

MEMORANDUM

OPSEU



SEFPO

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

TO: All Presidents with members in the Ministry of Natural Resources
All Stewards in the Ministry of Natural Resources

FROM: Terry Baxter, OPS Supervisor/Negotiator

DATE: May 1, 2006

SUBJECT: **Ministry of Natural Resources
ERC Minutes – March 22, 2006**

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:

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cc: MERC Chairs
Ministry ERC

Ministry Employee Relations Committee
OPSEU Regional Office
31 Wellesley St., Boardroom B
Toronto, Ontario

Wednesday, March 22, 2006
9:30 – 4:00

Present for OPSEU:

Elaine Bagnall (Co-Chair)
Marg Simmons
Dave Fluri
Ed Evens
Peter Wall

Present for the Ministry:

Rob Kennedy (Co-Chair)
Laural Rueffer (Minutes)
Paul Chamberlain
Lois Deacon
Fadia Mishrigi (Guest)
Steven Boyd (Guest by Phone)

Regrets: Kevin Smith

New Items

1. Disclosure process – Transformation update on recent notices
 - The Ministry indicated that there were no new items to be disclosed.
 - The parties discussed recent surplus redeployment placements.

Action: The Ministry agreed to address the concerns raised by OPSEU with the Transformation Director and provide report back to the MERC

2. Corporate MasterCard

- OPSEU expressed concern with the procedures required for use of the corporate MasterCard and the direction provided around use of P-cards and Travel claims.

- The Ministry indicated that the Corporate MasterCard was a corporate issue and should be addressed at the CERC table.

Action: The Ministry to obtain clarity on the GST exemption direction provided to managers as well as the direction provided to staff regarding use of p-cards and will report back to MERC.

3. Contract Reductions (Parks)

- OPSEU expressed concern with alleged changes to contract length and weekly hours of work.

Action: To be discussed at the next meeting.

4. Enforcement – staffing of trade shows and use of volunteers

- OPSEU raised concern that interns and volunteers were selected to attend tradeshow instead of regular staff.

Action: The Ministry committed to investigate issues of liability and accountability for volunteer staff participating in tradeshow and provide a report back to the committee

5. Draft Terms of Reference for MERC

- The Ministry provided revised draft terms of reference for discussion.

Action: The Ministry to provide an electronic copy of the draft terms of reference to the Union. Item to be discussed further at the next meeting.

6. Pay Improvement Project

- Steven Boyd, Manager, Client Services attended via teleconference to provide an overview of the Pay Improvement Project.

7. Communications Survey

- Fadia Mishrigi, Director, Communication Service Branch attended to discuss the launch of the review of the MNR communications function.

Action: Fadia to attend September 13, 2006 meeting to provide update.

8. Pinery WDHP Issue

- The Ministry indicated that a fact-finding was undertaken and the report will be available shortly.

9. Next MERC Meeting

- The parties agreed to reschedule the next MERC meeting.

Action: Next MERC meeting to occur on June 15, 2006.

Follow Up Items:

10. Surplus Listing

- The Ministry proposed providing the position administration report to the OPSEU MERC Co-Chair on a monthly basis instead of at each MERC meeting which was agreeable to the union.

11. Unclassified staff listing

- The parties discussed the provision of the unclassified staff listing to OPSEU.
- The ministry reiterated their understanding that there was a commitment to provide the listing of all unclassified staff corporately.

12. Employee Engagement

- The Ministry indicated that there was no update at this time.

13. Scent Bulletin

- OPSEU confirmed that corporately they had received and reviewed the Scent bulletin that was issued by MNR in January.

14. Successor Rights

- OPSEU indicated that a response has been received from the Deputy Minister on the issue of successor rights and this issue would be heard at CERC.

15. HR Transformation

- The Ministry indicated that there were no updates at this time.

16. Enforcement Interns

- The Ministry confirmed that the majority of participants in the MNR internship were represented by OPSEU.
- The parties discussed the eligibility requirements to the internship program.

17. Pilot Certification

- OPSEU expressed an interest in the source of the standard for pilot certification currently being applied in Aviation Services Branch.

Action: Barry O'Brien to attend the next meeting to address the issue of pilot certification.

For the Union Elaine Bagnall Apr. 18/06
Elaine Bagnall Date

For the Ministry Rob Kennedy 18/4/06
Rob Kennedy Date