellard noted that Richard McCurdy would be attending this meeting as an OPFFA alternate for Darrell Ellwood.

4. Special Guest: John D'Alosio, Toronto Fire Services – Dust Explosions Presentation

John D'Alosio of Toronto Fire Services gave a presentation to the Committee on dust explosions and silo and hopper fires.

ACTION: Karen to send the presentation to Committee members for information.

5. OPFFA Health & Safety Seminar

Ellard discussed the upcoming OPFFA Health & Safety Seminar being held in Toronto, January 25-28, 2010. Ellard, Terry, Andy and Kevin will be providing a Section 21 update and will hold a round table discussion at the Seminar.

6. Review of Comments on GN # 1-2 Vehicle Inspections & Maintenance Program

The comments were reviewed and the guidance note is ready to be finalized.

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

7. Review of Comments on GN # 1-5 Life Safety Rope and Equipment

The comments were reviewed and the guidance note is ready to be finalized.

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

8. Review of Comments on GN # 6-4 Rope Rescue

The comments were reviewed and the guidance note is ready to be finalized.

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

9. Draft GN on Agricultural Silos

In light of the presentation received from John D'Alosio of Toronto Fire Services, in addition to the recently finalized GN # 6-27 Fires in Industrial Dust Collectors, Hoppers and Bins, it was decided by the Committee that the draft GN should be reviewed again to ensure consistency.

ACTION: Wayne and Gerry will review the draft GN for discussion at the next meeting.

10. Draft GN on Facial Hair and Fit Testing

Matt drafted the GN which includes elements from CSA Z94.4-02 Selection, Use, and Care of Respirators. The Committee discussed the draft and will determine at the next meeting whether the GN should be a stand alone GN or whether it should be integrated into GN # 4-9, Respiratory Protection Program.

ACTION: Karen to send the draft GN out for comment.

11. Revision of GN # 4-7 Wildland Fire Fighting, Protective Clothing and Equipment, Level One

Minor changes were made to the GN and it was renamed as GN # 4-7 Wildland Fire Fighting, Protective Clothing and Equipment for Municipal Fire Departments.

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

12. Quality Breathing Air – Accredited Labs

Ed checked with the Canadian Standards Association. They did not have a list of accredited labs. Ed was referred to the Standards Council of Canada (SCC). The following are links to

the SCC accredited testing laboratories offering testing services to the CSA Z180.1:

http://palcan.scc.ca/specs/pdf/43_e.pdf
Cantest Ltd

http://palcan.scc.ca/specs/pdf/51_e.pdf
Maxxam Analytics

http://palcan.scc.ca/specs/pdf/28_e.pdf
RPC

Fire departments need to be aware that only accredited labs, as noted above, should be used.

13. Draft GN on Communicable Diseases and review of GN # 2-5 Designated Officer Program for Communicable Disease

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

ACTION: Darren to send Karen the GNs for inclusion in the February meeting package.

14. Revision of GN # 6-16 Machinery/Electrical Lockout During Emergency Response

Andy reviewed this GN and determined that it was alright as it stands. The Committee decided that an elevator specific GN is probably in order.

ACTION: Andy and Kevin to draft a GN on Elevator Rescue.

15. Revision of GN # 4-6 Firefighter Helmet Fit

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

ACTION: Karen to include this item in the February meeting package.

16. Review of GN # 6-10 Highway Traffic Control and GN # 1-3 Backing Fire Apparatus

At the Joint First Responders Meeting on November 19, 2009, representatives from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) indicated that they could provide comments on GN # 6-10.

ACTION: Karen to send GN # 6-10 to MTO for review.

17. Outcomes of the CGSB 155.1 Meeting

A representative of the Ottawa Fire Service attended a CGSB committee meeting on June 11, 2009, and shared with Chris the outcomes of the meeting. With respect to CGSB 155.1, apparently an overwhelming majority of those in attendance were in favour of withdrawing the current C.G.S.B. Standard and using the NFPA 1971-2007 for Structural Fire Fighting. With respect to next steps from the CGSB 155.1 meeting, it was decided that Pierre Voisine from DND would prepare a report comparing the current standards for structural firefighting gear. (NFPA 1971-2007, CAN/CGSB-155.1, ISO/DIS 11613.2 and any applicable EU Standards). They had anticipated that that voting on the withdrawal of the CGSB standard 155.1 (Firefighter Protective Clothing) would take place in the fall of 2009. All stakeholders would receive a ballot and it would require 70% to pass.

18. Diesel Engine Emergency Shut Down Systems

Information was provided to the Committee from Hamilton Emergency Services. The Section 21 Committee noted that in the past it has received other presentations by mechanics from Toronto and Hamilton on this issue and noted that diesel engine emergency shut down devices are options that fire departments can consider. The Section 21 Committee had previously written to Underwriters Laboratories of Canada on this issue; no further action is required by the Committee as a result.

19. **CGSB**

The Committee discussed the CGSB standard for bunker gear contained in O. Reg. 714/94. It would be optimal if CGSB would abandon the standard.

20. **MOL Report**

- New Section 21 manual CDs were distributed to Committee members.
- The Live Fire Training letter (dated November 4, 2009) that was sent to the Co-Chairs from Wayne De L'Orme of the Ministry of Labour can be posted on each association's website.
- The annual Ministry of Labour consultations on the Occupational Exposure Limits were announced in an MOL news release on July 23, 2009.
- The Committee provided input into the consultation process for the Needle Safety Regulation.
- Renu Kulendran is the new Director of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch effective September 2009.
- There is no update on O. Reg. 278/05; the Asbestos Working Group concluded the meetings with MOL in June 2009. The Committee decided that the Co-Chairs should write to John Vander Doelen, Director of the Health and Safety Policy and Program Development Branch, MOL, to ask for an update on O. Reg. 278/05 and O. Reg. 714/94 at the next Section 21 Committee meeting in February 2010. This request is further to Mr. Vander Doelen's attendance at the October 2008 Section 21 Committee meeting and the Committee's letters to the Minister of Labour in June 2008.

Next Meeting Dates

February 9-10, 2010, in Toronto

April 7-8, 2010, in Toronto