



# Ontario Construction Users Council

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING April 5, 2019

Location: 5110 Creebank Road, Mississauga, ON

### **Member:**

|                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Eric Hopkins        | Metrolinx                         |
| Michael Nieznalski  | Toronto Transit Commission        |
| Scott Randall       | Nova Chemicals                    |
| Danny Chui          | Exhibition Place, City of Toronto |
| Harry Banikin       | H Banikin & Assoc.                |
| Doug Randall        | Black & McDonald                  |
| Robin Granger       | Retiree                           |
| Brian Asselin       | Ontario Power Generation          |
| Cleavon Emilio-Luis | Dumas                             |
| Greg Jackson        | AECON                             |
| Dylan Howe          | The State Group                   |
| Andy Blacklsorow    | The State Group                   |
| Ian Cunningham      | COCA                              |

### **Guest:**

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Brenda McCabe | University of Toronto |
| Balarama Iyer | WSP                   |
| Wallace Lee   | HDR                   |
| Nimit Mittal  | HDR                   |

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

Eric Hopkins started the meeting at 8:45 AM and he asked the group to introduce themselves. For safety moment, Eric said due to snow melting, sometimes you don't know what is underneath those melting snow and he got a flat tire the other day. Other members expressed the same experiences. .

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

The agenda, as presented to the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, be approved and the Chair be authorized to suspend the regular order of business.

**Motion to approve the Council agenda; Moved by Harry B and Seconded by Scott R.**

**Motion carried.**

### **3. Approval of Council Minutes February 15, 2019**

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

**Motion to approve the Council minutes; Moved by Scott R and Seconded by Rob G**

**Motion carried.**

### **4. Presentation I: 3 D Construction Printing – Balarama Iyer – WSP**

After graduation Ralf joined Buro Happold Consulting Engineers in Manchester and worked with them until he joined Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd. (RJC) in 2001. Ralf has worked on a variety of

major transit projects including extensive renovations of historic transit station buildings to new greenfield maintenance facilities. His seventeen years of structural and prime consulting practice has provided a range of experience that enable him to understand his client's needs and their operations. Ralf is particularly interested in the functionality and operations of a building and has a keen eye for design solutions with construction staging in mind.

Craig graduated with distinction from Carleton University with a Bachelor in Civil Engineering and joined Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd. (RJC) in 2006 in Structural Engineering. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba. Craig has extensive experience acting as a Project Engineer for various restoration and rehabilitation projects. In addition, Craig is currently fulfilling the role of Project Engineer for ongoing structural restoration work at the historic Casa Loma facility and Union Station Train Shed Renewal.

Please refer to the OCUC website for the slid presentation.

## **5. Subcommittee Report**

### **5.1 Education – Update on U of T and OCUC Research Project**

Robin G will be contacting a few colleges to ask them if they would send a couple of students to attend our council meeting. The goal is to establish link with the colleges to let students understanding the construction industry, its safety standard, its work environment and so on.

Dr. Brenda McCabe reported that they are collecting data form companies on safety. The idea is to create a bench marking in safety in the construction industry that end up with a tool to be posted in the web site so that companies can put their data in to know how they do compare to their peers.

### **5.2 Health and Safety**

Michael N, H & S subcommittee chair, brought up some updates for health and safety report: working at height training evaluation – looking at its effectiveness – it will be done through Institute for work and health; MOL Focus inspection – previously known as bliss – housekeeping, access and egress, planning and supervision on working at height.

Update on the 2019 MOL report to PLMHSC - MOL REPORT TO LABOUR-MANAGEMENT NETWORK – for the period from January 1 to 31, 2019 as follows

Section 1: Month Fatality was 3; Critical Injury was 21; total 24 for the period as compared to the same period last year of 1 and 27 totalling 28 respectively.

Section 2: Topics from “What’s New” section: Ontario’s health and safety training heading to 21st century; Human Trafficking Awareness Day – February 22; Inspectors wanted; RSI awareness day – February 28; Revised and new ergonomics resources; Initiative results: Mobile equipment in mining; and Initiative results: Warehouse and big-box retail.

Section 3:

Court Bulletin 1 – Second Conviction for Mushroom Farm's Failure to Protect Worker - A collision between a mobile pallet truck and a reversing forklift resulted in critical injuries to a worker. This is the second time the company has been convicted. On April 29, 2017 a worker was seriously injured when a small mobile pallet truck collided with a reversing forklift in an indoor hallway at the workplace. Both vehicles were operated by the employees. It was later found that the company had not developed or implemented any policies, procedures or training about which vehicles had the right of way. The Ministry of Labour's investigation found that the three workers involved in the incident had differing beliefs about which vehicle had the right of way. Following a guilty plea, the company was fined \$90,000. The court also imposed a 25-percent victim fine surcharge as required by the Provincial Offences Act.

Court Bulletin 2 – Worker's Death in Tank Container Results in \$105,000 Fine for a Company - A worker was found unconscious inside a tank that carried nitrogen. The worker died from

asphyxiation. Two workers were performing the wash of a customer's tank container that carried nitrogen. Nitrogen displaces oxygen and can be an asphyxiation hazard in an enclosed space. Neither worker was required to enter the tank to complete the wash. One of the workers briefly left the workplace and returned. The worker who had remained was found unconscious in the tank. Emergency medical services were called but the worker could not be revived. The cause of death was determined by the coroner to be inert gas asphyxiation. There were no eye witnesses to the incident. The Ministry of Labour's investigation found the company's written plan did not adequately identify certain workplace hazards. In particular, an access point of a customer's container was not equipped with warning signs as to the oxygen-depleted atmosphere of the tank. The company committed the offence of failing as an employer to ensure the measures and procedures prescribed for the Confined Spaces regulation were carried out in the workplace. The regulation states that before any worker enters a confined space, the employer shall ensure an adequate written plan, including procedures for the control of hazards identified in the assessment, has been developed and implemented by a competent person for the confined space. Following a guilty plea, the company was fined \$105,000 and the court also imposed a 25-percent victim fine surcharge as required by the Provincial Offences Act.

Section 4 - Fatality & Critical Injury Year-to-Date Overview - Construction Sector – for the period January 1 to 31 of 2019, the fatality was 1 and critical injury 27 compared to 3 and 21 in the same period of 2018. These injuries were dominated by the reasons of fell, slipped, tripped, and struck and crushed by objects.

Harry B reported that WSIB is working on accreditation which is in final stage now and will be ready for 2020. There will be an incentive program in this initiative, up to 15% reduction in premium for large company and 10% for others. The accreditation has 36 elements to attain.

Ian C indicated that Skills Path of MOL, a program of uploading results from training providers where both workers and employers can check on their mandatory training records as well as non-mandatory training record. The only concern is that how to deal with workers who do not want their records being posted – under privacy right.

### **5.3 Labour Relations**

Robin R reported on contract negotiation that boiler maker had reached agreement for its contract for 2020-2025, two years head. Its existing contract does not end until 2020. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) has not been settled and many other unions usually follow IBW's contract. As well, IBEW has its standard "Me Too" clause. Hope to have someone to give more info tomorrow. The negotiation this time seems to be starting late and neither side seems to be urgently seeking for settlement. Many trades are still in the beginning stage of negotiation on contract agreements.

### **5.4 Recruitment and Board Report**

Eric H reported that the board approved last night a new company named Evolver & Echo to help OCUC to redevelop the website and changing the platform for easy access and manage. He was hoping to have it complete by the fall. Members will be able to log in and see all the presentations in the past. The potential subjects for future speakers are cold water drilling and timber construction as well as others that Eric would be in contact with in the future in construction.

## **6. Presentation II – Transforming Toronto's Spaghetti Junction into a Complete Streets Solution - An innovative urban/active transportation design Nimit Mittal - Project Manager; HDR Canada**

Nimit Mittal is a registered Professional Engineer with the Province of Ontario and Alberta. He is currently working with HDR as a Project Manager with over 15 years of industry experience in Project Management, Quality Management, Transportation Planning, Highway design, Construction Staging Design & Contract Administration work. He has worked on many design build projects in the United States and Canada. He is also involved on design projects which includes “Complete Street Approach” theme and how the theme can best be incorporated into the standard design practice for road design for local municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area.

Nimit believes that by taking “Simple Communication” approach can resolve major challenges that we all face during the project life cycle.

Please refer to OCUC website for the slid presentation

**7. New Business & Next Meeting – June 5, 2019**

There was no new business

**8. Adjournment – Council meeting was adjourned at 11:47AM**

**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:**

**Danny Chui, P. Eng., FEC**

**Executive Director**

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