

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MINISTRY EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (MERC)**

March 26, 2020

10:00a.m. – 11:30am

Teleconference 416-212-8010 / 1-866-602-5423

passcode 9521898# chair 8623#

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	* Sanaul Haque, Co-Chair, EDU Holly Moran, EDU Boafoa Kwamena, EDU Prachee Shukla, EDU Juanita Sheridan, TBS *Chair of the Meeting		

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
Confirmation of the Agenda	The parties completed introductions and confirmed the agenda. The parties recognized and thanked Martin Grenier for his work on the MERC team. The parties welcomed Drew Finucane to the team.	
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 March 23, 2020. b) As of January 31, 2020, 82 out of 102 (80%) TEI applications submitted by OPSEU-represented employees in the Ministry have been approved.	The Employer will follow up on fixed term employees possibly eligible for conversion and report back.

STANDING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
	<p>c) In February the ministry posted 43 job ads for summer employment opportunities for students. ICCT training continues and 162 employees have registered for the training in Q1 of 2020.</p> <p>d) No surplus notice alerts have been provided in the Ministry since the last MERC meeting. OPSEU expressed their concern with the issuance of an NOL to a CJL employee prior to the transfer of governance to the CJLC.</p>	
2. Seasonal Benefits and Pay	No update.	
3. CCQALB BERC Update	The BERC was consulted on the internal travel directive and an FAQ document. The BERC will meet on April 2 to discuss the roll out of the travel directive.	The Employer will share the internal travel directive and FAQ document with the union.
4. PDSB BERC Update	The BERC met on February 10, 2020. The parties discussed several items including promotion of the PDSB, training and expenditure management. The next BERC meeting is in May 2020.	
5. Governance Transfer of CJL	The Employer confirmed that the transfer of governance to the CJL Consortium is on track for August 2020. OPSEU requested an update on the benefits package that the CJL Consortium will provide to staff.	The Employer will follow up and report back before the next meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. MERC Co-Chair – 1 day off per month	The Employer is open to considering requests for this type of paid union leave on a case by case basis.	
2. ERC Level 2 Training	The April 1, 2020 training date has been cancelled. The parties will register for a training session scheduled in the fall.	
NEW ITEMS	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1. Safe Driving Responsibilities	On February 27, 2020 a memo was sent from the CAO to all Ministry of Education staff regarding Safe Driving Responsibilities in OPS vehicles.	The Employer will share the memo with the union.
2. Discussion regarding pandemic	The Employer provided an update on working conditions for employees that are working remotely or on-site during the pandemic.	


 Daryl O'Grady, for the Union

 March 26, 2020

Original Signed By Sanaul Haque
 Sanaul Haque, for Management

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