

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MINISTRY EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (MERC)
December 7, 2021
11:00a.m. – 1:00p.m.**

In Attendance

For the Union	For the Employer	Guests	Regrets
* Daryl O’Grady, Co-Chair, OPSEU Robert Scarfo, OPSEU Drew Finucane, OPSEU Sandra Harper, OPS Negotiator *Chair of the Meeting	Sanaul Haque, EDU Karyn Bruneel, EDU Boafoa Kwamena, EDU Juanita Sheridan, TBS		Arik Kovacs, EDU

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
Confirmation of the Agenda		
1. Employer Updates a) Seniority, Fixed Term and Seasonal Reports b) TEI c) Training and Development d) Surplus	a) The fixed term list and seasonal list were provided to OPSEU by email on November 30, 2021. The seniority report was provided on December 3, 2021. b) No update. c) Since the last meeting the Ministry has completed three (3) learning sessions for employees on mental health and career advancement. The Ministry also held “Take our Kids to Work Day” in November. The Union asked for the number of OPSEU-represented employees	The Employer will provide the TEI update by email. The Employer will follow up and report back on the learning sessions.

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
	<p>that attended the learning sessions.</p> <p>d) No surplus notice alerts have been provided in the ministry since the last MERC meeting.</p>	
2. Seasonal Benefits and Pay	OPSEU raised concern that there continues to be issues related to seasonal benefits, which included several in October. The Employer confirmed that all issues identified have been resolved.	
3. CCQALB BERC Update	The BERC met on December 2, 2021. The parties discussed caseloads as well as the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Pending direction from TBS finalization of the MOA is on hold. The parties also discussed the job description changes for the RCO position and the Employer has committed to having a conversation at BERC with a representative from the Regulatory Compliance Unit.	
4. PDSB BERC Update	No update. The next BERC meeting is on February 8, 2022.	
5. Plans for employees returning to the workplace / office	The Employer confirmed that employees returned to the workplace / office in November as per GROW.	
6. Ministry Anti-Racism Action Plan	The Ministry continues to work to implement the Ministry Anti-Racism Action Plan.	

BUSINESS ARISING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. n/a		
NEW ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. Dates for Meetings in 2022	<p>The parties confirmed the following meeting dates: March 22, 2022 June 7, 2022 October 18, 2022 November 29, 2022 The meetings will be held 11:00am – 1:00pm.</p>	
2. MERC Terms of Reference		Deferred to the next meeting.

For the Union: Original signed by Daryl O’Grady
Date: December 7, 2021

For the Employer: Original approved by Sanaul Haque
Date: December 7, 2021