

## Okanagan Area Council Meeting April 22, 2017

### **In Attendance:**

Darrell-Lee McKenzie AGR  
Maria-Luiza Romano AGR  
Linda Woods UNE  
Nadia Buckley UTE  
Susan Yaciw UTE  
Joy Harrison APSAR

### **Regrets:**

Carolyn McGillivray CIU  
Michelle Sibson UNE  
Joanne Hay UPC  
Robert Strang, PSAC RO Rep

**Call to Order** at 9: 40 am

**Adoption of Agenda** - m/s/c

**Approval of previous minutes:** minutes from Feb 11, 2017 approved with the following amendment:

Officer Elections - Nadia Buckley and Jean Olynyk offered for the position of Vice President - Nadia Buckley was elected.

**Treasurer's Report:** March 31<sup>st</sup> account balance was \$4,029.91; PSAC BC Area Council allotment was deposited April 7<sup>th</sup>, bringing the current balance to \$5,029.91. Report moved by Maria-Luiza, seconded by Linda, carried.

**Action:** Maria-Luiza to contact the Agriculture Union to request the \$100 grant for Area Councils.

**Action:** Susan Yaciw is retiring in June and therefore removed as a signing officer on the bank account.

**Budget Amendment:** The 2017 budget was reviewed after the receipt of new information from the Regional Office with respect to the processing of convention expenses. Total expenses for the 2017 year did not change; some line items were reduced or moved to reflect expenditures more accurately (see attached). Budget amendments m/s/c.

**Action:** Revised budget to be forwarded to PSAC RO.

**Basket for BC Regional Convention** - proceeds from convention silent auction will go to Protein for People. A motion was passed at the Feb 11, 2017 meeting for a budget of \$150 for both the Area Council and Women's Committees to prepare baskets for the convention silent auction. Susan and Linda volunteered to purchase the items for these baskets; both will have a selection of Okanagan treats.

**Action:** Susan and Linda to set a date to purchase the items for silent auction baskets.

**Pink Hat Knitting Project** - the Okanagan has been approached by the Vancouver Women's Committee to help in the knitting of hats to be sold at the BC PSAC Regional Convention. Proceeds from the sale of the hats will be used to purchase shoe box items for the Women's Shelter in Vancouver during the Christmas season. Not too many knitters in our group. Maria-Luiza has been involved in the knitting of hats and Susan has agreed to knit a couple for the convention.

**MP Lobbying:** Harold, Colleen and Darrell-Lee plan going and meeting with their MP in the Penticton area. Linda is requesting a meeting with Kelowna Liberal MP, Stephen Fuhr. Other Kelowna Area Council members are welcome to join her. Nadia expressed an interest in meeting with her West Kelowna MP; Susan will try and attend the meeting with her. Potential topics: Phoenix, pensions, performance pay for managers, electoral reform, P3's.

**Action:** For PSAC Area Council members to meet with their respective MP's by September.

**Funds for Provincial election:** There is election funding available for our area if members wish to get involved. Also, members are encouraged to attend all-candidate meetings.

**PSAC Triennial Convention:** reminder of the requirement to have four meetings by October 28, 2017 to be eligible for a delegate to the PSAC Triennial Convention. The next meeting of the Area Council will be a breakfast meeting on the Friday at convention. We will also ask candidates to speak to our caucus. Interested in attending the PSAC Triennial Convention as the Area Council delegate? Consider taking on the role of Area Council President while there are experienced members around to serve as mentors.

**APSAR** - Joy provided an update on APSAR. She was not certain if APSAR will have a booth at the convention but did indicate that Pam Jabal will have the opportunity to speak at the convention. Joy has been approached by Christine Juba of the Federal Superannuates who would like to offer a lunch during NPSW for public service workers and to talk about FSNA. Joy advised that PSAC members are boycotting NPSW and as such APSAR will not take part in the event. Joy explained the difference between APSAR and the FSNA organizations. The Federal Superannuate Association allows any person who has worked in the Public Sector, RCMP, Military (including managers) to join their organization and that APSAR is for PSAC members only. Joy also explained the both groups have very different focuses.

**National Public Services Week: PSAC is requesting members to boycott the NPSW events until all of the issues members are still experiencing with the Phoenix system are fixed.**

#### **Round Table:**

Linda Woods participated in the Election Town hall Conference call. She indicated there was more of a focus on PSAC candidates in the lower mainland such as Janet Rutledge who is an NDP candidate, rather than broader election issues. Also a reminder that the Green Party is not union friendly.

SSO members participated in a two day training session at the end of March. The training was well received and excellent training was provided by Monica and Deanna. Both UNE and the PSAC funded the training. As a result of the training, a full slate of officers filled the positions at their AGM.

Darrell-Lee spoke about the movie "The Promise" which deals with the events around the Armenian genocide. She advised that her partner's grandmother and family were forced with many others to march into the Syrian Desert leading to the Armenian genocide.

#### **Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting - Breakfast meeting at the Four Seasons, Friday, June 16, 2017, 7:30 a.m.**

(Meet in the lobby of the Fairmont by the check-in counter at 7:20 a.m. to walk over).