

ARTICLE 29 MINUTES

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY / SOLICITOR GENERAL
November 23rd, 2010

Attending:

MANAGEMENT MEMBERS:

Julie Spiteri Co-Chair (*Strategic HR*)
Steve Martin (*Superintendent of Motor Vehicles*)
Elenore Clark (*Community Corrections*)

GUEST OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERS :

None

UNION MEMBERS:

Dean Purdy (*Corrections/Sheriff Services*)
Mike Eso (*BCGEU Staff*)
Judy Fox-McGuire (*Corrections*)
Ron McCabe (*Corrections*)

Recording Secretary:

Melanie Sinclair (*Management Services & ODT*)

1. Introductions

- Last meeting minutes accepted and adopted.
- Changes to Community Corrections section.

2. H1N1 (Union)

- Dean asked what the plan is for next year.
- Elenore responded that Canada Health is working with Dr. Yamanaka regarding the vaccinations for correctional staff.
- No separate H1N1 shot it is contained in the flu shot. It contains 2 A strains and 1 B strain.
- Last year, due to the extreme shortage of the vaccine, there was an order by the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) that determined the order in which the vaccine was administered. This is not the case this year and clinics have commenced for both staff and inmates.
- Dean asked whether people are advised that H1N1 is included in the flu shot.
- Julie said the nurses and doctors are required to make sure the patient knows what they are being given.

3. Article 29 - Community Corrections Sub Committee (All)

- Committee agreed to move this item to the "standing item" section.
- Sub-Committee met in September and the next meeting is not set yet.
- Judy will set up meeting and would like to alternate months from this committee meetings.
- Sub-committee membership remains unchanged.

4. WES Scores – KRCC (Union)

- Dean met with managers about the WES scores at Kamloops.
- Managers are committed to addressing the WES scores.

- Dean expressed concern about the morale of staff at KRCC. Elenore said there is a plan to be developed to address the WES scores, solid solutions will take time.
 - Mike emphasized that there are a few problematic places he would like to see plans implemented quickly as WES survey is coming up again.
 - Concern was expressed by union committee members that WES Scores have been communicated over the last few years and that people may start losing faith in the process.
- It was reiterated that the new Deputy Minister is very committed to healthy work environments.

5. Tamil Migrants (Union)

- Dean brought forward that Occupational Health Specialist, Brad Buck and BCGEU Occupational Health representative Shelia Moyer have been together working to ensure there is a proper Exposure Control Plan in place which includes a train the trainer approach.

6. NFPC Staff Assault

- Context provided by the union committee members of a recent staff assault and concerns expressed by the union over an increase in violence. Request brought forward, that the minutes reflect that union committee members would like to see 2 staff per unit and would like staff to be provided with OC spray in all living units.
- Dean indicated his intent to raise these issues at the upcoming 3.1 meeting.
- Regarding the recent assault Elenore (employer committee member) brought forward that Corrections Branch conducts reviews in all such cases and considers staff safety to be paramount.
- Dean brought forward that he has requested a meeting with the Honourable Rich Coleman (see Item #8).

7. Bill C-25: Impacts of Federal Crime Legislation.

- Union representative brought forward the need for 2 new jails given the impact of this new legislation. Significant concerns were brought forward regarding increasing inmate counts and staff safety.
- Discussion at the committee regarding this complex issue of balancing budget constraints with public and employee safety expectations. Senior leaders of the ministry are committed to staff safety and public safety.

8.

Union Ministers Meeting

- Dean indicated that a meeting is planned with Minister Rich Coleman.

9. Staffing Levels Surrey Pre-Trail Expansion.

- Union representation (Dean) brought forward item. Would like clarification on the staffing ratio for this expansion. Plus question regarding whether Union will be involved in risk assessment & safety design etc.

- The union feels that they have not been properly consulted in the design and process

10. Overcrowding and Gangs (*I think this was the agenda item*)

- Union representative (Dean) brought forward the need for two new jails. A statement was released in the media, possible locations. Clearwater and Lumby for facilities. Would like to see two staff per living unit.

11. Next Meeting.

- Commitment made to look at Terms of Reference and revise. Committee members asked to review the document and consider what it should reflect?
 - Clarify Sub Committees and which agenda items should be raised at the sub-committees and which items are appropriate at Article 29 meetings.
- Dean requested that Lori Wannamaker be extended an invitation to attend a future meeting.

Final Remarks/Closing.

Next meeting: January 25th, 2011

All future meetings will be the last Tuesday of every other month, alternating locations of 910 Government St, and 2994 Douglas St.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00am