

Ontario One Call

Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday August 09, 2021
Location: Teleconference
Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm

In Attendance: Bav Mistry (Chair), Nectar Tampacopoulos (Vice Chair), Katie Gotsman (Secretary), Eric Boere, Nick DeStefano, Chris Faith, Reza Habibollahi, Terry Hall, Andrew Kottelenberg, Michael McGivery, Jason Meyer, Malcolm Robertson and Josie Trapani

Also in Attendance: Ben Hamilton, Ian Simpson, Brandon Denton and Cory Officer (Note Taker)

Absent:
Absent with Regrets:

1. Meeting Opening – 10 minutes

Bav Mistry

- 1.1 Call to Order – 10:03am
- 1.2 Confirmation of Quorum – Confirmed
- 1.3 Safety Moment (*Next Month – Eric Boere*)
- 1.4 Review of previous minutes (*Attach 1 – 3 pages*)
- 1.5 Motion to approve previous meeting minutes as written

Motioned by: Malcolm Robertson
Seconded: Reza Habibollahi
In favour: All
Opposed: None

2. Chair Items

Bav Mistry

3. Matters for Discussion

3.1 Bill 8 - Update – 15 minutes

Ben Hamilton

The new Ministry of Government and Consumer Services Minister has asked various entities for ideas on the red tape legislation for this fall. Red tape bills are housekeeping bills or minor changes to a large number of pieces of legislation to facilitate some of their activity (getting rid of red tape to help things move along more smoothly). They are not for fundamental changes, more to remove small barriers.

A letter is being put together (reviewed by the Board Chair and Chair of HR & Governance); a request to work with the Ministry of Government & Consumer Services on potential amendments to Bill 8 that would facilitate dedicated locator.

Some things that may be included in the red tape bill that pertain to Bill 8 could possibly include:

- Clarification of the obligation of the excavator to pay for dedicated locator.
- Would the Minister or Ontario One Call be able to require that certain projects or types of work go to dedicated locator (i.e. all designated broadband projects must go to dedicated locator)?
- How would members who are required to use dedicated locator get together and determine who is going to do the locate? How would this be resolved?

These three issues could be considered, there will be more discussion on the red tape bill with this Committee as well as the Board of Directors.

Next year will be the 10th anniversary of the bill and there have been some initial discussions with the ministry about a more fundamental review, which is appropriate after 10 years.

3.2 Locate Industry Reset – 1.5 hours (Attach 2 – TBD)

Bav Mistry/Michael McGivery

A subcommittee was formed to discuss the locate industry, the subcommittee came up with six fundamental areas that could have significant improvement to assist the industry. The six areas are as follows:

- **Ontario One Call Authority – Utilities & Excavators as it Pertains to Locate Deliveries**

An opportunity to change the by-laws and legislation to give Ontario One Call the authority over the entire process (utilities and excavators) governing both parties to ensure there is a cohesive partnership. Proper governance for locate request submissions and the delivery/execution of locates and associated times lines.

Require excavators to report damages to members and establish progressive discipline for excavators.

Code of conduct for members and excavators, all parties should be treated with respect.

Thorough forecasting.

- **Define Project Locate(s) vs. Traditional Homeowner Locates**

Separating all locate requests into Project Locate(s) (Large & Medium) and/or Traditional Locate(s)

Allow members to set up projects on behalf of excavators with a three-step billing model.

Mandatory virtual pre-site meeting.

Pre-registration process for a dedicated project locator approach.

- **Introduction of “New” Excavator Locate Submission Requirements**

As-laid drawings, excavation locations or any other pertinent information through the Ontario One Call Project Notification Online Portal within a minimum number of days’ notice of planned excavation date.

Excavator to provide excavation boundaries instead of project boundaries.

Mandate and enforce a minimum set of criteria to be provided by excavators to deem a locate request actionable prior to the members being notified. Allow the Operations Committee to determine the minimum set of criteria.

- **Compensation for Locate Deliveries**

Require members to provide billing information to Ontario One Call. For all non-homeowner requests, excavators are to provide the applicable member utilities billing information; members to invoice other members for the cost of locates.

Ontario One Call to charge the average cost of a locate across Ontario and disperse the funds received to the utilities based on locate volume. Ensuring that utilities are investing the right amount of funds into developing and increasing the locator pool across Ontario.

Complete a locate cost analysis every 3 years to ensure a fair market price for locates.

Engineers become members of Ontario One Call instead of circumventing the system and allowing them to order pre-engineering locates. This will assist with avoiding unnecessary excavation locates, as the pre-engineering will be completed ahead of the project execution.

- **Compliance & Enforcement**

Implement target locate completion dates:

- Tradition Homeowner Locate Requests** - 5 days when reasonable
- Medium Project Locate Requests** - initiate within 5 days when reasonable
- Large Project Locate Requests** - Mandatory virtual pre-site meet

Refund excavators for the cost of locates if deemed actionable by the LSP and not delivered within a reasonable timeframe.

Continue to utilize the proposed compliance based locate delivery payment model for Homeowner requests.

- **Increasing Locator Resource Pool**

Ontario One Call to collaborate with Ontario College of Trades and Provincial Unions to recognize locating as a trade. The skill set is vital and can have serious consequences resulting in property damage, worker injury and/or death with energized utilities.

Next steps would be endorsement from the Operations Committee on the six items recommended that would be presented to the HR Governance & Nomination Committee (a sub-committee of the Board of Directors).

Motion to approve and submit the Industry Improvements recommendations to the HR Governance & Nominations Committee

Motioned by: Michael McGivery
Seconded: Nectar Tampacopoulos
In favour: All
Opposed: None

3.3 Review Action Register - (Attach 3 – 1 spreadsheet) – 20 minutes

Bav Mistry

See action register.

4. Round Table – 25 minutes

All

5. Meeting Finalization - 5 minutes

Bav Mistry

5.1 Confirmation of next meeting date/location

September 09, 2021 at 9:00am

Teleconference

5.2 Meeting Close

Motion to Adjourn – 11:36am

Motioned by: Nectar Tampacopoulos

Seconded: Terry Hall

In favour: All

Opposed: None

