



Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee

February 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Minutes prepared by
Virginia Vaillancourt

Released Unofficially: February 5, 2014

Adopted Officially: April 10, 2014

Attendance

Boardroom: Bert Farwell, Kay Ahmadi, Lance Jesson, Michael Doerfler, Paul Jones, Virginia Vaillancourt & PSAC Rep: Dave Jackson.

Teleconference: Paul Croes.

Translators: Mary Butterfield & Sarah Coupe.

Regrets: Michelle Ratsoy & Susan Gencarelli.

Meeting – Call to Order

VIHRC 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 January 9, 2014 VIHRC Minutes:

The meeting minutes were reviewed at this time.

A couple of amendments were made to the minutes:

- Date of the Minutes
- Additional of Eight (8) *Resolution titles* and *Be it Resolved* that was passed at the January 9th meeting.

Motion: Bert Farwell made the motion to accept the minutes.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi.

Carried: Unanimously.

New Business

Treasurer's Report:

President Michael Doerfler advised that the Treasurer is absent today and that he would be presenting the November and December 2013 Financial Statements on behalf of Treasurer.

November 2013 Financial Statement was presented.

Motion: Paul Jones made a motion to accept the November 2013 Financial Statement as presented.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi

Carried: Unanimously

December 2013 Financial Statement was presented.

Amendments noted to December statement:

- Opening Balance to be corrected to \$3172.30

- Clarify on expenses to read "Sheraton Hotel Toronto Equity Conference BC Room Rental – 1 night – Reimbursed to Tracy Shudo

Action: Michael Doerfler to follow up with Tracy Shudo regarding a receipt from the room rental for VIHRC's financial records

Motion: Kay Ahmadi made a motion to accept the December 2013 Financial Statement with above noted amendments.

Seconded: Paul Jones

Carried: Unanimously

EOC Restructure Update from 2013 Query:

VIHRC members had requested clarification based on resolution passed at 2012 PSAC National Triennial Convention. Virginia Vaillancourt sent up request to obtain clarification for committee.

Response received:

From the outset, please be assured that women have been, and continue to be, a stand-alone equality-seeking group. To be sure, important gains have certainly been made. However, full equality for women remains elusive.

The PSAC undertook an independent review of the effectiveness and structure of the Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC) in 2008. The review recommended that women be included in the PSAC national equity committee in order to ensure that there was a specific gender perspective on the committee. As a result of the review, the NBoD restructured and renamed the EOC to include Regional Council Representatives for Women on the newly constituted National Human Rights Committee. Thus, there is now a Women's working group on the NHRC, and women are now specifically represented. The Women's Working Group, is tasked with reviewing and working on women's issues and priorities in the Union. The Working Group also works in collaboration with the seven regional representatives of each of the following equity groups: racially visible, Aboriginal, persons with a disability and GLBT members.

The PSAC Constitution recognizes the specificity of women as distinct from the other equity groups. It is still important to provide women-only space for women to discuss and take leadership on their specific issues. To that end, Regional Women's Committees remain constitutionally recognized distinct bodies that exist outside and separate from the Regional Human Rights Committees.

Similarly, the National Women's Conference remains a women's only event. While it is true that the last Women's Conference was held simultaneously with the other four

equity conferences, the workshops, elections and resolutions debate all remained women only space. Finally, a quick note to advise that, pursuant to a resolution adopted at the 2012 Triennial Convention, two delegates were elected at the National Women's Conference to attend the next Convention.

VIHRC Delegate Stipend:

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made a motion for VIHRC to cover the \$200.00 registration fee to the 6th PSAC BC Triennial Convention.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi

Carried: Unanimously

Request by VIHRC delegate Paul Jones to have committee cover a stipend to cover some of the loss of wages for Friday April 25th. Paul Jones advised committee that he had talked to his Local about assistance and was advised that UNDE was only covering costs for those representing UNDE directly.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made a motion for VIHRC to cover a stipend of \$150.00 for Friday April 25th for VIHRCs delegate.

Seconded: Kay Ahmadi

Carried: Unanimously

PRIDE 2014 Plans:

Virginia Vaillancourt presented a PRIDE Parade & Festival Checklist that she created for the committee to assist with planning and organizing participation in PRIDE Parade. (Checklist copied at end of minutes for reference) Great job and thanks Virginia Vaillancourt!!!

Action: Paul Croes advised that he will put in a request for the PSAC BC PRIDE Flag to be sent over to Victoria RO for VIHRC committee to use in the parade.

2014 PRIDE Week in Victoria is June 23 – June 30 and the Parade is held on June 29th.

Paul Jones advised that he would do the registration for the committee again for PRIDE Parade and a table at the Festival and will consult with REVP BC's assistant regarding funding for fees.

Action: Paul Jones also advised that the PRIDE Flag will fly for the full week at CFB Esquimalt.

Action: Virginia Vaillancourt will send email to the Victoria Labour Council to discuss PRIDE 2014 & to request to attend with PRIDE on the agenda.

April Meeting Agenda Item: Committee will further discuss planning of committees' participation in PRIDE 2014 at their April meeting.

Action: Michael Doerfler to send request on behalf of committee to the PSAC BC Regional Council to request the 4 Equity Reps that they all attend the April VIHRC meeting to discussion for what their plans are/direction is in the Region to promote each of the Equity Groups and to build connections.

What's on your Mind?:

Roundtable of various discussions took place.

BF for April Meeting – Virginia Vaillancourt to further discuss the plan for Committee making a proposal to the City.

Meeting – Call to Adjourn

VIHRC President Michael Doerfler called to adjourn this meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Next Meeting Notification

Thursday April 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
at the PSAC Office in Admirals Walk

Minutes Attachment

See next pages for the attachment as previously mentioned in this minutes.

PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL CHECKLIST for VIHRC Committee

All items below will require review and decision from VIHRC Committee

To Do	Time Frame
Order PRIDE Beads from Party City www.partycity.ca (Discuss this at AGM & set funding amount) (approx. 2000 beads needed) Check for coupons on line at partycitycoupons2013.net	November / December
Discuss PRIDE Parade plans with committee ie., walking contingent or float – start planning	February Meeting
Send out request for volunteers to assist with PRIDE (VIHRC; RWC; Youth; Regional Council; Area Council; Locals)	April
Write up and email request to Victoria Labour Council to request joining as Multi Union Contingent for PRIDE Parade www.victorialabour.ca 219-2750 Quadra Street Victoria, BC V8T 4E8 250-384-8331	April / May
Committee write up request for Donations from Regional Women’s Committee; PRIDE Coordinator from PSAC BC Regional Council; Youth Committee; Victoria Area Council (can request PSAC Victoria RO to email to committee chairs)	May
Ensure enough buttons for Pride Festival – if not order through D.A.S.C. http://www.dasc-ns.ca/ Patrick from Vancouver RO can assist with the contact at DASC	April
Order Bracelets/other PRIDE SWAG through Party Crashers (Langford) Owner is Mark	Late May
Request PRIDE Flags through PSAC with sticks approx. 350 flags & sticks	May
Register on line for Pride Parade and Festival. www.victoriapridesociety.org	mid May
Order Balloons for Festival hand out	mid May

Request BC Pride Flag to use during parade from PRIDE Coordinator/ REVP BC's Office	mid May
Send request to PSAC BC REVP Office to ask if there is funding to pay for PRIDE Parade and Festival registration. Coordinate with REVP BC's assistant 1-800-663-1655	Following Registration on Victoria Pride Society
Have committee prepare Flags together at a meeting in prep for Parade (put sticks into flags)	June meeting
Discuss at meeting what material to print for Festival	June meeting
Set up Date to go to Victoria RO to organize all PRIDE materials	

PRIDE FESTIVAL Set Up, Supplies & SWAG Materials	
Volunteer to go with PSAC Rep to set up Tent/Table	Check with Victoria RO to see which PSAC Rep attending
PRIDE Balloons to hand out during Festival	Check with PRIDE Rep to see what items are being ordered in for other PRIDE Parades in BC & request supply for Victoria
PRIDE Tattoos	Check with Victoria RO to see how many left and request more
Balloons for Tent	Order from Party Crashers at least 7 days in advance of Parade
Human Rights Info	
Pride Buttons	Check with PRIDE Rep to see what stock they have
Chairs	
Water	
2 tables	