

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MINISTRY EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (MERC)
June 16, 2026
10:00am – 12:00pm
Boardroom A, 255 Ontario Street S. Milton**

In Attendance

For the Union	For the Employer	Guests	Regrets
Daryl O'Grady, Co-Chair, OPSEU Drew Finucane, OPSEU Novia Grant-Simon, OPSEU Sandra Harper, OPS Negotiator	Aaron Moffat, Co-Chair, EDU* Andrew Locker, EDU Karen Puhlmann, EDU Daysi Pena, EDU Juanita Sheridan, TBS *Chair of the meeting	Tina MacCauley, Superintendent.	N/A

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
Confirmation of the Agenda	The parties confirmed the agenda.	N/A

1. Employer Updates a) Seniority, Fixed Term and Seasonal Reports b) TEI c) Training and Development d) Surplus	a) The seasonal and fixed term lists were provided to the union by email on June 15, 2026. The seniority report will be sent by email after the meeting. b) No new TEI requests have been submitted in the past 12 months. As of May 2026, a total of 104 TEI applications (excluding withdrawals) have been submitted by OPSEU-represented employees in the Ministry of Education. Of these, 91 applications (88%) have been approved. c) From February 28, 2026 to June 14, 2026 the ministry held 11 training and development sessions for staff (% of attendees from the OPSEU bargaining unit): Therapy Dogs #2 (14%), EFAP: Food and Mood (16%), Leadership at all Levels Leadership Café (15%), EFAP: Understanding Different Personalities (23%), Mental Health Hub Orientation (19%), DCCP Kickoff (9%), Chair Yoga Micro Break (12%), Navigating the OPS Recruitment Process (15%), Black Mental Health (13%), My Journey to ADM (16%), Mental Health Lived Experiences Panel (12%).	The Employer will respond to the Union's questions about conversion of fixed term employees.
---	--	---

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
	d) No surplus notice alerts were provided in the ministry since the last MERC meeting.	
2. Seasonal Benefits and Pay	The parties continue to discuss a mechanism to address concerns with coverage for seasonal benefits in a timely manner.	N/A
3. Child Care Branch BERC Update	The BERC met on June 2, 2026. A new OPSEU co-chair has been identified. OPSEU representatives are needed from West Region and Central West Region. The next meeting is on October 6, 2026.	N/A
4. Provincial and Demonstration Schools Branch BERC Update	The BERC met on May 28, 2026. The parties discussed items including recruitment and retention, use of casual staff, student health services hours of operation, staff recognition and capital projects. The next meeting is on September 24, 2026. Refer to BERC meeting minutes for more information.	N/A
5. Ministry Anti-Racism Action Plan	No update.	N/A
6. Recruitment and Retention	The parties continue to discuss recruitment and retention.	N/A
BUSINESS ARISING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. N/A	N/A	N/A
NEW ITEMS		
1. Deaf-Blind Lodging Program	The parties discussed the Deaf-Blind Lodging program.	The Employer will continue to provide information and disclosure.

The next meeting is on October 22, 2026 in Milton from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

For the Union: Original signed by Daryl O'Grady

Date: June 16, 2026

For the Employer: Original signed by Aaron Moffat

Date: June 16, 2026