



# Ontario Construction Users Council

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING September 13, 2019

Location: Centre for Health and Safety Innovation

Board Room E - 5110 Creekbank Road, Mississauga, ON

### **Member:**

Eric Hopkins	Metrolinx
Michael Nieznalski	Toronto Transit Commission
Scott Randall	NOVA Chemical
Danny Chui	Exhibition Place, City of Toronto
Harry Banikin	H Banikin & Assoc.
Doug Randall	Black & McDonald
Robin Granger	Retired
Gino Squeo	E S Fox Ltd.
Cleavon Emilio-Luis	Dumas Contracting Ltd
Ian Cunningham	COCA
Tracey Smith	OPG
Kevin Chui	OPG
Dan Arnott	McIntosh Perry

### **Guest:**

Alex Ewing	George Brown College
Michael Felice	George Brown College
Alec Farquhar	Centre for Research in Work Disability Policy
Dr. Ron Saunders	Institute for Work & Health
Dr. Emile Tompa	Institute for Work & Health

### **1. Opening Remark by the Chair, Introduction and Safety Moment**

Eric Hopkins, Chair of OCUC, started the meeting at 8:41AM with the safety moment. This case was in a confined location in North Sea. There was an original process and that process was modified for the pipe line to move a gas instead of a type of fluid. Due to the design change, the emergency condition changed. That safety system was tested routinely only to the original design process (oil) but not to the modified condition (natural gas) and was not tested for the change. A maintenance work to a secondary pump was not fully complete and a blind flange was used temporary instead. However, the flange was not fully tighten. That night, the system went into production of natural gas. The main pump failed and the secondary pump was turned on; pumping gas through a leaking blind flange. The safety moment is: when a process design is change, the safety system has to be changed too. We should always think about risk when we change something or procedures in a system. He then asked the group to introduce themselves.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda, as presented to the February 14th meeting, be approved and the Chair be authorized to suspend the regular order of business.

**Motion to approve the Council agenda; Moved by Robin G and Seconded by Gino S. Motion carried.**

### **3. Approval of Council Minutes April 5, 2019**

Minutes were sent to all members by emails over a week ago and no comment was received.

**Motion to approve the Council minutes as amended; Moved by Harry B and Seconded by Cleavon E-L. Motion carried..**

### **4. Presentation I: Skilled Trades: Embracing Technology to Engage the Next Generation Greg Thede, Sr. Construction Executive – Nuclear E.S. Fox Limited**

Greg Thede is the Sr. Construction Executive – Nuclear and he joined E.S. Fox Limited in August 2018. Among other responsibilities Greg has four areas of responsibility including, Client Relationship Management, Business Development, Industry and Community Outreach – including Indigenous Relations and Innovation and Technology.

Greg has held progressively senior level roles within Supply Chain, Project Management, Commercial Strategy and Business Development over the past 15 years in the nuclear industry working for Bruce Power and OPG. Prior to his career in Nuclear, Greg has experience in various industries including Manufacturing, Defence, Automotive and software development for the digital advertising industry. He has travelled extensively and conducted business internationally while established and building long-term strategic relationships for various organizations. Greg lived in Germany for 2 years in support a growth initiative for Volvo AB.

Greg has a Mechanical Engineering Diploma from Fanshawe College in London, Ontario and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. In addition, Greg sits as the Chairman of the Board for the School Screening Association, which is a non-for-profit, providing students screening for both hearing and vision to support of maximizing their full potential.

Please refer to the OCUC website for the slid presentation

### **5. Subcommittee Report**

#### **5.1 Education –**

Robin G, Chair of Education Committee, has invited George Brown College students who are studying in related to construction to participate in our council meetings. Alex Ewing, professor and Michael Felice the student will join the meeting later after their class this morning. George Brown does offer construction safety program.

#### **5.2 Health and Safety**

Michael N, H & S subcommittee chair, reported the information as follows:

Update on the 2019 MOL September report to PLMHSC - MOL REPORT TO LABOUR-MANAGEMENT NETWORK –

Section 1: For June 1 – July 31, 2019: Fatality – 2; Critical Injury – 53 totalling 55. As compared to the same period last year of 6 and 54 totalling 60 respectively.

Section 2: Recent new in Ministry of Labour as follows:

Healthy Workers in Healthy Workplaces: Musculoskeletal disorders and respiratory hazards blitz;

Suspended access equipment blitz;

Manual materials handling; and

Results: New small business registrations and internal responsibility systems;

### Section 3:

Court Bulletin 1 – A construction company in Maple Ontario which had a prior health and safety conviction in 2014, was fined \$200,000 after a worker was killed in March 27 of 2017 when a concrete panel fell from a flatbed truck while it was being transferred by a crane and hoist in a commercial building at Queens Quay East, Toronto. The company involved in commercial and residential construction activities;

Court Bulletin 2 – Death of a worker after falling into the hopper of a concrete pumper in January of 2017, results in \$130,000 fine for a concrete company of Toronto, which provides concrete for the construction industry;

Court Bulletin 3 - Critical injury results in \$50,000 fine for Kitchener company that manufactures steel nails;

Court Bulletin 4 - Ottawa construction company fined \$70,000 after backhoe hits worker, a construction company that specializes in the industrial, commercial and institutional construction sector; and

Court Bulletin 5 - Death of worker in Tottenham construction project results in \$130,000 fine to a Japanese company which is an engineering company that develops, designs and manufactures automation equipment for automated press and machine lines and provides production start-up and service support.

Section 4: Critical Injury for the period from January 1 to July 31, 2019 was 170.

Section 5: Fatal Injuries for the period from January 1 to July 31, 2019 was 5 (3 due to fall).

Furthermore, WSIB AGM is coming up soon on September 25<sup>th</sup> at MTCC. Michael continued to cite a dangerous incident on a case of TTC Scarborough new bus facility construction site where a contractor was almost killed as he fell and pulled out from the bucket of a boom truck 30 feet above the ground but was hung and suspended from his harness just before he hit the ground.

Gino S mentioned that fall from ladders continues to be strikingly high.

### **5.3 Labour Relations**

Eric H reported that all trades has settled except Tile and Terrazzo union

### **5.4 Board Report**

Eric H told the council that the progress of the new website is going very well and the board had a chance to view the early stage of the development and he would be excited to show the council its production hopefully in the next council meeting.

## **6. Presentation II – Pan-Canadian strategy for Disability and Work: How can it be of most value to employers?**

### **Alec Farquhar, Dr. Ron Saunders and Dr. Emile Tompa**

Alec Farquhar is a lawyer with a long career involved with disability issues. He is Chair, Engagement, for the Centre for Research in Work Disability Policy and member of the planning committee for Disability and Work Canada. Previously, Alec was Director of the Office of the Worker Adviser (OWA), an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Labour which advises and represents non-unionized workers in their workers' compensation claims, return to work and appeals. Alec came to the OWA from the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers where he was Managing Director, and before that from the Ontario Ministry of Labour where he was the Director of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch. A graduate of Princeton University, Alec also has an L.L.B. from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He has served on the Executive of the Ontario Bar

Association Workers' Compensation Section and has received the section's Ron Ellis award for excellence.

Dr. Ron Saunders is an Adjunct Scientist at the Institute for Work & Health (IWH) with a focus on knowledge transfer and exchange (KTE) and research on vulnerable workers in a changing labour market. He retired at the end of 2017 as Director, KTE and Senior Scientist at IWH. Previous positions include Vice-President, Research, Canadian Policy Research Networks and Assistant Deputy Minister of Policy, Communications and Labour Management Services, Ontario Ministry of Labour. Ron also spent time in academia, teaching at the University of Toronto and the Queen's University School of Policy Studies. He has a Ph.D. in Economics (Harvard University, 1978).

Dr. Emile Tompa is a senior scientist at the Institute for Work & Health. Tompa is a labour and health economist with an MBA from the University of British Columbia, an MA in economics from the University of Toronto, and a PhD in economics from McMaster University. He is also director of the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy, a seven-year initiative recently funded by a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Grant. Tompa's research interests include the consequences of occupational health and safety system design on the health and well-being of individuals and populations, the economic evaluation of workplace interventions for improving the health and well-being of workers, the economic burden of adverse health conditions, and the analysis of disability policy systems.

Please refer to OCUC website for the slid presentation

**7. New Business & Next Meeting – October 25, 2019**

**8. Adjournment – Council meeting was adjourned at 11.50 AM**

**NOTE: The above minutes were intended to reflect only the general discussions at the time in the meeting. However, they may not necessary had been recorded fully and exactly what were discussed. Please contact Danny Chui within 72 hours to report any discrepancy after receiving these minutes. Minutes are generally posted on the OCUC website [www.theocuc.com](http://www.theocuc.com) after they were approved.**

**Minutes prepared by:**

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