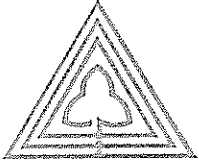


Ontario Public Service  
Employees Union

**OPSEU**



**SEFPO**

Syndicat des Employé-e-s  
de la Fonction Publique  
de l'Ontario

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** OPS Local Presidents  
MERC Chairs  
CERC Team Members

**FROM:** Cameron Walker, Supervisor, Contract Enforcement

**DATE:** January 19, 2004

**SUBJECT:** **MINUTES OF ALL OPS MERC CHAIRS MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2004**

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

AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION:

IN SOLIDARITY,

Leah Casselman  
President

Cameron Walker  
Supervisor, Contract Enforcement

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/ms

att.

cc: Executive Board Members  
Senior Staff  
Regional Offices

**MINUTES OF THE  
ALL CHAIRS MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2004  
THEATRE - HEAD OFFICE**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

CERC Chair, Marg Simmons, called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m., January 9, 2004.

**INTRODUCTION OF CHAIRS/OPSEU STAFF**

**Head Table:** OPSEU) Marg Simmons, (Public Safety & Security -Corrections Component) Cameron Walker, (Supervisor, Contract Enforcement, Marisa Stagliano (Recording Secretary, OPSEU).

**MERC Chairs:** Doug Peebles (Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs), Elaine Young (Attorney General), Ruth Galinis (Citizenship & Immigration), Roxanne Barnes (Community & Social Services), Alma Gildea (Consumer & Business Services), Dave Graves (Corrections – Community Safety & Correctional Services), Marilyn Miller (Culture), Ron Langer (Economic Development & Trade), Alicia Czekierda (Education), Janet Sakauye (Ministry of Energy), Rheal Delaquis (Environment), Kathleen Demareski (Finance), Bob Rae (Labour), James Cushing (Management Board Secretariat), Ron Marciniak (Municipal Affairs & Housing), Elaine Bagnall (Natural Resources), Norm Trowell (Northern Development & Mines), Gary Stipe (Ontario Clean Water Agency), Eva Robinson (Solicitor General - Community Safety & Correctional Services ), John O'Brien (Transportation).

**OPSEU Staff:** Stephen George (Job Security Officer), Pat Schillemore (Job Security Officer), Judith Marion (Job Security Officer).

**Regrets:** Lisa Herrmann (Tourism & Recreation), Sandra Noad (Ministry of Health), Sandra Harper (Job Security Officer).

## MOTION

MOVED: Elaine Young (Att. Gen.)

SECONDED: Elma Gildea (CBS)

Adoption of agenda

CARRIED

## **Amendment**

MOVED: John O'Brien (MTO)

SECONDED: Elaine Bagnall (Nat. Res.)

To move on the agenda, the draft OPS Bargaining Procedure to earlier in the afternoon (12:30 p.m.).

Voted by a show of hands.

CARRIED

Participants introduced themselves including a brief job description.

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The President thanked everyone for their participation and spoke on the following:

- We now have a new Liberal government in place for the last year of our Collective Agreement. This government is actually talking with us and indicated their interest in establishing a better relationship with OPSEU.
- The new government appears to be realizing the importance of the work of the membership. OPSEU needs to educate this government regarding the importance of public services and the work that is done by the members.
- OPSEU has established a committee (Government Relations Co-ordinating Committee) to co-ordinate our approach with the new government and to insure the focus is on our agenda.
- The MERC Chairs play an important role. They are to talk to their teams and management and be consistent with their messages and with specific ministry issues.
- Bargaining will be critical; the government needs to re-hire our members.

Marg Simmons resumed the Chair and asked for previous minutes to be reviewed.

**MOTION**

MOVED: Alicia Czekierda (Edu.)

SECONDED: John O'Brien (MTO)

To accept previous All Chairs minutes of January 9, 2003.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION**

MOVED: Alicia Czekierda (Edu.)

SECONDED: Elaine Young (Att. Gen.)

To accept previous All Chairs minutes of June 12 & 13, 2003.

**CARRIED**

Cameron Walker indicated that Jan Borowy would not be available to do the presentation on OPS Bargaining Procedure before 1:00 p.m.

**Joint Health & Safety Committee's**

- John O'Brien, MTO MERC Chair discussed the OPSEU Executive Board motion that was distributed at the Chairs meeting. He explained that this was practice in OPSEU, and now it was going to be reinforced as OPSEU policy.

**The Executive Board motion reads as follows:**

Moved by Anger/Elliott

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** OPSEU members currently on health and safety committees with AMAPCEO members withdraw from these committees immediately.

Moved by Thomas/Eaton – Closure – Carried

The question was called on the motion:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** OPSEU members currently on health and safety committees with AMAPCEO members withdraw from these committees immediately.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- There was lengthy discussion and debate regarding how to respond to the implementation of the motion.

- The Chairs seek clarification regarding OPSEU's withdrawing from the Joint Health & Safety Committees.

### **MOTION**

MOVED: Alma Gildea (CBS)

SECONDED: Elaine Young (Att. Gen.)

### **THAT**

The new OPSEU Health & Safety policy be sent to the OPS Local Chairs, Local Presidents and Joint Health & Safety Committee members to explain the background rationale for this policy under the Presidents signature.

**CARRIED**

### **AND THAT**

MOVED: John O'Brien (MTO)

SECONDED: James Cushing (MBS)

Timing, that it be done immediately (liability issue must be understood).

**CARRIED**

### **Health & Safety Education & Training**

- Lisa McCaskell, OPSEU Health & Safety Officer, gave a verbal report on Health & Safety Committees. She also provided an information sheet on MERC Health & Safety Education for discussion purposes.
- Lisa proposed consideration of a 2 day education session to involve 2 OPSEU members of each MERC (Chair, H&S rep).
- Lisa spoke about the role of a MERC Team may have enforcing Health & Safety at the Ministry level. There was further discussion around the possibility of having a designated Health & Safety seat on every MERC Team.

### **MOTION**

MOVED: Ron Marciniak (Mun. Aff.)

SECONDED: James Cushing (MBS)

### **THAT**

Another MERC All Chairs meeting be scheduled to focus on and have as its primary agenda item the Draft OPS Bargaining Procedure and any other items from the January 9, 2004 meeting. Further, that this meeting be scheduled on January 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m., and that any draft OPS Bargaining Procedure be made available along with the current OPS Bargaining Procedure.

**CARRIED**

### **OPS Bargaining Procedures**

- Jan Borowy, OPSEU Campaigns Officer, gave a presentation of the draft OPS Bargaining Procedures.
- Jan explained that the changes to the OPS Procedures would be forwarded to the Executive Board to review for their January 21, 2004 meeting.

Due to time constraints of the day, Jan Borowy was asked if she could return for a time limited discussion to the All OPS Chairs meeting, on January 20, 2004. It was requested that material be provided in advance of the January 20, 2004 OPS Chairs Meeting.

### **Rebuilding Ontario Program**

Terry Downey (Regional Vice-President) and Peter Wall (Board Member) gave a presentation to the OPS Chair regarding the Government Relations Coordinating Committee (GRCC).

- The committee was set-up by OPSEU's, Executive Board after the Liberals were elected. Terry Downey and Peter Wall sit on this committee as OPS representatives.
- The purpose of this committee is to meet with and have direct communication with the government, and to ensure the representation of OPSEU's members.
- A workbook was prepared listing issues defined by the Executive Board. This is not an exhaustive list, so the GRCC is approaching OPSEU's leadership for consultation to further define our issues and develop a consistent message when approaching the new government.
- MERC Chairs have been asked to submit information related to 'Rebuilding Ontario' via e-mail to Katie FitzRandolph, OPSEU Communication Department.
- Tim Little, Legislative Liaison distributed additional resource materials on 'Rebuilding Ontario'.
- Terry Downey reminded everyone to submit their workbook, "Talking to the Government" by January 19, 2004.

Marg Simmons, CERC Chair, recognized and thanked Terry Downey for her hard work while she was MERC Chair for Citizenship. Terry's workplace, the Ontario Human Rights Commission, has been transferred to the Ministry of Attorney General.

The OPS ideas Campaign agenda for regional focus groups was distributed to the Chairs.

**MOTION**

MOVED: Bob Rae (Labour)

To adjourn

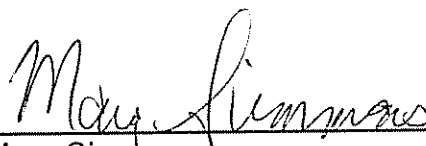
**CARRIED**

Meeting ended at 4:05 p.m.

AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Leah Casselman  
President, OPSEU



Marg Simmons  
CERC Chair