

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Presidents with members in the Ministry of Economic Development & Trade
All Stewards in the Ministry of Economic Development & Trade

FROM: Brian Gould, OPS Supervisor/Negotiator

DATE: June 24, 2008

SUBJECT: **Ministry of Economic Development & Trade
ERC Minutes – March 31, 2008**

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

Please post or otherwise make them available to the members in your workplaces.

Also attached is a MERC referral form which should be used when referring unresolved local issues to the ministry level. The referral should be sent care of the Job Security Unit with all the supporting documentation, (e.g. minutes, correspondence, etc.), with any referrals.

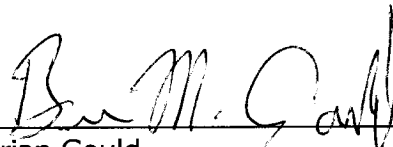
PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINISTRY MINUTES WERE PREPARED BY THE EMPLOYER.

AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION:

IN SOLIDARITY,



Warren (Smokey) Thomas
President



Brian Gould
OPS Supervisor/Negotiator

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att.

cc: MERC Chairs
Ministry ERC

**MEDT/ MSBE / MRI
MERC MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 31, 2008
3rd Floor Boardroom, Human Resources Branch
900 Bay Street, Toronto**

Present:

Ministry

Dan Keating, Co-chair
Anne Allan
Katie Cavanagh (intern)


OPSEU

Ron Langer, Co-chair
Fred Sheehy
Diane Pelletier
Sandra Harper

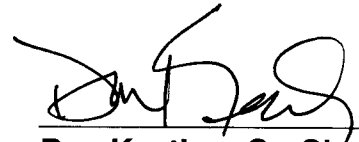
ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Business Arising		
1. Minutes	Co-chairs signed minutes for November 26th , 2007 meeting. Minutes will be posted on StaffNet.	Employer to post minutes.
B. Business Arising From Minutes		
1. Health & Safety	MEDT/MSBE Health and Safety Committee (Hearst Block) - OPSEU confirmed that two OPSEU staff are already trained, with one more staff member volunteering for training.	Management to solicit a volunteer for management representative.
2. Labour relations Training	Labour Relations training scheduled for May 14, 2008.	All members of the MERC committee to attend training on May 14, 2008.
3. Appendix 33 – unclassified employees	Management presented OPSEU with updated information for each ministry.	

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
4. Ministry Business Plans	Management confirmed MRI Business Plan is posted on ministry intranet.	
5. Bargaining Unit Integrity Project	OPSEU provided information with respect to the Protecting Jobs, Building Power Campaign which is the BUI campaign that started in January 2008. It includes a review by OPSEU of existing and new positions which OPSEU believes should be in their bargaining unit. Accordingly, OPSEU has filed 1.4 policy grievances in this regard.	
6. Campaign to Change CECBA	Nothing new to report, CECBA campaign continues.	
7. Employer's ongoing reduction of OPSEU members	Management supplied OPSEU with updated chart as of February, 2008. The chart reflects employment distribution as follows: OPSEU 48%, AMAPCEO 31%, SMG 12%, MCP 8%, Excluded 1%. A previous chart produced March 1, 2002, showed OPSEU at 65% and AMAPCEO at 12%. Management stated that the 2008 percentages versus the 2002 are not true comparators because of organizational changes.	
C. Standing Items		
1. Active Surplus	Management reported one active surplus.	
2. VEO	N/A	
3. Long Term Temporary Assignments/ Unclassified Contracts	N/A	
4. Ontario Works	N/A	

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
D. New Business		
1. Article 1.4 Disclosures	OPSEU confirmed that management will disclose all additions to complement as per Article 1.4.	Management to attend April 23, 2008 workshop on Review of Disclosure Directive.
2. Request from OPSEU of March 3, 2008 to forward job descriptions.	OPSEU acknowledged that AMAPCEO job descriptions had been forwarded for review as per Article 1.4.	
3. Blackberry Use	OPSEU requested that written direction be provided regarding the use of Blackberry's outside of normal office hours. Management indicated that there is no expectation on the part of the employer for employees to use blackberries outside of core hours. If so, overtime provisions under the Collective Agreement will apply.	If an issue arises, the employer will follow-up.
4. Travel expense kilometre limitations for use of personal vehicles	OPSEU requested clarification on recommended use of personal vehicles versus rental vehicles, specifically the requirement of using rental vehicles for distances greater than 200 km.	Management to clarify.
5. Attendance Management Threshold	Management distributed Attendance Support Program Threshold.	To be reflected in minutes.
6. HR Transformation-effect on OPSEU members	Management distributed information on HR Transformation. Management confirmed that OPSEU employees in the HR Branch were fully informed.	
E. Next Meeting Date		
6. Next Meeting	The schedule for the next MERC is proposed for Tuesday, June 24, 2008.	



Ron Langer, Co-Chair Dated: JUNE 24/08
MEDT



Dan Keating, Co-Chair Dated: June 24/08
MEDT