



Paramedic Services Section 21 Committee Meeting Minutes

@ 675 Cochrane Drive, Toronto

Date: June 4th, 2025

Time: 1:00pm – 4:30pm

Attendance:

(Members)	Ian Nash (co-chair) Colin Heise (co-chair) Dave Doran Marc Goudie Stephen Adlington	CUPE Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs OPSEU Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs SEIU
(Observers)	Dawn Clinch Don Pierce Natasha D'Angelo Aparna Sen-Hobbins	Public Services Health and Safety Association Senior Field Manager, Ministry of Health Workers Health and Safety Centre (WHSC) Manager, Ministry of Health
(Facilitator)	Julie Jeurond	Provincial Specialist, MLITSD
(Guests)	Jon Lee Mike Maddock	Strategy Advisor, Prevention Division, MLITSD CUPE
(Regrets)	Harri Hamalainen Mike Nunn Shane Muir Nancy Bradshaw	Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs Unifor Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs Strategy Advisor, Prevention Division, MLITSD

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

The Paramedic Section 21 meeting was held at 675 Cochrane Drive, Toronto. The meeting is co-chaired by I. Nash and Colin Heise.

2.0 April 2025 Minutes and Action Items

The minutes from the April 2025 meeting were prepared and distributed to the members for comment then provided to the co-chairs for approval. The minutes were finalized, approved and provided to PSHSA for posting to their website.

3.0 Roundtable and New Business

I. Nash

- Shortage of vehicles in Ontario – long lead time of get new vehicles.
- Staffing – shortages across the province this year. People are working excessive hours and staffing in the North is a challenge. May need to offer incentives for folks to work in the North.
- Water rescues – the Working Around Water GN is in approvals.
- WSIB and exposure forms – importance of filling out these forms in a timely fashion.

- Mercedes introducing new diesel ambulance.

M. Maddock

- Paramedics working multiple services is trending up.
- Number of individuals enrolling to become paramedics is increasing but number of those passing the AEMCA is not climbing at the same rate.
- ACP exams are increasing and pass rate is still steady.

M. Goudie

- MPDS went live early in February and have seen a significant drop in missed meals and shift overruns.

D. Doran

- Mental health – Copenhagen Stress Assessment Survey coming for all members with a commitment to deal with outcome of survey results.
- OHCOW did ventilation assessment – in the process of implementing some of the recommendations. Pushing for other locals within OPSEU to have ventilation assessments completed in their buildings.
- ACO group within OPSEU have created their own working group and will now meet separate from ambulance division.
- CACC in Kingston were able to get 100% mental health coverage.
- In the process of registering for a multi-site agreement with MLITSD.

N. D'Angelo

- In the process of setting up a dedicated paramedic page on the WHSC website.
- Discussed putting together a survey for cancer prevention.

D. Clinch

- SOLGEN is strongly recommending that public safety organizations update their PTSD prevention plans.
- Following the meeting Dawn provided info to members via email related to both PTSD Prevention Plan information, as well as information on to share feedback related to updates to the firstrespondersfirst.ca website.



MHS4PSP Grant
Program Guideline 2

D. Pierce

- MPDS – central east is completed, went live in Oshawa a couple weeks ago. Timmins going live in August, then to Hamilton/Cambridge, then to southwest then back to north and finish MPDS by May 2027, one year in advance.
- Highlighted professionalism by the Communications Officers – there will be a focus during Paramedics Week especially on the importance of mental health.
- Telephony – NG911 was to go live in March 2025 but has been delayed. CRTC made the decision that many of the services across the country are not ready to go.
- OPP centres are starting a task force for major situations. They would open up a second communications centre.

- Continuation of Operational Plans (COOP) for all the CACC's looking at call balancing so as not to overtax certain call centres.

J. Lee

- Expanded CPO powers, how does that engagement look? Prevention Division staff will regularly attend meetings, get to know the members and gain an understanding of what the committee is addressing (e.g., issues, priorities, etc.) to better collaborate and support the work. We'll bring the prevention lens to the discussions and to the development of resources, flag items for the CPO and look for opportunities to increase alignment with the occupational health and safety strategy.
- This is expected to be the final year of the Prevention Works Strategy a new strategy is planned for the spring of 2026. We want to obtain your feedback on the upcoming Strategy and we'll be engaging with you in the fall to hear your ideas.

A. Sen-Hobbins

- ALSPCS standards 5.4 – in force as of June 2nd.
- PCP Control Substances – hoping to have something out by the end of the year.
- Documentation Standards were published on April 24th and in force date will be September 2nd.
- 700 registered to write exams in June.
- ID cards – members noted that medics are waiting on cards to get on the road. Asking if the number could be provided to get medics out faster.

4.0 Guidance Notes

The following GNs are currently in approvals:

- 1) Working On or Around Water
- 2) Limiting Exposure to Gases
- 3) Heat Stress

GNs ready for final comment/review:

- Improving Air Quality in Paramedic Services Building (Dave and Stephen)(this GN replaces/updates GN #3 - Reducing Diesel Exhaust in EMS Stations)

Other GNs in development or under review:

- Cold Stress (Dave and Marc)
- GN #6 - Motor Vehicle Advanced Technology Hazards (being updated) (Colin, Dave and Harri)
- GN #9 - Workplace Violence and Harassment (being updated) (Ian and Colin) – discussed separating this GN into two.
- GN #2 - EMS Vehicle Occupant Safety – review of this existing GN (Stephen, Mike and Shane)
- GN #4 – EMS Worker Exposure to Hazardous Drugs (Marc and Dave)

Potential New Topics for GNs:

- Electric Shock Discharge
- JHSCs and the IRS

5.0 Meeting Adjourned. Upcoming 2025 meeting dates:

- September 10 & 11
- November 19 & 20