

**DRAFT RECORD OF MEETING
B.C. REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 28 IN THE WADDINGTON ROOM
AT THE FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER,
900 WEST GEORGIA STREET, VANCOUVER, BC**

In Attendance:

Bob Jackson, REVP-B.C. (Chair)	Terri Lee, Metro Vancouver
Johann Ackermann, West Fraser Valley	Carolyn McGillivray, Southern Interior
Jennifer Chieh Ho, Racially Visible	Vanessa Miller, Youth
Paul Croes, Pride (Late Arrival)	Jamey Mills, Alt REVP-B.C.
Parveen Deepak, Northeast B.C.	Liz Oliphant, South Vancouver Island
Bert Farwell, North Vancouver Island	Antony Paller, East Fraser Valley
Colleen Girard, South Vancouver Island	Jim Sidel, DCL and SSE
Benilde Gomes, Northwestern BC	Virginia Vaillancourt, Women's
Linda Harding, Health & Safety	Ken Waldron, MWD
Jennifer Horsley, Metro Vancouver	Crystal Warner, Metro Vancouver
Nic Humphreys, National Officers	Susan Yaciw, Southern Interior
Ruby Langan, Aboriginal	

Bob Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

OPENING REMARKS

REVP Bob Jackson opened the meeting and extended his congratulations to the new Regional Council. For those new to the Regional Council he added that they're in for a great experience over the next three years and he welcomes their new energy and new ideas. Bob Jackson went on to say that he has no set plans for the Region other than continuing on with the work ahead of us. However, he is open to new ideas on how the Regional Council can better operate.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Bob Jackson then advised the new Regional Council members of the standing order of business for a moment of silence to acknowledge the lives of workers lost on the job. Prior to the moment of silence, Bob further advised that April 28 is the National Day of Mourning in Canada, a time when workers and families come together to remember those who have lost their lives to work-related incidents or occupational diseases. Unfortunately, with the business before the Regional Council they were not able to participate in the day's ceremonials in Metro Vancouver, but wanted to mark the day nonetheless.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Bob Jackson reviewed a tentative agenda with the Council and called for its adoption, to which the Regional Council unanimously agreed.

SCENT FREE AND HARASSMENT STATEMENTS

Bob Jackson advised that while the scent-free and anti-harassment policies are in effect during all Regional Council, they are not typically read aloud. He reminded everyone that hard copies of the policies had been circulated with the Convention materials, adding that for the duration of the day's Regional Council meeting Luc Guevremont would serve as the harassment coordinator.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

A round of introduction was then conducted for the new Regional Council and staff, and Council members were provided with an opportunity to speak to their priorities and focus for the next three years.

Following the introductions, Bob Jackson spoke briefly to the role of Council Coordinators advising that District Coordinators are tasked with connecting with the Area Councils and the locals within their geographic constituency. Equity Coordinators will need to determine where their members are and how best to get in touch with them. For all Regional Council members, it's important that all speak with their constituents in advance of Regional Council meetings and be prepared to speak on behalf of their constituents. Following those meetings, it's equally important that Coordinators follow up with the members and share the information from the Regional Council.

Bob then spoke to his role as the REVP, noting that he has decided that this will be his final term as he intends to step down in 2017. Over the next three years Bob plans to concentrate on:

- Raising visibility of REVP regionally and nationally
- Increase accountability in the Region both in terms of REVP office, and in the Region's Committees and Area Councils

Bob added that he truly believes that Area Councils are the way that we will be effective. That's the place where members need to have the discussions and determine how they can best work together. As a result Area Councils and Regional Committees need to be focused with a plan and their resources identified. And the REVP Office will continue to find ways to support the work of the Area Councils and Committees. One of the easiest ways for the REVP Office to support that work is to ensure that there is a common structure and reporting procedures between the Regions Area Councils and Committees.

NEW DELEGATE HANDBOOK

At the start of the meeting, every Regional Council member was provided with a flash drive containing an electronic copy of the Coordinator Handbook along with some other reference materials. Bob commented that a major accomplishment of the previous Regional Council was the creation of the Coordinator Handbook. Bob then asked Kristin to provide a brief overview of the contents of the handbook.

After the brief review, some questions were raised on how members can obtain a PSAC email address and business cards. With regard to the former, Patrick advised that he will get in touch with all Regional Council members that don't already have @psac.com email addresses so that they can discuss the options available. Once all the email addresses are confirmed and set up, we will begin work on business cards for those Coordinators who would like them.

Jennifer Chieh Ho asked if alternates would also be able to obtain PSAC email addresses. Patrick answered that it wasn't likely as there aren't the resources to administer those additional accounts.

On the subject of alternates, Bob reminder the Council that they need to work closely with their alternates and ensure good, active communication. He encouraged coordinators to use their alternates as part of their structure similar to how the REVP and Alternate REVP operate. Jamey

Mills added that a Coordinator's greatest ally is their alternate, who can help the Coordinator engage their constituents.

COORDINATOR BUDGETS

Kristin provided a brief explanation of Regional Council Coordinator allowances and what the funds are to be used for. Generally speaking the budgets are to be used for serving the Coordinator's constituents, e.g. worksite visits, organizing events for members, etc. They are not to be used for conference registrations, etc. Further details on the allowances purposes are available within the Coordinator handbook. Also explained within the handbook is the need for Coordinators to seek prior approval for budget expenditures. Kristin commented that it's best for Coordinators to prepare an outline for their budget expenditures inclusive of costings or budgets for specific uses. Once prepared, the funding proposals can be submitted to the REVP Office for approval.

Kristin then reviewed the current balances and budgets for each of the Council positions and explained that within a cycle, Coordinator funds and/or deficits are allowed to roll over to the following year. At the end of the cycle any unused funds roll into the general reserve. She then advised that she will send each Coordinator an electronic copy of the current balance and further details on what funding they will have available for the balance of 2014.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to send each Coordinator an electronic copy of their current Coordinator Allowance balance with expenditures YTD as well as total revenue available for the balance of the cycle
---------------------	--

WORKING TOGETHER, WORKING WITH MEMBERS, WORKING WITH ALTERNATES

Bob then spoke to the operation of the Regional Council and way that Coordinators can reach out to members. He then addressed how the Regional Council has worked as a whole. In particular, Bob advised that the Council meets via conference call in between the in-person meetings to keep all apprised of what's happening within the Region and nationally with the PSAC and Components.

Questions were then raised on the role of the Alternative REVP: if the REVP cannot attend an event does the Alt REVP go in his place? Bob answered that in some circumstances Jamey would attend in his place; however, the Alt REVP does not have any funding in terms of salary compensation from PSAC nationally. The only funds available to the Alt are the limited Coordinator Allowance funds. Bob added that there would have to be a constitutional change to allow for the Alt REVP to act in the REVP's place, particularly at AEC or NBoD meetings. Not every Region is as progressive as B.C. in terms of its inclusion of the Alt REVP and the desire to fund Alternate REVP activities.

Bob then spoke to the PSAC's involvement with the BC Federation of Labour. He noted that the REVP is an Executive Officer to the BCFED, and the REVP as well as the Alternate REVP sit on the Executive Council with the heads of other unions in the province. There are also a number of BCFED Standing Committees that have active PSAC participation largely by Regional Council Coordinators. For example the PSAC has named the Women's Coordinator to the Standing Committee for Women's Rights as its representative. There are also a Health & Safety and Young Workers Standing Committees that have included participation for the Coordinators for those portfolios. Bob advised that we will be naming the new Regional Council members for the relevant areas to the applicable BCFED standing committees.

Bob went on to say that the PSAC has been working well with the affiliates, lending its support wherever possible to them, and receiving support as well. One opportunity in particular that Bob would like to investigate is coordinating with the affiliates in the North to see about using some of their space. Because the North is without a Regional Office, it would be good if the Region negotiates an agreement with one of the provincial unions in the area (BCGEU, Steel) to use their union office for conducting membership meetings for the Area Council, RWC, etc.

Susan Yaciw asked for the date for the 2014 BC Federation of Labour Convention. Bob answered that it was scheduled to take place this coming November and the CLC convention is to take place in the first week of May, which he will be attending.

Another Council member then asked about the role of a District Coordinator with regard to the Area Council. Jamey answered the Coordinators should participate wherever possible. If their local isn't affiliated it's possible that the Coordinator could attend through a regional committee. Bob agreed with Jamey's comments and further emphasized that all Council members should be participating in their Area Councils.

WAAA PSAC B.C. ACTION PLAN

Bob reminded the Council of the Political Action panel that had been part of the convention agenda, where the Region's plans for political action were highlighted. Bob then asked Patrick to review some of the items included in that plan. Patrick acknowledged that the first action held was the telephone town hall that addressed sick leave and the bargaining implications resulting from the enactment of Bill C-4.

Other upcoming activities in the plan are the Treasury Board meetings and the May 1 Day of Actions. The TB meetings are general meetings that will address the upcoming round of negotiations for the TB units and will be scheduled throughout May and June.

At the end of May the Region will also host a Political Action Summit at Sheraton in Richmond. The Summit will bring two representatives from each Area Council together along with Regional Council's Political Action Committee (PAC) and the National Officers in the B.C. Region. A notice will be going out tomorrow to each of the eight Area Council presidents to advise them of the Summit and asking them to submit names for their two representatives. The aim of the Summit is to provide a forum for the Area Councils, PAC and National Officers to build on existing plans and coordinate actions within their geographic areas. Also included in the day's agenda skills building for the attendees with respect to lobbying and media outreach. Ken Waldron asked why Regional Committees were not included at the Summit. Patrick answered that the funding provided for Summit did not allow for their participation at this Summit.

Further discussion ensued on other ideas for political action and public outreach. Bob reminded the Council members that the summer outreach events are also part of the political action plans are the summer outreach. Area Councils, Committees and Regional Council Coordinator will be called upon to help participate in community events across the province. Bob added that the Region will again be producing materials for the summer outreach events, and once they are available the REVP Office will send them out.

Paul Croes noted that he has a listing of all the Pride events in the province if any area council or group is interested in participating in those events. Bob added that the PSAC is also sending a small

contingent of members to World Pride in Toronto this July. Specifically, there is national funding for each Region to send its Pride/GLBT Council representative and there is an agreement that each Region may send an additional member who can be cost-shared between the Region and PSAC nationally. Further details on this will be sent out to the GLBT caucus shortly.

Colleen Girard asked if there were any plans regionally to put anything out or do any activities during mental health awareness week. Patrick answered that he wasn't sure, but that he would look into it. He noted that those sorts of activities are usually organized nationally.

Bob then asked Colleen to provide some more details for the Council regarding UNDE's plans for their May 1 activity. Colleen advised that the Component is organizing a plant gate on May 1 from 6 am – 8 am at one of the bases. Nic asked if other Components and/or national officers are welcome to join in. Colleen suggested that Nic confirm with UNDE's T. Mark Miller.

REGIONAL COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES

In light of the upcoming Political Action Summit on May 31 it was agreed that the Regional Council's Political Action Committee (PAC) needed to be established during this meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that the PAC should include geographical representation from across the Region, including one representative from North Vancouver Island, South Vancouver Island, the Fraser Valley, the Southern Interior, Metro Vancouver and the North. Jennifer Chieh Ho suggested that the PAC should also include some equity representation. After some further discussion the following committee appointments were made for the PAC:

Fraser Valley & Equity – Jennifer Chieh Ho
Northern B.C. – Benilde Gomes
South Vancouver Island – Nic Humphreys, Chair
North Vancouver Island – Vanessa Miller
South Interior – Carolyn McGillivray
Metro Vancouver – Crystal Warner

Bob then spoke to the Regional Council's Finance Committee, advising that the Alt REVP would Chair that Committee. The other committee members would be named once all Council members have had an opportunity to voice their interest all standing committees.

After some brief discussion it was agreed that Regional Council members are to submit their committee preferences to Kristin in the REVP Office by May 12.

ACTION ITEM: Coordinators to submit their top three standing committee preference to Kristin (SchnidK@psac.com) by May 12 coordinates
--

FALL IN-PERSON MEETING

Bob advised that the Regional Council budget allowed for two in-person meetings per year. As there was already a January in-person meeting, the next meeting would need to be scheduled for the fall, and will be held in the Vancouver Regional Office. That meeting will likely involve some training for the Regional Council (such as media training and/or letter writing tips, etc.) as well as a planning session with the Regional Office staff reps.

A Council member then asked about the current staff portfolio assignments. Luc advised that the Regional Office will be revisiting the staffing assignments now that convention has been concluded. Presently, Colette Savorie is who assigned to the North is still on leave and has been back filled by Garry Fraser as an interim measure. Luc anticipates that he will have further details for members on the staffing assignments within the next few weeks.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Kristin would send out a Doodle Poll to gauge to availability of Regional Council members for a fall meeting in either September or October.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to send out a Doodle Poll via email to solicit availability for the fall in-person Regional Council meeting
--------------	---

As per past practice Coordinators who are unable to attend the conference calls are welcome to invite their alternates to attend in their place, but need to advise the REVP Office accordingly.

It was noted that the spring 2015 meeting of the Regional Council will likely be scheduled in coordination with the Preconvention and National Officers meetings.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT CONFERENCE CALL

After some discussion the next Regional Council conference call was scheduled for Monday, May 26 at 6 PM.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to email out to Regional Council members regarding the next scheduled call as well as dialing coordinates
--------------	---

ADJOURNMENT

Bob then thanked all for their attendance and participation during the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 PM

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Schnider

Minutes published: May 2014