

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND AGRIBUSINESS
MEAT INSPECTION EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE - MINUTES

June 4, 2026

Microsoft Teams Meeting or Boardroom 303

For Management:

Kathryn Evans-Bitten, Co-Chair
Nick Van Lankveld
Tim Metzger

For OPSEU:

Marcus Rangai, Co-Chair
Binod Baral
Sanjay Sharma
Neil Fraser

Resource:

Diana Reid (HR Advisor)

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Required	Timeline for Completion
Welcome and Introductions	Welcome		
Standing Items			
1. Program Update	- Eid occurred last week. Things went relatively smoothly and volumes were steady. - A different inspection process is being implemented at Sargent's Farms. An additional inspection station has been added to the line to support increased line speeds.		
2. Staff Training and Orientation	Recent Training Highlights		

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	- The 'Language of Lymph Nodes' topic has been delivered by the Veterinary Scientists at 11 area meetings with 1 area left to complete. 'Cut Under Supervision' (sample and data entry for Siebel) topic is currently being delivered. To date, 8 areas have received the training, with 4 areas still to complete. - Siebel Training was delivered to 10 FSIs on March 20th, 2026. - A virtual training session on fish sampling projects AQ0022 & AQ0023 was delivered to Fish inspectors and trainees on April 15, 2026. - The Obstruction and Getting Home Safely course was delivered in person on April 24, 2026. Upcoming Scheduled Training - Instructor-Led Slaughter training is currently in the planning stage for late summer 2026. - The training team is working with a vendor of record to secure dates for a pilot session of in-car defensive driving training.		
3. Health & Safety Working Group	- Since last MI ERC there has been 1 psychosocial exposure incident and 2 accidents requiring medical treatment. - For FSIs that work at third party locations, critical incident/injuries should be reported to OMAFA's 1 Stone Rd. Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC). - For staff that are headquartered at OPS locations, critical incidents and injuries under OHSA are reported to that location's JHSC.		

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	- The Food Inspection Program also has a Health and Safety Working Group to respond to program specific issues. - Committee members serve for a 2-year term which will be coming to an end soon. - A recent e-mail was sent out to the Branch requesting volunteers for the H&S Working Group and the deadline for response is June 8th.		
4. Workforce Planning	Program Information as of May 29, 2026 # of Abattoirs – 106 # of FSMPs – 342 (+3 from last MI ERC) New hires since last MIERC Fixed-term, irregular, on-call - Kemptville Fixed-term, irregular, on-call - Ridgetown Fixed-term, irregular, on-call - Ridgetown Fixed-term, irregular, on-call - Woodstock Fixed-term, irregular, on-call - Woodstock Current Competitions (1) Regular, FSI (2) Fixed-term, Full Time – FSI – Brighton (1) Regular, FSI – Kemptville (1) Regular, FSI – Woodstock (1) Fixed-term, Full Time, FSI – Ridgetown (2) Fixed-term, Full Time, FSI (2) Fixed-term, Irregular On-Call – Stratford (2) Regular, FSI - Peel Conversions None	Management to provide notice to OPSEU rep. of new hires at time of signed offer. Management to provide notice to OPSEU rep. at least 2 weeks prior to new staff orientation session.	

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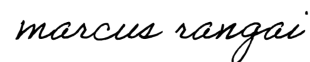
Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Required	Timeline for Completion
Old Business			
	N/A		
New Business			
	N/A		
2026 MI ERC Dates	September 10 th , December 10 th		

Original signed by:



Kathryn Evans-Bitten (For Management)

Original signed by:



Marcus Rangai (For the Union)