



# Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee

June 18, 2013 Meeting Minutes

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Minutes prepared by  
VIHRC Vice President Virginia Vaillancourt

Released Unofficially: June 19, 2013  
**Adopted Officially: September 12, 2013**

## **Attendance**

**Boardroom:** Bert Farwell, Daniel Girard, Jim Sidel, Michael Doerfler, Michelle Ratsoy, Paul Jones, Virginia Vaillancourt & PSAC Rep: Dave Jackson.

**Teleconference:** None. (Not Available due to new PSAC Office under construction.)

**Translators:** Mary Butterfield & Jen Ferris.

**Regrets:** Rezia Khan & Tracy Shudo.

## **Meeting – Call to Order**

VIHRC Acting President Michael Doerfler called this meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

## **Roundtable Introduction**

The members in the attendance did their own introduction to each other as part of the opening roundtable conversations.

## **Old Business for Review**

### **Adoption of the April 18, 2013 VIHRC Minutes:**

A review of previous meeting minutes was not available at this time. The previous meeting minutes will be reviewed via email once received from VIHRC Recording Secretary Kay Ahmadi.

Concerns rose regarding the length of time since last meeting and the length of time for getting the minutes out. It was discussed that in the new VIHRC Bylaws which will be reviewed and voted on at our AGM in September where it states that the minutes will be done in a timely fashion after meetings.

## **New Business**

### **VIHRC Treasurer's Report:**

VIHRC Treasurer Daniel Girard provided a financial summary of the committee's chequing and equity accounts.

**Action:** VIHRC Treasurer will update the report and will send it to the VIHRC Acting President Michael Doerfler to be disseminated out to committee members for their review by email.

### **Human Rights General News:**

Document shared by VIHRC Acting President Michael Doerfler with committee of the Human Rights news which has been posted to the VIHRC Facebook group and Human Rights National Network (PSAC) page.

Document included information on:

- Transgender teen finds strength in hockey – May 17th 2013
- Number of complaints from aboriginal people and First Nations groups rises,

- says Canadian Human Rights Commission report – April 24, 2013
- Canadian double-amputee summits Mount Everest – May 30, 2013
- Canadian Blood Services allows gay men to donate – with a catch – May 22, 2013
- In a world grave human rights violations, unions play a critical role – April 23, 2013
- Former human rights chief abused employees, report finds – April 18, 2013

Discussion ensued on news shared about a girl who was posted to facebook group asking when she could become a boy. She has known since she was 2 years old. Is unable to go through the full process until 18 years of age. Discussion also held by committee on the transgender process.

**2013 VIHRC Budget:**

VIHRC Vice President Virginia Vaillancourt gave a short presentation on white board about what our VIHRC budget would or already has look like for this fiscal year of 2013.

This was a new process that is being introduced to all committees by PSACBC. VIHRC has decided that we would start annual budgeting in every annual general meeting for the following year. For example, upcoming September 12, 2013 Annual General Meeting – we will discuss 2014 Budget.

Based on previous fiscal year’s allotment; below is being proposed:

AGM	- \$300.00
Events	- \$200.00
Swag	- \$600.00
Donations	- \$350.00
Total:	\$1,450.00

**Motion:** Paul Jones motioned to accept the 2013 Budget.

**Seconded:** Bert Farwell

**Carried:** Unanimously

AGM Agenda Item: The 2014 budget will be set at the AGM September 12, 2013

**Victoria Pride Parade – July 7**

VIHRC Vice President Virginia Vaillancourt discussed about sending letter out to all locals and committees seeking donations for PRIDE Parade.



**Action:** Virginia Vaillancourt will work with Michael Doerfler to create letter to locals/committees.

Donations already received/being received to VIHRC:

- \$150.00 from UNDE Local
- \$200.00 from Victoria Area Council (received and given to VIHRC Treasurer)

Discussed balloons for pride. These will be organized and picked up on the day of pride July 7th.

1000 Buttons were ordered through DASC. Received on June 18th. Buttons shared with committee members in attendance. Awaiting invoice as it was not included with shipment. Buttons will be used for Pride, Labour Day Picnic and for the National Equity Conference as well as for future events until the supply is gone.

**Action:** Virginia Vaillancourt will follow up with DASC regarding the invoice and once received will send invoice to VIHRC Treasurer.

Beads – Virginia Vaillancourt ordered a total of 2,088 beads for Pride and they will arrive in the next 3-8 business days.

3 sets of 576 count beads at \$44.99 each & 3 sets of 120 count beads at \$29.99 each. Shipping and tax \$39.95 for a total of \$282.67.

**Motion:** Bert Farwell motioned to reimburse Virginia Vaillancourt for the cost of the beads.

**Seconded:** Jim Sidel.

**Carried:** Unanimously

**Action:** Virginia Vaillancourt will forward a copy of receipt for bead purchase to VIHRC Treasurer for the book records.

Paul Jones has registered VIHRC for the Pride parade and the booth. A cheque in the amount of \$45.00 is to be payable to Victoria Pride Society.

**Action:** VIHRC Treasurer Daniel Girard to write cheque to Victoria Pride Society in the amount of \$45.00.

**Action:** Once this cheque (\$45.00) is written; it will need to be mailed to PO Box 8607; Victoria, BC V8W 3S2

Victoria Pride Society is looking for volunteers to help with Pride week events. If you are available to assist; please see the information below.

1) Mary Anne, from the Victoria Film Festival, needs to fill several volunteer position during the evening party, on June 28, and late evening showings, on June 29 and 30. If you are interested in helping her out, please contact her directly at outreach@victoriafilmfestival.com

There are also a dozen positions available during the day and in the early evening. Please email Mary Anne for a complete list of what's available.

2) If you are interested in picking up another volunteer position (or exchanging one), and perhaps earning free movie passes or getting a free pride mug, read on...

Victoria Pride Society is looking for a group of volunteers to help with clean-up after the Film Festival party, which starts at 10pm on June 28th. It would be from about 2am (in the wee hours of June 29) until the place is cleaned up. Considering the late time, we are going to offer two free movie passes (for the Reel Queer movie of your choice on June 29 or 30) for any volunteer who participates in the late-night clean-up. Please let Joe Winkler know via email at joeinvictoria@shaw.ca if you would like to sign up for this shift.

Victoria Pride Society VP, Terry Froud, needs two very responsible adults (19+) to man the pop and water station at the beer garden, on July 7, from 1-6pm. You would still be able to enjoy the parade before your shift begins. It's a long shift, but you will be able to enjoy all the entertainment on the beer garden stage and all the comings-and-goings at the beer garden (entertainment in itself!). As an incentive, I will give these volunteers a souvenir Pride mug! Please let me know if you would like to sign up for this shift or trade your July 7 shift for this one.

### **New VIHRC Bylaws – Update:**

VIHRC subcommittee for VIHRC Bylaws was Bert Farwell, Michael Doerfler, Paul Jones & Rezia Khan.

VIHRC subcommittee met via email communications to work on bylaws for VIHRC. Bylaws are now in draft format and were shared with the committee members. The draft bylaws have been forwarded by Virginia Vaillancourt to the PSAC BC Regional Council By-Laws Committee Chair for review to ensure that VIHRC's Draft Bylaws are not in contravention of the PSAC Constitution or the PSAC BC Regional Council By-Laws.

**Action:** Virginia Vaillancourt will follow up with PSAC BC Regional Council By-Laws Committee Chair to find out the status of the review.

**Action:** Virginia Vaillancourt to advise PSAC BC Regional Council By-Laws Committee Chair regarding correction to VIHRC Draft By-Laws Page 3 Section 3 under Logo. Number should be changed to 4 from 5 equity groups.

Discussion ensued regarding the restructure of the EOC and the addition of Women under the Human Rights – there was a resolution passed at the 2013 PSAC Triennial Convention.

**Action:** Copy of resolution to be requested from PSAC BC REVP's office and further information on the restructure of the EOC.

The restructure of the EOC and resolution from triennial convention will be further discussed at the September 12 AGM.

### **VIHRC's 4<sup>th</sup> AGM – September 12, 2013:**

AGM subcommittee was created to work on arranging the AGM. Subcommittee will be Michael Doerfler, Michelle Ratsoy and Virginia Vaillancourt.

Agenda items will include but not limited to:

- Social
- 2014 Budget
- Guest Speaker
- Dissolution of Executive
- Elections
- 2014 Meeting Dates
- Planning of 2014 Events
- Restructure of EOC and review of Resolution passed at Triennial Convention

Subcommittee will plan the agenda, food/drinks, socialization, room decorations and arrange guest speaker(s).

### **What's on your Mind?:**

Mental Health information - [www.notmyselftoday.com](http://www.notmyselftoday.com)

Paul Jones shared information regarding the Human Rights Tribunal that he attended in the North.

One of the questions which were asked was about how PSAC deals with accessibility. Paul Jones shared that the arbitrator was amazing though the process; was intimidating. He found it good to know that fighting for human rights was around dignity; walking in the front door versus being shoved in the backdoor.

### **Meeting – Call to Adjourn**

VIHRC Acting President Michael Doerfler called to adjourn this meeting at 7:28 p.m.

### **Next Meeting Notification**

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday September 12 2013 at 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
at the PSAC Office in Admirals Walk