HONOURING THE PAST,



THE FUTURE IS OURS

PSAC & AFPC BC

1997-2017 · 20 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY

CONVENTION CALL

INTRODUCTION AND THEME

Sisters and Brothers,

We hope this guide will provide you will all the information you will need to register and participate in the 7th B.C. Regional Triennial Convention of the Public Service Alliance of Canada. Our Convention will be held Friday, June 16 to Sunday, June 18 at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver in Vancouver, BC.

The theme of this Convention, "Honouring the Past, the Future Is Ours," celebrates the PSAC's twenty-year history of regionalization in BC and acknowledges the exciting path ahead of us as we continue to grow together and build our Union.

Included in this guide are details on how to register as an delegate or as an observer, how to submit resolutions to Convention, as well as information on travel and expense reimbursement. Further details on Convention are also available on the PSAC BC regional website at psacbc.com/convention-2017.

Please feel free to contact the REVP Office is you have any questions:

PSAC BC REVP Office

302 - 5238 Joyce Street

Vancouver, BC V5R 6C9

Tel: 604-430-0191 or 1-866-811-7700

Email: SchnidK@psac-afpc.com

I look forward to seeing you at the Convention in June!

In solidarity,

Regional Executive Vice-President Public Service Alliance of Canada, BC



LOCATION, CONVENTION SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION INFORMATION

LOCATION

The 7th PSAC BC Regional Triennial Convention will be at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, located at:

900 West Georgia Street Vancouver, BC V6C 2W6 fairmont.com/hotel-vancouver/

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

B.C. Regional Triennial Convention will begin at 9:30 AM on Friday, June 16 and will adjourn by 3 PM on Sunday, June 18. Before the Convention starts a new delegate orientation seminar will take place at 8:30 AM on Friday, June 16. In addition, an evening reception will take place on Friday, June 16.

B.C. Regional Council Meeting Following Convention

Once elected, the new B.C. Regional Council will meet for a one-day session on Monday, June 19 following the Convention at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.

REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee for each delegate and observer is \$200 and must be submitted no later than **Friday, May 12, 2017.**

There will be no refund on registration fees after June 12, 2017.

REGISTRATION

Registration will take place at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver as indicated below:

Thursday, June 15, 2016: 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Friday, June 16, 2016: 7:00 AM to 9:30 AM

Delegates attending the Convention must register by completing the registration form. Delegates may register by any of the following methods:

- Online
- By paper copy to the Office of the Regional Executive Vice-President B.C., 302 – 5238 Joyce Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 6C9
- By fax to 604-431-6727

Instructions for online registration will be provided to confirmed delegates individually once their names have been received by the Office of the Regional Executive Vice-President B.C.

The deadline for submitting completed delegate registration forms to the REVP Office is Monday, April 3, 2017

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Delegates to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention will be s/elected based on Section 9 of the B.C. Regional Council By-laws and Regulation 1.

(Please see pages 15-18 of this Information Guide for the specific text.)

Local and Component Delegates

Local and Component delegates will be selected/elected within the Locals and Components, and therefore nomination forms do not apply. We will be contacting Component National Officers to discuss and provide delegate entitlements.

For more information, see B.C. Regional Council By-laws, Section 9, Sub-Section 1 (attached).

We require that all names of Component and Local delegates be provided to the Office of the Regional Executive Vice-President B.C. by email at Schnidk@psac-afpc.com no later than:

4 PM on Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Equity/Youth/DCL and Separate Employer Delegates

Equity delegates: One delegate will be elected from each of the following equity groups: racially visible; aboriginal; gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender; and members with a disability.

Young Worker delegates: Three delegates will be elected amongst young workers 35 years of age and under.

Directly chartered locals/small separate employers: One delegate will be elected from amongst the applicable locals. (We will contact the affected locals.)

For more information, see B.C. Regional Council Regulation 1, Sections 2 and 3 (attached).

Nomination forms for Equity, Youth and Directly chartered locals/small separate employers will be sent out under separate cover.

Ballots will be sent out once the nominations have been closed. To nominate or be nominated you must be a member in good standing.



DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

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(Please see pages 15-18 of this Information Guide for the specific text.)

Area Council and Committee Delegates

Area Council, Regional Women's Committee, Human Rights Committee, Youth Committee and BRUSH Committee delegates will be selected/elected within their respective constituencies.

For more information, see B.C. Regional Council Regulation 1, Section 1 (attached).

We require the names of Area Council and Committee delegates be provided to the Office of the Regional Executive Vice-President B.C. by email at Schnidk@psac-afpc.com no later than:

4 PM on Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Automatic Delegates

For the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention automatic delegates include: B.C. Regional Council members, National Aboriginal Peoples Circle representatives, and Component and PSAC National Officers who are members of the B.C. Regional Caucus.

For more information, see B.C. Regional Council By-laws, Section 9, Sub-Section 2.



FUNDING FOR DELEGATES

FUNDING FOR DELEGATES

Funding for the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention will be as follows:



For those delegates living 30 kilometres or less from the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver:

- PSAC will provide a \$60.00 per day allowance for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to cover the cost of travel, meals, and parking.
- We would encourage delegates to take public transit if possible.
- Hotel will not be provided.
- If on shift on Saturday and/or Sunday, loss of salary will be provided.
- Loss of salary for Friday will not be covered.

For those delegates living more than 30 kilometres from the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver:

- PSAC will cover the costs of hotel, travel, per diem, and self-parking.
- If on shift on Saturday and/or Sunday, loss of salary will be provided.
- Loss of salary for Thursday and Friday will not be covered.
- For delegates living within the Lower Mainland, we encourage them to take public transit if possible.



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

TRANSPORTATION & HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Per the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention Travel Guidelines, delegates who are in travel status (those who reside more than 30 kilometers from the Convention site) will be provided with hotel accommodations.

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved for our Convention requirements at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. All room reservations must be made through the REVP B.C. Office.

Registration must be completed prior to making any hotel and/or travel arrangements.

LOSS OF SALARY REIMBURSEMENT

Prior to making travel arrangements, delegates should ensure they have been granted leave from their employer (as required) to attend the Convention.

Delegates who are on shift on Saturday, June 17 and/or Sunday, June 18 will be reimbursed for their loss of salary.

Loss of salary for Friday, June 16, 2017 will not be provided.

Any loss of salary incurred to travel to and/or from the Convention will not be reimbursed by the PSAC. Moreover, there will be no overtime compensation.

In order to assist staff in the preparation of expense claims, wherever feasible, shift or compressed scheduled will be required by May 31, 2017 for those delegates who are on shift on Saturday and/or Sunday.

EXPENSE CLAIMS

All delegate expense claims must be submitted electronically through the Member Expense Portal (MEP). The MEP is located on the PSAC Members Portal website at <u>psacunion.ca</u>. Claims must be submitted within 90 days of the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

Administrative staff will be on-site at the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention to assist you in completing your expense claim. Please bring all original receipts for your ground transportation and proof of shift schedule with you if applicable.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CONTACT

All Convention delegates, observers and guests will be required to provide the name and contact phone number for an emergency contact person with their registration. Please include your relationship to this individual as well. This information will only be used in the event of an emergency where we need to contact someone for you.

GOING GREEN AT OUR CONVENTION

To make our event more environmentallyfriendly, participants will have the option to go paperless, and receive convention documents electronically.

Also, we strongly encourage all delegates residing within the Metro Vancouver Area to take Transit to Convention where possible. For schedule information and to plan your transit travel, please visit the Translink website at tripplanning.translink.ca

RESOLUTIONS

Deadline for Resolutions

Resolutions to be considered by the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention must be received by the Office of the Regional Executive Vice-President B.C. by email at SchnidK@psac-afpc.com or printed copy to 302 – 5238 Joyce Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 6C9, no later than:

4 PM on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017

We urge you to forward all resolutions at the earliest possible date.

Resolutions will be referred to one of the three Resolutions Committees: By-Laws, Finance or General.

Who Can Submit Resolutions?

Per Section 7, Sub-Section 1 and Section 8, Sub-Section 3 of the B.C. Regional Council By-laws, the submitting bodies for resolutions to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention are:

- the B.C. Regional Council
- Locals and Branches in B.C.
- B.C. Regional Women's Committees in good standing
- B.C. Area Councils in good standing
- nationally and regionally recognized committees in good standing

Resolution Format

Each resolution must:

- be limited to a maximum of 150 words
- be formatted in 14 point Arial font, using Microsoft Word
- be formatted in either the traditional or clear language format and include a resolution title and the name of the originator (i.e. the submitting body)
- not include any special formatting such as boxes or drawings

The "Be it resolved" and "Be it further resolved" (or "The PSAC will" in clear lanaguage format) clauses are the most important parts of the resolution as these are the points delegates will be debating. Therefore, it is important that they are drafted in such a way as to stand alone.

Please note - Bargaining demands will not be accepted as there are other mechanisms in place to address them.

Should you have any questions regarding the resolutions process, please contact the REVP Office at (604) 430-0191 or by email at Schnidk@psac-afpc.com



The deadline for submitting resolutions to the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention is 4 PM on Wednesday, March 15, 2017

RESOLUTIONS

Tips for Writing Good Resolutions

A good resolution:

- uses clear simply wording
- is concise and focused, and respects the 150 word limit
- Deals with just one topic (problem) and has one major objective
- clearly identifies the problem
- specifically outlines the required action
- builds in accountability (i.e. deadlines, who will be responsible for implementing the proposed action, what resources will be required)
- ensures the action proposed is within the jurisdiction of the organization to implement
- isn't something that it constitutionally dealt with in another way (i.e. bargaining demands)
- allows for flexibility in implementation it's the end results that counts
- is submitted on time (prior to the 4 PM deadline on Wednesday, March 15, 2017
- isn't about something that is already enacted
- applies the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHY and HOW test.



EXAMPLE RESOLUTIONS

EXAMPLES OF GOOD RESOLUTIONS

Clear Language Format

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE WORKPLACE

BECAUSE mental health issues affect 20% of our members and is a leading cause of stress in the workplace; and

BECAUSE there needs to be an increased awareness of mental health issues; and

BECAUSE there needs to be consistency in dealing with mental health issues:

THE PSAC WILL develop a presentation document on mental health and make it available to all locals to increase awareness on mental health issues in the workplace

Traditional Format

SUPPORTING THE COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM

WHEREAS the court challenges program, which provides funding to challenge laws and policies that violate constitutional equality rights, was abolished by the Conservative government; and

WHEREAS in the past, this program allowed citizens to defend their fundamental rights - rights that many would not have had the financial means to defend without this program; and

WHEREAS, without the court challenges program, only people with means have access to the legal system to challenge unjust laws:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC support the rights of citizens by taking a public stand in favour of re-establishing the court challenges program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PSAC support all campaigns to have the court challenges program re-established in its entirety.



ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS

The following positions will be elected at the 7th B.C. Regional Triennial Convention (subject to any By-law changes):

- The Regional Executive Vice-President (REVP)
- The Alternate REVP

Geographic Coordinators to be elected

•	North Vancouver Island	one (1)
•	South Vancouver Island	two (2)
•	Northeastern B.C.	one (1)
•	Northwestern B.C.	one (1)
•	Southern Interior (Okanagan/Kootenay)	two (2)
•	East Fraser Valley	one (1)
•	West Fraser Valley	one (1)
•	Metro Vancouver	three (3)

Constituency Coordinators to be elected

•	Women	one (1)
•	Pride	one (1)
•	Racially Visible	one (1)
•	Aboriginal	one (1)
•	Members with Disabilities	one (1)
•	Directly Chartered Locals/Separate Employer Units	one (1)
•	National Officers	one (1)
•	Health and Safety	one (1)
•	Young Workers (35 years of age and under)	one (1)

PREPARING FOR CONVENTION

CONVENTION PREPARATIONS COURSES OFFERED BY THE PSAC BC REGION

Resolution Writing Webinars

The B.C. Region is providing four sessions of a one-hour webinar on how to write resolutions for conferences and conventions.

The webinars are open to all members in B.C. and are offered monthly, beginning in December 2016.

- Session 1: Tuesday, Dec. 13 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, facilitator: Deanna Kimball
- Session 2: Thursday, Jan. 19 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, facilitator: TBD
- Session 3: Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, facilitator: TBD
- Session 4: Thursday, Mar. from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, facilitator: Monica Urrutia

Advance registration is required for the webinars and is available on the PSAC B.C. regional website.

Please contact Regional Education Officer Deb Seaboyer at SeaboyD@psac-afpc.com if you have any questions regarding the webinars.

Convention Procedures Course

The B.C. Region is offering the Convention Procedures Course across the Region to help prepare members for the PSAC B.C. Regional Triennial Convention and the 2017 Component conventions.

By the end of the course, participants will understand the purpose of conventions, become familiar with convention procedures such as voting, elections, reports, etc., and become more skilled at using Rules Of Order. We will examine the roles of convention committees, committee chairpersons, convention chairpersons, and gain some understanding of the dynamics of conventions.

Advance registration is required for all PSAC courses and is available on the PSAC B.C. regional website at psacbc.com/apply-online-psac-weekend-courses

Dates and Locations for the Convention Procedures Course are as follows:

- February 25 in Victoria
 Application deadline is February 17
- April 8–April 9 in Vancouver Application deadline is March 24
- April 8–April 9 in Kamloops
 Application deadline is March 24
- April 22–April 23 in Abbotsford Application deadline is April 7



ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES, FAMILY CARE, CONVENTION WEBSITE & SCENT FREE POLICY

CONVENTION WEBSITE & ONLINE CONVENTION RESOURCES

The 7th B.C. Regional Triennial Convention Agenda, Rules of Order, PSAC B.C. Regional Council By-Laws, Resolutions and Committee reports as well as other items of interest will be made available on the PSAC B.C. website at psacbc.com/convention-2017.

FAMILY CARE

The objective of the PSAC Family Care Policy is to remove one of the barriers which prevents delegates from participating fully in Union activities and which provides for the reimbursement of family care expenses. A copy of the policy is available on the PSAC website at <u>psacunion.ca/family-care-policy</u>.

Where possible, child care arrangements will be provided based on needs identified on the delegate registration form.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES

The PSAC Accommodation Policy strives to ensure that PSAC events are barrier-free for members with disabilities. Once s/elected as a delegate, members will be asked to specify their accommodation needs in order to facilitate their participation at the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

SCENT FREE EVENT

In consideration for the health of our members who may suffer from multiple chemical sensitivities, and with the goal of eliminating a contaminant from the air, the PSAC requests that all participants attending the Conference refrain from using scented products. These include scented perfumes, colognes, lotions, hairsprays, shampoos, deodorants, and other products promoted by the fragrance industry.

OBSERVERS

PSAC members in good standing who wish to observe the 7th B.C. Regional Triennial Convention are most welcome.

Observers are responsible for all hotel, loss of salary, and transportation expenses. Observers are also required to submit the \$200 Convention Registration fee.

More information regarding observer registration will be provided under separate cover.

SECTION 8

B.C. REGIONAL TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

Sub-Section (1)

- a) The B.C. Regional Council shall hold its B.C. Regional Triennial Convention within the period commencing 14 months and ending 9 months prior to the PSAC National Triennial Convention.
- b) The B.C. Regional Council may, at the request of two-thirds (2/3) of its members, call a special Convention.
- c) The B.C. Regional Council shall be responsible for the production and distribution of the Convention proceedings to all Convention delegates within six (6) months of Convention.
- d) The B.C. Regional Council shall issue a call to Convention to all appropriate bodies not less than 4 months prior to the date of the Convention. Such Convention Call shall include the final date for receipt of resolutions.

Sub-Section (2)

The B.C. Regional Triennial Convention shall be chaired by the B.C. REVP or, in their absence, by the Alternate REVP or a member of the B.C. Regional Council.

Sub-Section (3)

The B.C. Regional Triennial Convention shall:

- a) Adopt rules of procedure governing the processing of all matters before the Convention;
- b) Deal with all resolutions and matters submitted to it by the B.C. Regional Council, Locals, Branches, Regional Women's Committees, Area Councils in good standing, and nationally and regionally recognized committees;
- c) Elect the Coordinators of the B.C. Regional Council, as outlined in Section 4, Sub-Section (1) and Section 11, Sub-Section (1) and (2);



- d) Approve the priorities proposed by Regional Council for the regional budget allotted by the PSAC National Triennial Convention; including any membership fees to be paid by each participating Local or Branch;
- e) Deal with any other administrative matters placed before it by the delegates, in the manner prescribed by the procedural rules adopted by the Convention for the orderly conduct of its business;
- f) Elect the B.C. REVP and the Alternate REVP as per Section 10.

Sub-Section (4)

Resolutions except for By-Laws and Finance that are not dealt with at the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention will be deferred to the first meeting of the B.C. Regional Council.

SECTION 9

REPRESENTATION AND VOTING AT THE B.C. REGIONAL TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

Sub-Section (1)

Step 1:

All Locals/Branches which have 100 members or more will be entitled to one (1) delegate.

Step 2:

All Locals/Branches which have more than 100 members will be entitled to an additional delegate for each 300 members or major portion thereof (A major portion of 300 would be 151 to 299) over the initial 100 members.

Step 3:

Combine the membership in a component for those Locals/Branches which did not qualify for Step 1 and 2. This group of Locals/Branches will be entitled to one (1) delegate for any portion up to 100 members. (**Note**: none of the "extra" members for Step 1 and 2 Locals/Branches are included in that addition).

Step 4:

For each 300 members or major portion thereof (A major portion of 300 would be 151 to 299) over 100 members, this group of Locals/Branches will be entitled to another delegate.

Sub-Section (2)

- a) The B.C. Regional Council members shall be delegates to B.C. Regional Triennial Conventions.
- b) PSAC members who hold a PSAC national elected office, National Aboriginal Peoples' Circle (NAPC) representatives, and Component National Officers who are members of the B.C. Regional Caucus shall be entitled to attend B.C. Regional Triennial Conventions as delegates.
- c) A National Officer who is unable to attend the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention is entitled to be replaced by their alternate, providing they are a member of the B.C. Regional Caucus.

Sub-Section (3)

Each accredited B.C. Regional Women's Committee in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

Sub-Section (4)

Each recognized B.C. Regional equity seeking group shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

Sub-Section (5)

Each B.C. Regional Area Council in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.



Sub-Section (6)

Directly Chartered Locals and Separate Employer Units, except those Directly Chartered Locals and Separate Employer Units of Locals, that are entitled to a delegate(s) under Section 9, Sub-Section 1, Steps 1 and 2, will be entitled to one (1) delegate to represent their entire constituency

Sub-Section (7)

Youth shall be entitled to three (3) delegates to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention to represent their constituency.

Sub-Section (8)

Each Regional committee in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to the B.C. Regional Triennial Convention.

Sub-Section (9)

Delegate entitlement under Section 9 shall be determined by each Component and Directly Chartered Local in accordance with Section 4, Sub-Section (14) of the Constitution in the 12 months prior to the date of the Convention Call.

REGULATION 1

Selection of Delegates to B.C. Region Triennial Convention

Section 1: Delegates Representing Regional Women's Committees, Area Councils, and any other constitutionally recognized Regional Committees.

Sub-Section 1: Delegate selection meetings

Each Regional Women's Committee, Area Council and any other committee recognized by the Council shall hold a general meeting, not less than two (2) months and not more than six (6) months prior to a Triennial Convention, B.C. Region, for the purpose of electing a convention delegate. Every effort shall be made to schedule such meeting at a convenient time to permit as many members as possible attend. Notice of the meeting, in writing, is to be given at least four (4) weeks in advance of the meeting date.

Sub-Section 2: Eligibility

For Regional Women's Committees, any active member in good standing of the Committee is eligible to seek delegate status and to vote in the delegate selection.

For Area Councils, each Area council delegate in good standing of an affiliated local is eligible to seek delegate status and to vote in the delegate selection.

For each other constitutionally recognized Regional Committee, any active member in good standing of the Committee is eligible to seek delegate status and to vote in the delegate selection.

Eligible candidates who are unable to attend the delegate selection meeting may seek the nomination by submitting a written statement, duly moved and seconded, of their intent to do so.



Sub-Section 3: Voting

The delegate is elected by a simple majority of ballots cast. Where no candidate has a clear majority, the lowest-ranking delegate is dropped from the ballot and voting repeated until one (1) delegate has a clear majority of 50% + 1.

Section 2: Delegates Representing Equity Groups and Youth

Sub-Section 1: Eligibility

Equity members must self-identify to run or vote for the equity delegate seats. Each member may belong to and vote in more than one (1) equity group. Equity members may also run or vote in local/component delegate elections.

Sub-Section 2: Nominations

Nominations must be submitted, on the approved form and by the deadline established by the Convention committee, to the office of the REVP.

Sub-Section 3: Voting

Ballots will be mailed to each member who has self-identified as a member of one (1) of the equity groups.

Section 3: Delegates Representing Directly Chartered Locals and Small Separate Employers

Sub-Section 1: Eligibility

Each member in good standing of a Directly Chartered Local or a local of a small separate employer is eligible to seek delegate status and to vote in the delegate selection.

Sub-Section 2: Nominations

Nominations must be submitted, on the approved form and by the deadline established by the Convention committee, to the office of the REVP.

Sub-Section 3: Voting

Ballots will be mailed to each member of the above Locals.

Amended by the B.C. Regional Council, April 2008

REGULATION 2

Regulation concerning recognition of committees under By-law Section 9 Sub-Section (8)

Section 1: Criteria

By-law Section 9 Sub-Section (8) provides for the recognition of and delegate status for committees of the PSAC which did not exist at the time the By-laws were drafted. Such committees will be considered for recognition under the By-law if and only if they meet the following criteria:

- (i) the purpose of the committee is of relevance to the PSAC or to the labour movement
- (ii) the recognition of the committee will promote union activism and increase member participation in union activities
- (iii) only one (1) regional committee will be recognized for each special interest group.



Section 2: Application

A committee seeking recognition under By-law Section 9 Sub-Section (8) shall submit to the office of the REVP a written application. The application should include the name of the committee or group, a brief description of the committee's purpose and accomplishments, and a paragraph describing how the committee meets the criteria set out above. The application should be accompanied by copies of the By-laws and/ or Terms of Reference of the committee, a list of executive members or directors, and minutes of the last three (3) meetings.

(Rationale: Committees should demonstrate that they are well established and ongoing bodies, with some degree of stability.)

Section 3: Approval

Applications submitted under Section 2 that meet the criteria set out in Section 1 must still be ratified by a majority decision of the B.C. Regional Council at the next regular or special meeting of the Council.

Section 4: Review

The recognized committees will be reviewed triennially, six (6) months prior to B.C. Regional Convention, to ensure that recognized committees are viable and active. Committees which have become inactive will have their recognition rescinded.

Adopted by the B.C. Regional Council, October 2001