

**Ministry of Health and Ministry of Long-Term Care
MERC Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2021**

Attendees

Union	Management
F. Wendling (Co-Chair) A. Usher M. Whyte H. Dargavel H. Preston G. Caldwell (Negotiator)	C Lethbridge (Co-Chair) J. Farrell S. Mooney B. Robinson C. Pettis M. Fox
Recorder	D. Saxena
Guest	
Regrets	S. Colameco

Agenda Items	Date Tabled	Discussion	Action Required
Standing Items			
1. Review of October 22, 2020 Minutes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 22nd Minutes are currently being reviewed by OPSEU. 	
2. Review of Agenda		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both parties agreed to the January 13, 2021 agenda. 	
3. Position Descriptions and New Job Ads		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties discussed position descriptions and new jobs for the period of September 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020. • OPSEU recognized the proactive efforts of the employer in addressing a specific group's status and are pleased with the change implemented. 	
4. Disclosure Updates		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties discussed disclosures for the period of September 1 to November 30, 2020. • OPSEU requested information on volunteers specific to contract tracing. • Management advised volunteers are primarily from other ministries. • Parties discussed other specific updates. 	

Agenda Items	Date Tabled	Discussion	Action Required
5. Quarterly Fixed-Term Employee Listing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties discussed the list provided by management. • OPSEU requested clarification on a specific item. • OPSEU recognized the employer's efforts in being proactive in addressing those who reach conversion status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management to request information on the specific item and provide an update.
6. Third Party Organizations/ Agencies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties agreed to defer this item. 	
7. Health and Safety	April 16, 2020	<p>COVID 19 – Return to Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties discussed the recent stay at home order and its impacts for staff currently going into the workplace. • Management advised that we are waiting for more information and will share once available. • Parties discussed specific examples of staff going into the workplace. • OPSEU requested participation of frontline staff in discussions related to decisions and processes put in place due to COVID-19. 	

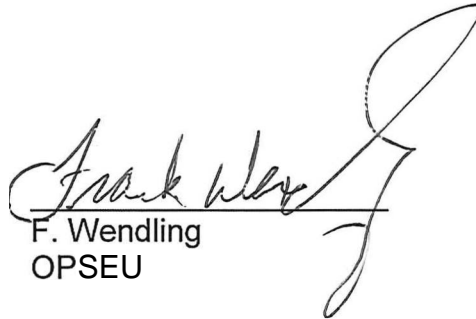
Agenda Items	Date Tabled	Discussion	Action Required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPSEU raised concerns on asymptomatic transmission of COVID- 19. • Parties discussed specific examples. • Management advised that we use Public Health guidance and health and safety of staff remains our top priority. 	
8. Long-Term Care Inspectors	April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties discussed various items including use of masks, fit testing for N95 masks, scheduling of training, delivery of masks etc. • Management advised that staff can work with their managers to address concerns. • OPSEU indicated they are concerned about reprisal if LTC Inspectors use their N95 masks, given that they have to report this to management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPSEU raised concerns regarding the availability and scheduling of fit testing. Management will share with Inspectors options for fit testing outside of schedule. • OPSEU requested a response from the employer on how this will be addressed.

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9. MERC CACC Subcommittee		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management provided an update on CACC staffing and update on ongoing recruitment. • Management provided updates on ongoing CAD 5 transition, MPDS, PSRN, new telephony system, continuity of operations, peer support program and entry of practice system. • OPSEU recognized efforts being made by the ministry to move in a positive direction. 	
10. Respectful Workplace	April 20, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on ways to improve workplace, open and honest communications and information sharing. • Parties acknowledged the positive working relationship of the committee. 	
11. WDHP Review – Huggins Report and Recommendations	Jan 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties agreed to defer this item. 	
12. Multi-Year Planning Process & Mandate Letters – MOH & MLTC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPSEU requested a copy of the mandate letter and multi-year plan. 	

Agenda Items	Date Tabled	Discussion	Action Required
New Items			
13. MERC 2021 dates – last 2 2021 meetings	Oct 22, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next MERC is on April 7, 2021. • OPSEU had provided suggested dates in August and November 2021. • Management provided confirmed MERC dates of Aug 25 & Nov 18, 2021. 	
14. WIN Issues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPSEU raised concerns with difficulty accessing the attendance module and incorrect credit balances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management informed that they will share any corporate communication on this item, once it is available.
Bring Forward			
15. Transition and Reskilling Agreement	January 9, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties agreed to defer this item. 	
16. Health & Productivity Program - MOL Joint Disability Accommodation and Return to Work Committee	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties agreed that this is an important item and plan to restart the discussion. 	

Agenda Items	Date Tabled	Discussion	Action Required
17. Terms of Reference	January 17, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deferred to April 2021 - MERC 	
18. LERC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parties agreed to defer this item. 	

Approval:



F. Wendling
OPSEU

Dated: January 13, 2021



C. Lethbridge
MOH & MLTC

Dated: January 13, 2021