

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
MINISTRY EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (MERC)  
June 9, 2020  
11:30a.m. – 1:30p.m.**

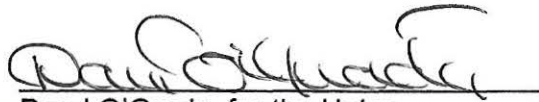
**In Attendance**

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, Co-Chair, EDU Karyn Bruneel, EDU Boafoa Kwamena, EDU Prachee Shukla, EDU Juanita Sheridan, TBS		

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 seniority list, fixed term list and seasonal list were provided to the union by email on June 4, 2020. b) As of March 31, 2020, 84 out of 104 (81%) TEI applications submitted by OPSEU-represented employees in the Ministry have been approved. c) The ministry is planning a midpoint session for the DCCP on June 25. The next round of ICCT training starts in July and the ministry will be submitting about 165 names for this quarter. In February the ministry posted 43 job ads for Summer	The Employer will follow up on fixed term employees possibly eligible for conversion and report back.

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
	<p>Employment Opportunities for students. The SEO program has not been discontinued during the pandemic but hiring managers are currently determining whether to continue based on their business operations and onboarding abilities.</p> <p>d) No surplus notice alerts have been provided in the ministry since the last MERC meeting.</p>	
2. Seasonal Benefits and Pay	<p>The deadline for seasonal employees to purchase benefits for their hiatus period has been extended to June 19, 2020. OPSEU asked if benefits will be activated for September 1<sup>st</sup> for employees if there is a delay in return to work. OPSEU asked if the Employer can deduct the cost of benefits for the hiatus period from employees' bi-weekly pay during the seasonal employment period.</p>	<p>The Employer will follow up and report back.</p>
3. CCQALB BERC Update	<p>The BERC met on June 5, 2020. OPSEU has received a copy of the internal travel directive discussed at the BERC for input.</p>	
4. PDSB BERC Update	<p>The BERC met on May 28, 2020 and discussed several items including Student Health Services and the reopening plan for the schools. The parties are discussing the hours of</p>	

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
	work agreements (CWW and ARP) for the 2020/2021 school year.	
5. Governance Transfer of CJL	A triparte meeting was held on June 9, 2020 to review outstanding items. The next triparte meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2020. The transfer to the CJL consortium is on track for August 17, 2020.	
BUSINESS ARISING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. ERC Level 2 Training	The parties are waiting for training dates to be announced.	
NEW ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. Ministry COOP / Pandemic Plans	OPSEU asked that the ministry COOP plans be shared with the union at MERC for review.	The Employer will follow up and report back.
2. Hiring through virtual interviews – is this being done throughout the Ministry?	OPSEU asked how recruitment is being done in the ministry. The Employer confirmed that virtual interviews have been conducted in PDSB and CCQALB.	
3. JHSC meetings prior to employees returning to the work location.	OPSEU asked that Joint Health and Safety Committees (JHSC) meet prior to employees returning to the work location.	
4. Summer Students	OPSEU's position is that vacancies should not be filled with students. OPSEU asked for a list of summer students that have been hired including position title and work location.	The Employer will follow up and report back.

  
Daryl O'Grady, for the Union

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June 9, 2020

Original Signed By Sanaul Haque  
Sanaul Haque, for Management

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