

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Presidents and members in Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services – Solicitor General Division
All Stewards in Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services - Solicitor General Division

FROM: Brian Gould, OPS Supervisor

DATE: April 3, 2009

SUBJECT: Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services –
Solicitor General Division
Divisional Minutes – November 15, 2008

Attached for your information, please find the minutes of the above captioned meeting.

Your making these available to your delegates and members would be appreciated.

AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION: IN SOLIDARITY,



Warren (Smokey) Thomas
President



Brian Gould
OPS Supervisor/Negotiator

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att.

cc: Executive Board Members
CERC
MERC Chairs
Ministry ERC
Senior Staff
Regional Offices

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY & CORRECTIONAL
SERVICES – SOLICITOR GENERAL DIVISION
DIVISIONAL MEETING**

**2008 DIVISIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2008
ROYAL YORK HOTEL, TORONTO**

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Stewart, MERC Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Michael Stewart (L.205), MERC Chair
Debra Clarke (L.669), Vice-Chair
Paul Opper (L.108)
John Legg (L.317)
Patty Lutz (L.601)
JoAnne Villneuve (L.702)
Cherly M. Yeo (L.115)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Moved: Michael Stewart (L.205)

Seconded: Debra Clarke (L.669)

To adopt the Agenda.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION

Moved:

Seconded:

To adopt the minutes of the previous Divisional meeting.

CARRIED

ERC TEAM REPORTS

Michael Stewart gave MERC report. See attached.

ELECTIONS

Blair Pitfield, OPSEU Staff Representative, reviewed the election procedures prior to conducting the elections.

MERC Team

<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Stand/Decline</u>	<u>Results</u>
John Legg (L.317)	M. Stewart (L.205)	Stand	Acclaimed
M. Stewart (L.205)	D. Clarke (L.669)	Stand	Acclaimed
Cherly Yeo (L.115)	Paul Opper (L.601)	Decline	

Chair

<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Stand/Decline</u>	<u>Results</u>
John Legg (L.317)	M. Stewart (L.205)	Stand	Acclaimed
Cherly Yeo (L.115)	Paul Opper (L.601)	Decline	

Vice-Chair

<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Stand/Decline</u>	<u>Results</u>
M. Stewart (L.205)	D. Clarke (L.669)	Stand	Acclaimed

After voting, need for alternates was discussed in case of absence – both John Legg and JoAnne Villeneuve volunteered.

NEW BUSINESS

- Centre of Forensic Science in north is in need of a LERC Committee
- CFS is now outsourcing work – due to the Gouge inquiry if a Coroner's case is involved, then results must be in within 60 days.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Moved: Patti Lutz (L.601)

Seconded: Paul Opper (L.108)

To adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Michael Stewart
MERC Chair
Ministry of Community Safety &
Corrections Services –
Solicitor General Division



Warren (Smokey) Thomas
President
OPSEU

Attachment (1)

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SOLICITOR GENERAL MERC

DIVISIONAL REPORT 2008

Eva Gulbinowicz - OPSEU Co-Chair

Mike Stewart - Vice Chair

I write this report as the outgoing Co-Chair of the MCSCS/Solicitor General MERC, having taken over in January 2008, from my predecessor Eva Robinson, who retired at that time. My resignation from this position was effective October 2008, after having served in various capacities on the MERC, for at least the last eight years. It will be up to the delegates at the Divisional to elect a new OPSEU Co-Chair.

Summarized below are some of the key issues dealt with by your MERC:

1. **Ministry LERCS:** during the last two years a number of new LERC's or Local Ministry Employee Relations Committees have been set up in various parts of the Ministry. The first one was established at the Ontario Fire College and functioned independently for a while before being amalgamated into a new Office of the Fire Marshall LERC created within the past year. This is a multi-agency LERC incorporating representation from all the key OFM divisions such as Headquarters, Fire Investigators, Ontario Fire College etc. The LERC has held several meetings and is functioning well with representatives from both sides of the agency.

There are several other LERC's located at the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto, The Ontario Police College, Aylmer and Private Investigators and Security Branch (PISG) have indicated an interest in setting up their own LERC.

2. **LERC Training:** the MERC team conducted LERC training onsite at the Ontario Fire College and the Ontario Police College. In addition, Eva Gulbinowicz conducted short onsite sessions and email support for the new Office of the Fire Marshall multi-agency LERC. Eva also attended the first official OFM LERC meeting. Refresher training Was conducted at the Centre of Forensic Sciences, for the incoming new LERC team.
3. **OFM Fire Investigators Issues:** the team spent considerable effort and several MERC meetings attempting to come up with a revised schedule for OFM Fire Investigators. The key issue identified by this group was reassignment of

investigators to geographic areas proximate to their headquarters, to preclude extensive travel to various fire locations throughout the province. This involved incorporating a shift system, vacations, sick time, overtime into a schedule, complicated by management's slowness in filling vacancies cause by fire investigator departures. Pat Burke, the Fire Marshall and Doug Crawford attended a MERC meeting to facilitate resolution. A trial schedule was implemented and is being revised as circumstances change. Mike Stewart, the MERC Vice-Chair, continues to spearhead this initiative.

4. **Joint Health & Safety Committees:** your team pressed management to provide a list of existing JHSC's in Solicitor General, including team members, H & S training provided and certified members. This is an ongoing project as we advocate for new teams in locations presently lacking one and improved training for existing one.
5. **Rollovers & Surplus Lists:** we have made considerable progress in having members who have been on contract for the required 18 months rolled over into classified positions, by carefully examining the list of unclassified employees and questioning any anomalies. Similarly we have looked after the interests of the few employees that were declared surplus.
6. **Ministry Restructuring:** has been occurring in various agencies particularly in Emergency Planning Ontario (EMO), Justice Technology Services (JTS), Centre of Forensic Sciences (CFS) among others. Every effort has been made by the MERC to ensure that OPSEU members rights are upheld, as per the Collective Agreement and any irregularities challenged.
7. **Policy Changes:** are whether Ministry or OPS wide are raised at MERC on a regular basis and updates to any of them requested by the team. Included among them are the Ministry Strategic Plan, programs such as Innovation Ontario projects, Ontario Works, Ontarians with Disability legislation etc. We assiduously inquire into the impact of these and any other policies/legislation on Solicitor General OPSEU members.

These are the key issues addressed by your Solicitor General MERC, whose members work on behalf all OPSEU MCSCS members to ensure problem resolution and the Employers adherence to the Collective Agreement and relevant policy/legislation. We encourage members to bring problems or issues needing resolution to the attention of their LERC and MERC.