

**DRAFT RECORD OF MEETING
B.C. REGIONAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL
HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2015 AT 6 PM**

In Attendance:

Bob Jackson, REVP-B.C. (Chair)

Johann Ackermann, West Fraser Valley

Jennifer Chieh Ho, Racially Visible

Bert Farwell, North Vancouver Island

Benilde Gomes, Northwest B.C.

Linda Harding, Health & Safety

Jennifer Horsley, Metro Vancouver

Ruby Langan, Aboriginal

Terri Lee, Metro Vancouver

Carolyn McGillivray, Southern Interior

Vanessa Miller, Youth

Jamey Mills, Alternate REVP-B.C.

Jim Sidel, DCL and SSE

Virginia Vaillancourt, Women's

Ken Waldron, MWD

Crystal Warner, Metro Vancouver

Regrets:

Paul Croes, Pride

Parveen Deepak, Northeast B.C.

Nic Humphreys, National Officers

Antony Paller, East Fraser Valley

Liz Oliphant, South Vancouver Island

Susan Yaciw, Southern Interior

Staff:

Patrick Bragg, Political Communications Officer

Luc Guevremont, Regional Coordinator

Kristin Schnider, EA to the REVP-B.C.

Bob Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Bob Jackson called for any additions to the agenda, which had been circulated in advance via email.

Colleen Girard requested that the July 27 Rally be added as a discussion item under Other Business.

PREVIOUS MINUTES – MAY 28, 2015

Bob advised that the draft minutes from the May conference call had been circulated in advance. He then called for any edits or additions to the minutes, reminding the Regional Council that the minutes would be formally adopted at the fall meeting. No errors or additions were noted.

REVP REPORT

a. AEC Update

Bob advised that since the last Regional Council teleconference call, the AEC met twice and the NBoD met during the first week of June. During the AEC and NBoD meetings, a lot of time was spent discussing the election advertising campaign, which resulted from the emergency resolution passed at the National Triennial Convention in April. Bob went on to say that the campaign is well underway with a number of ads published in newspapers across the country and broadcasted on several radio stations. The ads will continue running until the writ is dropped, at which time the *Fair Elections Act* rules will kick in. Nonetheless, even after the writ is dropped we will continue to talk with members up to the election date.

Bob reported that the PSAC campaign ads were sent to BCFED and the affiliates for them to share, and we should be getting some good coverage.

In terms of the rest of the AEC activity during the two meetings the AEC did some work on the PSAC's anti-racism policy and staffing employment equity plans. They also received a presentation from the Anti-Oppression Coordinator. More information will follow on the policy once it's finalized.

The meetings also included quite a bit of discussion around what the rest of the Regions are up to. Similar to BC, the other Regions have a tremendous amount of work going on: in the Atlantic, REVP Jeannie Baldwin has put her name forward for the NDP nomination in the federal riding of Avalon in Newfoundland and Labrador. The nomination meeting is slated to take place in mid-August. Bob added that all Regions (including BC) are focusing their efforts on other campaigns in priority ridings, as identified by the CLC.

Political Action training is also taking place in the Regions. In BC, the Victoria training scheduled had to be postponed due to low enrolment. However, the training will proceed this weekend for Vancouver and it will include some of the registrants from the Victoria session. Currently, over 20 members are registered. Bob added that the Region is looking at holding another session this September on the Island. Patrick added that staff rep Monica Urrutia is working hard with Janet Routledge on course materials for the weekend and it's hoped that members will get further engaged in the election.

Bob then advised that the AEC won't be meeting in person until September. However, they will continue to meet via teleconference as needed over the summer months. The September meeting will be immediately preceded by a three and half-day strategy session of the NBoD, where the Board will lay out the strategy for the remaining period before the election and make plans for the next budget cycle, which begins in 2016.

Bob then spoke about the Leadership Tour currently underway. As many members are aware, part of the union's political action strategy is to have the union's leadership travel the country and meet with members face-to-face to talk about the election and our issues. This Leadership Tour had a recent leg of travel in BC: REVP Bob Jackson, NEVP Chris Aylward, UNDE President John MacLennan, and UNDE Executive Vice-President June Winger attended a number of meetings on Vancouver Island last week, which were successful. A couple meetings also took place yesterday in Vancouver with Chris and Bob.

Several members of the AEC, including Chris Aylward, Marianne Hladun, Jack Bourassa, Larry Rousseau and Bob Jackson were also in Vancouver recently attending pension management training. As trustees of the PSAC staff pension plan, AEC Officers are required to take this training.

Bob then called for questions on the AEC update.

Crystal Warner asked why Jeannie Baldwin's announcement had indicated that Robyn Benson would be looking after the Atlantic Region during Jeannie's absence prior to the October 19 election. Why was the position not being backfilled by the Alternate REVP? Bob answered that he wasn't aware of the circumstances surrounding that issue, but that he would follow up and report back to the Regional Council.

Crystal Warner then asked what the role of REVPs is during the election period. Bob answered that between now and the election, members of the NBoD (including the AEC Officers) are talking with as many members as possible through the Leadership Tour. Bob reiterated that he attended a membership meeting yesterday with NEVP Chris Aylward in Vancouver as well as several meeting on Vancouver Island last week. The aim of the meetings is to ensure maximum member involvement in the election and to deliver a positive message to the membership that we will be successful in our election aims if we mobilize effectively.

Agriculture Union President Bob Kingston will be out in the BC Region in the first week of August and USGE President Stan Stapleton will be here in August as well. UVAE President Carl Gagnon was in the Okanagan in July. UCTE President Christine Collins also spent some time in BC this summer.

b. Negotiations Update

i) Treasury Board

Bob reminded the Regional Council that the bargaining teams last met with the Employer in June. While there was some discussion at the tables, nothing of any real significance was achieved. No further sessions are scheduled until early December 2015 after the federal election. Bob added that that he hopes the teams will be dealing with a different Employer and a new Treasury Board president at that time.

Bob stressed that Collective Bargaining is not taking a backseat to political action and the election. There is still a lot of interest in bargaining and activity will continue. However, we cannot get too far ahead of ourselves in the process.

ii) Regional Units and Non-Treasury Board

Bob advised that national non-Treasury Board units are still in negotiations: CRA continues to negotiate with the Employer, and the process is now stretching into its third year with no real resolution in sight. CFIA bargaining is underway, and it's not likely to be a short process either. Parks is also in bargaining. Bob added that those groups are expected to move at slightly different paces than the Treasury Board units.

In terms of regional units, Bob advised that the notice to bargain was issued today for the Globe Ground Fuelers at Vancouver Airport. The Globe Ground supervisors, a separate bargaining unit, starting their negotiations in April; however, the progress has been very slow. The unit at IMP Comox has also started their negotiations, which will continue into the fall. Earlier today, the first Collective Agreement between DCL 22000 and the First National Health Authority was signed. Bob attended the signing ceremony today at Musqueam Community Centre, which was groundbreaking in a number of ways. Finally the Seal Cove Commissionaires in Prince Rupert are also in collective bargaining. However, they are currently enjoying a statutory freeze with no concessions. That means if they go to the table, there will be concessions. Therefore, progress has been slow there as well.

REGIONAL WAAA ACTION PLAN, MOBILIZATION EVENTS AND SUMMER OUTREACH

a. Political Action Training – Lower Mainland and Victoria

Previously reported in the AEC Update above.

a. Report on NPSW Activities in BC – June 15-19

Bob commented that this year's National Public Services Week (NPSW) was probably one of most successful weeks we've had. There were an unprecedented number of events that took place with record numbers in terms of participation. He added that this year we had participation from members of PIPSC and CAPE, who greatly added to our success.

Bob went on to say that we are well on way of carrying forward the idea of boycotting Employer-organized celebrations until such time as we have an Employer that supports and respects the work our members perform. It's hoped that we will resume the NPSW celebrations in the future, once there is a change in the Employer and our work is valued again.

a. Summer Outreach Events

Bob referenced a number of community outreach events that have already taken place this summer, and acknowledged their success and the hard work of the members involved. Most recently, the Surrey Fusion Festival took place, which was - by all accounts - a great success. This the event differed slightly from past years in that we coordinated with BCFED Affiliates to have a larger presence at the festival. The addition of the other Affiliates had a great impact and helped us further communicate with the

public on the importance of voting this fall and electing a government that supports quality public services.

Bob then spoke about the recent Pride celebrations and acknowledged Paul Croes' hard work getting out into the communities across the Region. Up next is the Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival, which takes place the first weekend in August.

b. Bill C-59 and Next Steps (Federal Election Plan)

Bob explained that the Government enacted Bill C-59, and despite the Conservatives assertions to the contrary, the budget is actually a deficit budget. Nonetheless, Division 20 of the Bill is also now law, which gives the Government the authority to impose a short term disability plan, circumventing the collective bargaining process. However, Bob stressed that at this point it doesn't appear that they have the wherewithal to do so. In fact, it looks like they far from doing anything, especially with the ensuring election. This hope is that a new government will be elected that begin the process of removing this legislation.

Patrick then spoke on the federal election plan. Patrick noted that Luc, Bob and he went to Ottawa in late June to meet with their counterparts to discuss the regional plans and ensure that everyone is on the same page. The finalized guidelines for regional plans have now been received, which Patrick will forward out. Through that meeting, the Region received confirmation that our plan is on track, is in line with the national direction, and is within budget. A copy of the regional plan was previously emailed out to the Regional Council.

Patrick reported on the Stop the Cuts campaign. The feedback to date has been very positive. In terms of regional media, nationally the PSAC placed campaign ads in all major newspaper markets across the country, including Vancouver. They also placed some ads in some smaller newspaper markets, including Victoria and Kamloops. In the Region, we placed ads in 24 Black Press local papers across the province for the last week of July and there's a possible second run in the first week of August depending on when the writ drops. Radio ad space was also purchased, with the ads playing on CKNW currently. Billboards have also been erected in Greater Vancouver and Victoria areas.

Patrick then provided some social media statistics on the Stop the Cuts campaign. He commented that the campaign's reach has been massive and it's done really well. Upon its launch, the campaign received coverage in every Canadian media outlet. The campaign video has already received over 1M combined views on Facebook and Youtube (both languages combined). In addition, the national Facebook page quadrupled its number of fans in the last three weeks and now has a total of 24,000 fans, which is more than any other Canadian union. Patrick further reported that the PSAC also purchase ad banners for web viewers, and those banners have been seen over 4.5 million times already.

Patrick noted that yesterday the Toronto Sun published a negative op-ed piece on the campaign as did the Financial Post. He commented that this negative attention is evidence that the campaign is working well and having the desired effect on the public.

Jamey Mills commented that it would be useful to have a poster for union boards that communicates these stats and encourages members to sign up for the PSAC social media feeds. Patrick agreed and committed to working on a re-vamp of the "Connect With your Union" poster.

Jamey went on to say that in Vancouver, through the Metro Vancouver Alliance (MVA), a federal working group has been established that will host a similar event to the assembly that was held during the municipal elections. The "Federal Election Assembly," taking place between September 28 and 30,

will target the new riding in South Granville and focus on one of the MVA's municipal issues that translate to federal election.

Crystal Warner then voiced her frustration with regard to the election strategy and campaigning in specific ridings. She was hoping that through the Region's Political Action Committee the Region could organize members across the Region and have volunteers plugged into riding-specific NDP campaigns. She added that, in her opinion, being limited to member-to-member, non-partisan campaigns stifles efforts for success.

Bob acknowledged Crystal's frustrations, but stressed that we need to ensure area councils are engaged in the election as they are the political forum for activity. Being non-partisan, our aim is to maximize opportunities that will familiarize our members with what the issues are and to have as many members engaged in election as possible who are working toward a positive outcome on October 19.

Carolyn McGillivray commented that there are lot of areas where there are not (active) area councils or there are geographic challenges that limit engagement. Bob responded that in Carolyn's area of the Southern Interior she can work with her staff rep, Robert Strang, and the National Officers in the outlying areas to mobilize members. Bob agreed that the Southern Interior is a challenge, but he encouraged Carolyn to connect with staff rep Robert Strang and Patrick Bragg so that we can maximize what we're doing in that area.

Further discussion ensued and questions were raised on the PSAC's priority ridings. Patrick then provided a list of the priority riding, clarifying that there are two levels of priority ridings:

| First Priority | Candidate | AC | notes | Density |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Port Moody Coquitlam | Fin Donnelly | Vancouver AC | Keep (new riding is CPC under redistribution) | 335 current PSAC members |
| Esquimalt Saanich Sooke | Randall Garrison | Victoria AC | Keep (riding was close, largest # of PSAC members in a single riding) | 896 current PSAC members |
| Surrey Newton | Jinny Sims | West FV AC | Keep (new riding is very close under redistribution) | 431 current PSAC members |
| Nanaimo Ladysmith | Sheila Malcolmson | North Van Isle AC | Gain (was part of Jean Crowders old riding, leans NDP under redistribution) | 293 current PSAC |
| Second Priority | Candidate | AC | notes | Density |
| Victoria | Murray Rankin | Victoria AC | Keep (riding is CLC priority) | 667 current PSAC members |
| South Okanagan West Kootenay | Dick Cannings | Okanagan AC | Keep (new riding is CPC under redistribution) | 359 current PSAC members |
| Courtenay Alberni | Gord Johns | North Van Isle AC | Gain (Swing riding, the CPC incumbent John Duncan is vulnerable) | 306 current PSAC members |
| Skeena Bulkley Valley | Nathan Cullen | NorthWest AC | Cullen doesn't really need much help. | 290 current |

After further discussion, Patrick then provided an explanation for the identified priority ridings. He noted that in terms of the priority ridings, the PSAC worked with NDP and CLC to determine where it was believed the Labour Movement could make gains or where candidates are in danger of losing their

seats with the redistribution of electoral ridings. The PSAC also looked at where there were concentrations of PSAC members that we could draw upon for support. Patrick added that notwithstanding the priority riding identified, there's nothing stopping a PSAC members from working directly on other NDP campaigns if they choose. However, Patrick cautioned that there is a subtle difference between representing the PSAC and advocating for "progressive candidates" versus actively campaigning for NDP candidates. As we are a non-partisan union we cannot do the latter. However, there are ways of supporting campaigns without being partisan.

Bob then addressed Carolyn's concerns regarding the geographic challenges in her area. He commented that there's nothing preventing Carolyn from contacting the candidates in the riding to see what support is needed (similar to what Crystal Warner has done with Finn Donnelly) and find out what assistance the PSAC can provide.

Luc Guevremont suggested that Carolyn could be put in touch with the two members from the Southern Interior who will be attending the political action training in Vancouver this upcoming weekend. Once in touch with those members, the three of them could work together in their geographic area.

Jamey Mills then suggested that the Vancouver & District Area Council would be willing to assist other area councils with phone banks in parts of the region where geography is proving difficult to organize these types of activities.

BC FORUM BOARD VACANCY UPDATE

Bob reported that, while the process could have been smoother, the PSAC vacancy on the BC FORUM Board of Directors had been filled by Sam Wiese. In her new role, Sam will be working with and contacting PSAC retirees. Bob added that this appointment will hopefully be the start of a renewed interest in all retiree associations, including APSAR, FSNA, and COSCO BC.

2017 BC REGIONAL TRIENNIAL CONVENTION – VENUE UPDATE

Over the last month, the REVP Office has done a lot of the preliminary work for selecting the 2017 Regional Convention venue and dates. Kristin Schnider put together the RFP process for potential hotels identified in the Lower Mainland and Bob and she conducted site tours at number of the hotels that responded to the RFP.

Bob reported that at this point the hotel that has prepared the best total package for the Regional Convention is the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. The dates for the convention will likely be June 16-18, 2017. Bob noted that these dates have been selected for a number of reasons, including a concerted effort to minimize overlap with the conventions in the other Regions. We were also limited to hotel availability.

Bob concluded his update with the comment that once the venue is sorted out and confirmed, we will look into have our MWD Coordinator review the site per the resolution that was passed at the recent National Triennial Convention. Moreover, as we get further into the convention timeline the Regional Council's Convention Committee will be engaged in the convention planning.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. DASH COMMITTEE - \$100 Donation to Amnesty International, Donation Request from the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society, Recommendation regarding subsidy request from Brother Vic Johal**

Bob advise that the DASH Committee dealt with a donation request from Amnesty International, and they made a recommendation to a \$100 donation to the organization. Bob then called for questions or concerns on the recommendation; there were none raised.

Bob then spoke on the subsidy request that received from Brother Vic Johal for his attendance at the “Thriving Together: Queer APIs Building Community, Solidarity and More” conference in Chicago. The request for forwarded to the DASH Committee, but as the request was for an event outside of Canada the REVP Office also sought the advice of the National President. President Benson confirmed that there was no existing PSAC policy regarding international travel, adding that without a policy in place to draw upon Regions should not be using their funds and/or committee funds to subsidize members’ attendance at international events. Bob added that the PSAC is working on a national policy that is forthcoming. Nonetheless, at this time we have to reject the application from the Brother Johal.

The DASH Committee Chair was advised of this ruling from the National and REVP Offices despite the fact that the Committee had issued a recommendation to issue a \$500 subsidy to the applicant, based solely on the Regulation 7 criteria. Bob then added that in light of this ruling, we’ll likely need to make some adjustments to the language in Regulation 7.

Jennifer Chieh Ho asked if regional committees would be able subsidize members attending international events. Bob answered that the ruling applied to regional committees as well. Therefore, regional committees would not be able to contribute funds to members attending international events. Bob added that the REVP Office will send something out to all BC regional committees and area councils advising them of this ruling.

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| ACTION ITEM | REVP Office to advise all PSAC BC Regional Committees and Area Councils that they cannot provide financial assistance to members attending events outside of Canada |
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Virginia then spoke on the Committee recommendation regarding the donation request from the Greater Vancouver Food Bank (GVFB). She advised that the Committee was recommending a donation of \$400, the same amount donated for the past couple years by the Regional Council.

Jamey Mills asked if there is a regionalized food bank in the province. Virginia answered that when she researched the request, she wasn’t able to find one. Most food banks are independent, serving their own communities. The request at issue came directly from the GVFB.

Ken Waldron commented that given number of food banks across the province, he was concerned that an equivalent amount would not be possible for other areas. Virginia answered that when the Committee receives requests she researched the organization before recommendation are made. She noted that the Committee cannot assume what other request will follow. However, they have a record of donations from previous years. With that information, the Committee works within the donations budget line, which includes sustaining memberships, and determines their donation recommendations.

Jamey Mills then suggested that the most prudent thing to do would be to have those with ties to food banks in their community be made aware of the Regional Council’s donations budget line. Bob responded that he wasn’t sure if soliciting donations would be a good idea, but that he understood what Jamey was saying in terms of supporting those groups that may not have the means of reaching out to the Regional Council for financial support.

Carolyn McGillivray commented that she didn’t have a problem supporting the GVFB given that it supports some of the most impoverished people in the country. However, she would also like to see the Regional Council working with an organization that benefits those in need across the Region rather than within a single geographic area.

After further discussion, Virginia Vaillancourt reminded the Regional Council that Protein for People had been discussed at the spring meeting. She then asked if a motion had been passed at that time regarding a donation for that organization. Kristin advised that while the organization had been discussed no motion was made or voted upon regarding a financial donation. Virginia then committed to addressing this matter with the DASH Committee.

Bob then confirmed the donations for both Amnesty International and the GVFB, advising that they would be ratified at the next in-person meeting.

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| ACTION ITEM | Kristin to issues donations of \$100 to Amnesty International and \$400 to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society |
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OTHER BUSINESS

a. PSAC BC Swag – Team Scarves

Bob began the discussion by advising the Regional Council on the details surrounding the purchase of the PSAC BC team scarves. Originally, the Region was sourcing swag for the PSAC BC delegates and observers who attended the National Triennial Convention in Quebec City. The aim was to come up with a unique swag item and the idea of team scarves was agreed upon.

Following the PSAC policy regarding purchases, staff first tried to find union-made team scarves, and failing that a Canadian company that could produce them. Unfortunately after an exhaustive search, we were not able to find a unionized provider anywhere, but we did find a company in Surrey, BC that sold the scarves. The scarves, themselves, are not produced in Canada. The company outsources the production to England and/or Turkey. The sample the REVP Office received had a tag that read “Made in England,” and on the premise an order for 200 scarves was placed. When the scarves arrived, they had tags that read “Made in Turkey.” Consequently, a decision was made not to distribute the scarves for Convention. To date, no scarves have been distributed.

Bob then opened the discussion up to the Regional Council, soliciting their opinions on what should be done with the scarves. Bob added that with the Regional Council’s consent, the scarves could be used in the Region, but they must be accompanied with an explanation that, despite following PSAC protocols, the scarves were produced in Turkey and were not union-made. Bob then stressed that we would not be cutting or removing any of the tags and that we would have to be upfront about the circumstances surrounding the scarves. The other option would be to not distribute the scarves.

Virginia Vaillancourt voiced the opinion that the scarves should be kept in the Region and distributed for events, etc. She added that she didn’t believe there would be a large number of members opposed to the scarves if they were advised of the situation.

Johann Ackermann suggested that Region donate them to the needy this winter.

Colleen Girard commented that she would not be in favour of giving the scarves away given the \$3100 of members’ money that was invested to purchase them. Instead she agreed that they should be distributed throughout the Region rather than wasting the money.

Jamey echoed the previous comments, acknowledging the large capital investment in the scarves. He added that any distributing the scarves must be able to explain the circumstances surrounding them. Jamey then commented that the upcoming White Caps Labour Appreciation night this August would be a good opportunity to distribute some of the scarves.

After further discussion, Patrick advised that the PSAC BC Mainland Young Workers have a mixer scheduled for this weekend and they plan to attend the White Caps game on Sunday. Perhaps this would be another opportunity to distribute some of the scarves. Vanessa Miller added that the Vancouver Island Young Workers are also looking at doing something similar and would appreciate having some of the scarves as well for their caucus.

Before concluding the discussion, Bob asked if any Regional Council members would be uncomfortable distributing and/or explaining the circumstances surrounding the scarves. No opposition to the scarves was voiced.

Carolyn McGillivray asked if the Regional Council could consider drafting a regional buying policy. Bob answered that we could draft something for the Region that would supplement the existing national policy, and it could be discussed at the fall meeting.

ACTION ITEM REVP Office to draft a regional purchasing policy in line with the existing PSAC national policy, which will be discussed at the next in-person Regional Council meeting this fall

b. Fall Meeting – November 27-29 Victoria, BC at the Laurel Point Inn

Bob reminded the Regional Council that at the last in-person meeting, the Regional Council voted in favour of hosting the next in-person meeting in Victoria. Bob then confirmed that a meeting space has been booked and dates have been confirmed for the fall. The meeting will be held November 27-29 at the Laurel Point Inn in Victoria. Bob added that some hospitality space has also been reserved for the Friday and Saturday evenings for Council members to use.

Further information will be sent out regarding the meeting as we get closer to the meeting dates. A call for coordinator reports will also be sent out this fall, prior to the meeting.

Jennifer Chieh Ho asked how members are to proceed in coordinating with their alternates in the event they are unable to attend the meeting. Bob advised that per prior practice, Coordinators should be in regular contact with their alternates, and – in the event they are unable to attend the fall meeting – they should advise their alternates and see if they’re available to attend on the Coordinator’s behalf. Once that initial conversation takes place, the Coordinator and the Alternate should get in touch with Kristin at the REVP Office so appropriate arrangements can be made.

c. Discussion of “In Residence” Regional Council meetings (Jamey Mills)

Jamey Mills began by advising that he had been approached by different Regional Council members who asked about the potential for holding Regional Council meetings “in residence,” meaning that all Regional Council members would stay in the hotel and be in travel status regardless of where they reside. In doing so there would be increased opportunities for Coordinators to network and socialize. As the Finance Committee Chair, Jamey brought this request forward to the REVP Office and a costing was prepared to assess the feasibility of doing so. Unfortunately, the cost of holding meetings in residence is not attainable at this point given the current meeting budget line established at the 2014 PSAC BC Regional Triennial Convention; the cost to holding meetings in residence would put us significantly over budget.

However, Jamey discussed a number of alternative ideas with the REVP Office that would still increase networking and socializing opportunities for the Regional Council at a lower cost. One of the ideas considered was to create a hospitality space for members to use in the evenings, which has already

been arranged for the fall meeting in Victoria. Another option would be organizing an event group meal for the Regional Council, paid with Regional Council meeting funds.

Bob added that hosting the meeting in Victoria this fall is already out of the norm in terms of what the anticipated meeting costs were when the budget was prepared prior to the Convention. In recent years there has been a conscious decision to look at meeting costs and ensure that we are operating within our means. This decision was most recently reflected in the 2015-2017 Priority Proposal. Going forward now, we can learn from the experience of making some minimal adjustments to how meetings are held (such as hosting a meeting in Victoria and/or hosting an evening dinner) and adjusting as necessary with the next Priority Proposal.

Colleen Girard asked if a costing had been prepared to assess the estimated impact that an “in residence” meeting would have the budget for meeting. Bob answered that the additional cost for an “in residence” meeting in Vancouver would add an additional \$8,079 to the meeting costs. Having an “in residence” meeting in Victoria would add an additional \$14,476 to the expected meeting costs plus the added staff costs for travel and accommodations.

Carolyn commented that a dinner may be problematic for those with family obligations and/or health issues. Instead she would rather see a longer lunch to facilitate networking. She added that she hoped all options would be looked at and other obligations would be taken into consideration. Bob agreed with her comments.

d. July 27 Rally at the Conservative Party BBQ at Fort Rodd Hill in Victoria

Colleen Girard advised that an email had been sent out the night prior regarding a rally that has been planned for the evening of Monday, July 27 at the gates to the Conservative Party’s BBQ at Fort Rodd Hill in Victoria. The BBQ will be attended by Treasury Board President Tony Clement, and Colleen is hoping for maximum participation by the membership. Colleen has also started to engage other unions to participate as well.

Bob commented that he’s hoping to attend as well and is looking forward to the rally.

Crystal Warner then asked if we could share the rally details with the Victoria Labour Council. Colleen confirmed that details could be shared, but cautioned that they’ve been trying to keep the rally details relatively quiet so they don’t alert the Conservative Party.

Before concluding the discussion, Patrick reminded the Regional Council that PSAC members work at Fort Rodd Hill. He stressed that attendees be cognizant of this fact and direct their anger toward the Conservative Party, not the staff at the park.

e. Scheduling of Next Conference Call

The Regional Council then discussed scheduling for the next Regional Council teleconference. It was agreed that a call be scheduled late September following the NBoD strategy session and AEC meeting. Kristin will send out a Doodle poll for Regional Council availability during the third full week of September.

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| ACTION ITEM | Kristin to send out a Doodle poll for Regional Council availability to attend a teleconference during the third full week of September |
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MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Before adjourning the meeting, Bob reminded the Regional Council of the BRUSH meeting taking place next Wednesday, July 29. He asked that they all ensure they have representation from their Locals on the call.

Bob also noted that information will be coming out soon on the United Way workplace campaigns. The United Way of the Lower Mainland will also be posting a video soon regarding the campaign, and a link will be available on the PSAC BC regional website.

Bob then thanked all for their attendance on the call. The meeting was then adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Schnider

Minutes published: July 2015