

Ministry of Transportation
MERC Ministry Employee Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 18, 2026 | 1:30 - 3:30PM
Virtual: via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance

* Meeting Chair

For the Union	For the Employer	Guests	Regrets
Handell Baptiste (Co-Chair) * Jody Pringle (Vice-Chair) Brenton Beeston (OPSEU/SEFPO Negotiator) Richard Hoch Stella Martin	Virginia McKimm (Co-Chair) Colin Simons Dorianne Emmerton Patricia Lopes Jessica Gallagher	McKenna Bannon	Claudine Sutherland

Updates

#	Date Tabled	Agenda Item	Items	Referred to	Action
0	26-06-18	MERC Membership Updates	The Union advised that Jody Pringle has transitioned into the role of Vice-Chair, and Handell Baptiste has assumed the position of Co-Chair. The Union further noted that Richard Hoch has joined MERC, as Aaron Hurst is stepping away from the committee. Both parties expressed gratitude for Aaron Hurst’s valuable contributions to MERC.	Employer	The Employer will direct all future communications and reports to the new Co-Chair.

Standing Items

#	Date Tabled	Agenda Item	Items	Referred to	Action
1	97-01-02	Disclosures	The Employer provided a disclosure report for the period of March 12, 2026 to June 10, 2026 on June 11, 2026. The Union has no concerns with the report shared.	Employer	The Employer will continue to share disclosure reports with the Union.
2	13-04-01	Fixed-Term / Seasonal / Students Lists	Reports as of April 30, 2026 were shared with the Union on June 11, 2026. The Union identified two potential employee conversion delays.	Employer	The Employer will look into the concerns and provide a response to the Union with the next week.
3	13-04-01	Transition Exit Initiative (TEI)	The Employer provided an update on the current status of MTO TEI applications (as of June 10, 2026). Per the collective agreement, TEI applications continue to be accepted for the Employer's consideration.	Employer	The Employer will continue to consider applications and provide updates on the status of applications.

Update Items

#	Date Tabled	Agenda Item	Items	Referred to	Action
4	07-10-02	Employee Experience Survey	The Employer advised that the 2026 Employee Experience Survey closed on March 11, 2026, and results are anticipated to be released by Treasury Board Secretariat soon.	Employer	The Employer will continue to provide updates as they become available.
5	21-03-31	Anti-Racism Strategy/ Mental Health & Wellness	The Employer provided updates on the Anti-Racism events, Senior Leadership Diversification, Diversity Career Champions Program, Diversity Sponsorship Program, Accessibility and Disability Inclusion, and Mental Health and Wellbeing.	Employer	The Employer will continue to provide updates as they become available.

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6	22-06-01	Tow Zone Pilot Project & Travel Information Office	The Employer confirmed the Tow Zone Program transitioned to permanent on April 1, 2026. Given the transition from pilot to permanent program, the Employer and Union agree to remove this item from the agenda.	Employer/Union	Remove from agenda.

Discussion Items

#	Date Tabled	Agenda Item	Items	Referred to	Action
7	17-10-19	TEO Performance Targets	The Union has referred this matter to CERC, therefore, agreement to remove from agenda.	Employer/Union	Remove from agenda.
8	22-09-23	DriveOn/Emissions Enforcement	The Employer provided an update on additional emissions testing equipment procurement and upcoming distribution to districts, and confirmed plans are underway for training of officers, with implementation timelines dependent on vendor coordination. The Employer intends to train all officers province wide over the next several years.	Employer	The Employer will continue to provide updates as they become available.
9	19-05-02	Transportation Safety Division Enforcement Risk Assessment	A recent joint meeting between the Employer and OPSEU was held on June 4, 2026 to discuss PAVA and CPIC. The Employer confirmed ongoing work related to the risk assessment and project updates are being provided at MAC. The Union feels that MAC is only an advisory committee, where MERC has processes to escalate.	Employer	MERC will continue to discuss labour relations matters as they arise.

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		Concerns (referral from FERC)	staff into elevated positions. Feels there is benefit to the Employer to make changes as it could support retention. The Employer recognized the importance of developing staff.		
16	26-06-19	Quality Assurance Positions Recruitment & Retention Concerns	The Union expressed concern with high turnover in Quality Assurance Officer positions across the province.	Employer	The Employer will review the issues raised and follow up.
Next Meeting: September 17, 2026					

For the Union: Handell Baptiste



Date: June 22, 2026

For the Employer:

Date: