

**DRAFT RECORD OF MEETING
B.C. REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2017
IN THE WADDINGTON ROOM AT THE FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER,
900 WEST GEORGIA STREET, VANCOUVER**

In Attendance:

Jamey Mills, REVP-B.C. (Chair)	Jennifer Horsley, Metro Vancouver
Johann Ackermann, West Fraser Valley	Leanne Hughes, National Officers
Sky Belt, Metro Vancouver	Jill MacNeill, Northwest B.C.
James Brierley, Young Workers	Trish Martin, South Vancouver Island
Sharon Bull, Northeast B.C.	Carolyn McGillivray, Southern Interior
Jennifer Chieh Ho, Racially Visible	Josh Miller, MWD
Bert Farwell, North Vancouver Island	Shane Polak, Metro Vancouver
Nia Gillies, Pride	Kelly Sidhu, Women's
Colleen Girard, South Vancouver Island	Todd Smith, Alt REVP-B.C.
Linda Harding, Health & Safety	Wes Todd, Southern Interior
Giselle Henry, Aboriginal	

Regrets:

Antony Paller, East Fraser Valley	David Schinbein, DCL/SSE
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Staff:

Patrick Bragg, Political Communications Officer	Kristin Schnider, EA to the REVP-B.C.
Luc Guevremont, B.C. Regional Coordinator	

Jamey Mills called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM and congratulated all on their election to the PSAC B.C. Regional Council.

Aboriginal Territory Acknowledgement

Jamey then asked Aboriginal Coordinator Giselle Henry to provide the acknowledgement for the Aboriginal territories upon which the meeting was taking place.

Scent Free and Anti-Harassment Statements

Jamey reminded the Regional Council that the PSAC statements on harassment and scent-free environments had been circulated to all participants at the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention, which remain in effect for the duration of the Regional Council meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

Jamey Mills provided some opening remarks and conducted a round of introductions for the B.C. Regional Council and staff in attendance.

Regional Council Coordinator Handbook – Q&A

All Regional Council members were sent an electronic copy of the PSAC B.C. Regional Council Coordinator Handbook, which provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities for all Council members.

Jamey provided a brief summary of the information contained in the handbook and called for questions from the Regional Council. Trish Martin asked if the handbook could be shared with Alternates, and Jamey advised that it would be sent out.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to send all Regional Council Coordinator Alternates an electronic copy of the Coordinator Handbook
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Regional Council members were further advised that one of their responsibilities is to prepare written report of their activities in advance of each face-to-face meeting. Kristin will send a reminder out regarding the deadline for reports approximately eight weeks before the meeting takes place. Colleen Girard suggested that it's a good idea to keep a running log of all activities throughout the year to assist with report writing.

Past Coordinator reports are available on the regional website at: <http://psacbc.com/our-organization/bc-regional-council>. A report template is also available in the Coordinator Handbook.

Comments from the Past REVP

Former REVP Bob Jackson addressed the Regional Council and wished them well. Bob commented that he's looking forward to seeing the accomplishments of the new Regional Council. Bob then outlined some the challenges and lessons he learned from his experience both as the REVP and as a member of the B.C. Regional Council.

Coordinator Budgets – Explanation and Discussion

Jamey Mills explained that each member of the Regional Council has a Coordinator Allowance to use for member outreach within their constituencies. Details on how to access Coordinator funds can be found in the Coordinator handbook. Expenses are to be preauthorized by the REVP, and Regional Council members should try to provide as much notice as possible with each proposal. Jamey added that in the past Coordinators have prepared annual budgets for their allowances to facilitate long-term planning.

Jamey further advised that the individual Coordinator Allowance amounts are set annual by the Regional Council at the first face-to-face meeting in each year. A number of variables are considered when amounts are determined: geographic location, size of the constituency, etc. Coordinator Allowance funds not used during a fiscal year may be carried over within the current cycle. Overages also carry over into the subsequent fiscal year within the 3-year cycle. Currently, the Region is in the third year of the 2015-2017 cycle. Coordinator Allowances funds not used by December 31 of the current year will be added the general net asset for the PSAC BC Priority Proposal. January 1, 2018 will mark the start of the 2018-2020 cycle.

In early July, the REVP Office will send out 6 month updates which will provide the balance remaining for each Coordinator Allowance for the remainder of the cycle. Where possible, the REVP Office will also send the previous budget filed for the respective position on the Regional Council.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to send all Regional Council Coordinators a six-month update on the 2017 Coordinator Allowances, providing the balance available for the remainder of the 3-year cycle. Where possible, Kristin will also send the corresponding budget filed for each respective Regional Council position
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Colleen Girard asked if it would be possible for Coordinators to pool their budgets together for events. Jamey advised that it may be possible on a case-by-case basis. He added that part of the reason it's important to provide advance notice on budget expenditures is to allow the REVP Office time to look into alternate sources of revenue that can be used for plans. Further discussion ensued.

Working Together / Working with members / Working with Alternates / Working with Affiliates

Jamey provided an overview on how Regional Council members can work together and other PSAC structures, noting the Region's practice of working with alternates whenever possible.

With respect to the BCFED and Affiliates, Jamey advised that the PSAC has representation on each of the BCFED standing committees. Traditionally Coordinator's whose constituencies correspond with the committee mandate are assigned to sit on the committee: Young Worker Coordinator sits on the BCFED Young Worker Committee, Health & Safety Coordinator sits on the BCFED OH&S Committee, etc. Other Committee assignments are determined by the REVP.

Colleen asked if BCFED Committee assignments would be limited to members in the Metro Vancouver area. Jamey answered that the majority of committee assignments are driven by the portfolios held by Regional Council members. However, for those committee that don't have a corresponding Regional Council position, consideration would be given to members who reside outside of the Metro Vancouver area.

Sky Belt asked about District Labour Councils (DLCs) and how Regional Council members can get involved with them. Jamey answered that affiliation to DLCs varies across the province. As such, it's best that members speak to the DLC president in their area to determine what options are available. The REVP Office can provide contact information for DLCs.

Regional Council members should also be working with PSAC Regional staff. Regional reps are assigned geographic and equity portfolios, which align with those held by Regional Council members. Staff portfolios are listed on the regional website at <http://psacbc.com/our-organization/staff>.

In terms of connecting with constituents, staff reps can provide email lists for Local/Branch presidents for Geographic Coordinators. However, for privacy reasons, the PSAC cannot release the email addresses for self-identified equity caucus members. Instead, staff can send out emails to equity groups on behalf of Equity Coordinators. Further discussion ensued.

Patrick then explained the email options available for Regional Council members: they can choose to use a personal email account for communication with members, they can choose to have a full PSAC email account set up, or choose to have a PSAC alias email account. Once Regional Council members have decided on their email address, they can also request that the REVP Office have business cards made for them. Requests for business cards should be sent to Kristin at SchnidK@psac-afpc.com.

Todd Smith asked about email privacy with respect the PSAC accounts. Todd wanted to know if PSAC staff have access to member email accounts. Patrick answered that staff don't have access to email accounts. The only exception may be with IT server staff in Ottawa.

Committee Assignments

Jamey advised that the Region would be retaining the Regional Council committee structure from the previous cycle, which includes eight standing committees: By-Laws, Convention, DASH, Education, Environment, Finance, Political Action, International Solidarity. Each member of the Regional Council (apart from the REVP) will be assigned to two of these standing committees. Jamey then sought input from the Regional Council on their desired committee assignments. Consideration will also be given the gender, equity, Component and geographic location when determining committee assignments.

After some discussion it was decided that Kristin would send out a list of all Regional Council standing committees and seek each Coordinator's preference to assist with Committee assignments.

ACTION ITEM:	Kristin to send all Coordinators a list of the Regional Council Standing Committees with Terms of Reference for each and solicit preferences from all Coordinators
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Outstanding Resolutions

Jamey reminded the Regional Council that the Finance Resolutions Committee had completed their priority resolutions at Convention as had the By-Laws and the General Resolutions Committees. However, there were a number of concurrence resolutions that were not addressed at Convention. By-Laws resolutions require a vote of 2/3 of the delegates at Convention in order to pass. As such, all By-Laws resolutions not completed at Convention have now died on the floor.

With respect to the concurrence General resolutions, the Regional Council does have the opportunity to ratify the work of the General Resolutions Committee and recommend that an Area Council send them forward to the PSAC National Triennial Convention in 2018. After some discussion the following motion was made:

Motion: That the B.C. Regional Council ratify the work of the General Resolutions Committee regarding the remaining ten (10) concurrence resolutions not addressed by Convention, those being:

GEN-05	GEN-22	GEN-33	GEN-44
GEN-11	GEN-26	GEN-34	GEN-48
GEN-13	GEN-29		

And further, that the B.C. Regional Council recommend that the Region's Area Councils bring these resolutions forward for submission to the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention.

Moved: Josh Miller; seconded: Colleen Girard
Carried unanimously

ACTION ITEM:	REVP Office to communicate with the Region's Area Council presidents regarding the ten concurrence General Resolutions not addressed at the PSAC BC Regional Convention, and the Regional Council's recommendation that Area Councils submit these resolutions to the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention.
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Jamey then reminded the Regional Council that the resolution submission deadline for Area Councils is **Friday, September 1, 2017**.

Some Regional Council members raised the concern regarding the debate on By-Laws Resolutions was brought to an abrupt halt during Convention for Bob Jackson's retirement presentation. Unfortunately, the presentation ran longer than expected and there wasn't sufficient time to resume debate on the resolution suspended prior to the adjournment of Convention. Jamey then committed to raising the issue with Robyn Benson to voice the concern on their behalf.

Next Conference Call(s) and Fall Meeting Dates

After some discussion, it was agreed to schedule monthly conference call beginning in September. Kristin will send out a Doodle poll to all Regional Council member to solicit their availability. Jamey reminded the Regional Council that if a Coordinator is not available to attend a call or meeting, they may send an alternate in their place. Please be sure to advise the REVP in advance for arrangements can be made as appropriate.

For the fall face-to-face meeting, the REVP Office will look at the PSAC National Calendar of Events to see what weekend dates are available. Jamey added that as there are tentative plans to include the B.C. Regional Office staff in a portion of the meeting, the meeting will likely take place in Vancouver to facilitate this. It's anticipated that the meeting will take place in late October or early November.

Other Business

Hotel and Venue Issues During Convention

Trish Martin raised some concerns regarding her stay at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver during the convention, noting that she experienced problems in her guest room as well as the elevator mechanical issues. It was acknowledged there were elevator problems during the convention as a result of people overloading the cars, which triggered safety shut-offs. With respect to guest room issues and/or deficiencies, members were reminded to raise these concerns with PSAC admin staff as they are happening, and not afterward, so that steps can be taken to resolve and/or mitigate the issues.

Changing the new of the Members With Disability Caucus

Josh Miller commented that he'd like to see a change to reference of Members With Disabilities to something less pejorative in the PSAC Constitution and Regional By-Laws. It was suggested that the best course of action would be to draft a resolution for the PSAC National Triennial Convention next year and submit through one of the eligible PSAC B.C. Area Councils.

Gender Neutral Washrooms

Sky Belt raised the concern regarding gender neutral washrooms at the Convention facility. She noted, the while there was a gender neutral on the main, public floor of the hotel there wasn't an accessible gender neutral washroom on the conference level near the convention plenary. Kristin provided that the PSAC attempted to make arrangements with the hotel to provide a gender neutral washroom on the conference level at the hotel. However, because there are only two sets of gender binary washrooms on that floor (with only one accessible set) it was not possible to provide one when another group booked on the conference level this spring. It was further explained that currently the PSAC does not have a policy in place requiring gender

neutral washroom for PSAC events, and that perhaps this would be something to consider as a future resolution to a PSAC Convention. Further discussion ensued.

Electronic Devices for B.C. Regional Council members

Shane Polak then suggested that it would be useful if Regional Council members were provided with a tablet or e-device for documents and meeting files. Currently there is not budget for this in the Region's Priority Proposal, but it was suggested that this idea could be draft into a resolution for the next PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

Meeting Adjournment

Before adjourning the meeting, Jamey Mills reminded the Regional Council to engage with members as much as possible over the summer months.

A motion was then made to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Shane Polak; seconded: Johann Ackermann

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Schnider

Minutes published: