



1. RAC MEDICAL COMMITTEE MEETING DETAILS

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| Meeting Location: | Conference Call | Meeting Date: | September 17, 2020 |
| | | Meeting Time: | 13:00 hours |
| Meeting Notes prepared by: | Kim Buffone | Meeting Duration: | 1 hour |
| Attendees | | Absent, with regrets | Invitees (Special Guests) |
| Gina Stirpe, CN (Chair) Lisa Trueman, CP (Vice Chair) Robert Gaudet exo Caroline Healey, RAC Peter Bedrossian, RAC | | André Houde, GWCI Gurpreet Bola, Metrolinx Marie-Claude Laporte, VIA Rail Magdy Fahmy, RAC | |

2. MEETING AGENDA

| Item No. | Item | Comments |
|----------|--|----------|
| 1. | Welcome & Introductions | |
| 2. | Review of Agenda | |
| 3. | Review of Minutes of Last Conference Call (June 9, 2020) | |
| 4. | Review Action Items | |
| 5. | MAG Report | |
| 6. | COVID-19 | |
| 7. | Budget 2020-2021 | |
| 8. | SOMC Report | |
| 9. | Other Business | |
| 10. | Next Meeting | |

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Welcome and introductions was provided by Ms. Stirpe. Ms. Healey introduced herself to the group, she joined the RAC in July as Executive Vice President and General Counsel, she is in charge of the Operations department, Regulatory Affairs staff and the Public and Corporate Affairs department.

2. Review of Agenda

- The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

3. **Review of Minutes of Last Conference Call (June 9, 2020)**

- The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

4. **Review of Action Items**

- Past action items were discussed and updated.

5. **MAG Report**

- Ms. Stirpe stated the MAG had not completed the 2019-2020 Plan of Work. The work was supposed to be completed in 2020 but due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the activities of the Medical Advisory Group (MAG) have been suspended until further notice. The activities of MAG will hopefully resume in 2021. Ms. Stirpe to ask Dr. Lambros for a budget update for the work completed thus far in 2020.

Medical Advisory Group (MAG) 2020 Plan of Work

Costing for the following workplan amounts to a total of \$23,500 out of \$25,000 approved by the Board in 2019. Due to shifting priorities resulting from the pandemic, MAG has yet to incur any costs to date as originally planned below.

Dr. Lambros had requested an additional \$2,500 for the 2020 Medical Advisory Group budget to review the Hearing Aide section of the current Hearing Guidelines.

1. Subsection 4.7 Diabetes (with possible expansion to include other endocrine disorders) Final Review by Diabetologist or Endocrinologist and Publication

After the Medical Advisory Group has reviewed Dr. Garand's work and recommendations, Dr. Lambros anticipates engaging a Diabetologist or Endocrinologist to conduct a final review of Subsection 4.7 Diabetes. Dr. Lambros envisions reserving \$7,500 for the Diabetologist or Endocrinologist to complete the review. If the Diabetologist or Endocrinologist is able to commit to an expanded project within the expected budget, Dr. Lambros would like to include other endocrine disorders in this subsection and to rename this subsection "4.7 Endocrine Disorders".

Total anticipated spending for 2020 = \$7,500.00.

2. Subsection 4.4 Neurological Disorders, Phase 2 Completion

No work has been done for Phase 1 or Phase 2 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Lambros anticipates a cost of \$2,000 each for Dr. Oyekanmi, Dr. Adebayo, Dr. Cutbill and Dr. Lambros for the completion of Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Total anticipated spending for 2020 for Phase 2 = \$8,000.00.

3. **4.4 Neurological Disorders, Phase 1. and Phase 2. Final Review by Neurologists and Publication**

The aim is for Phase 1 and Phase 2 to be reviewed by a Neurologists before publication, anticipated sometime in 2021.

Total anticipated spending for 2020 for the review of Phase 1 and Phase 2 = \$8,000.00.

6. **COVID-19**

- Committee members discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Railways. Since mid-March railways have had to implement protocols and best practices to help support employees. Pandemic response plans were updated to include COVID-19. Some members created a pandemic line for employees with 24/7 access. Other Railways created a COVID-19 information Website.

7. **Budget 2020-2021**

- The Committee discussed the budget and the Plan of Work for 2020. The SOMC and RAC Board of Directors approved the budget of \$25,000 in December 2019. \$1,000 will have to be trimmed from the last proposed 2020 Plan of Work.
- The MAG to review the plan of work for 2020 and provide an update of the work to be completed in Q3 and Q4.

8. **SOMC Report**

- Mr. Bedrossian stated the SOMC report is due by Monday, September 21st. He also reminded the committee that Transport Canada's temporary exemption to requirements of Paragraph 4.1 c) of the *Railway Medical Rules* for positions of Critical Safety are due to expire on September 20, 2020. Companies must organize Medical Fitness for Duty assessment every five years until the age of forty, and every three years thereafter until retirement, or until that person is no longer employed in a Safety Critical Position.

9. **Other Business**

| Action Item No. | Action Item | Responsibility | Target Date |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--|
| 1 | Draft high-level information letter to government agencies and unions regarding updates to the <i>Railway Medical Rules Handbook</i> . | Lisa Trueman | The letter will be drafted and reviewed by the Committee as soon as an update to the <i>Railway Medical Rules Handbook</i> is completed. |

10. **Next Meeting**

- Ms. Buffone to send Committee members a Doodle Poll with suggested dates for January/February 2021.