

**DRAFT RECORD OF MEETING
B.C. REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD FRIDAY, MARCH 2 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018
AT THE BURNABY FIREFIGHTERS BANQUET HALL,
6515 BONSOR AVENUE, BURNABY**

In Attendance:

Jamey Mills, REVP-B.C. (Chair)	Leanne Hughes, National Officers
Johann Ackermann, West Fraser Valley	Terri Lee, Metro Vancouver
Sky Belt, Metro Vancouver	Jenny MacLeod, Aboriginal
James Brierley, Young Workers	Jill MacNeill, Northwest B.C.
Jennifer Chieh Ho, Racially Visible	Trish Martin, South Vancouver Island
Bert Farwell, North Vancouver Island	Antony Paller, East Fraser Valley
Nia Gillies, Pride	Shane Polak, MWD
Colleen Girard, South Vancouver Island	David Schinbein, DCL/SSE
Linda Harding, Health & Safety	Kelly Sidhu, Women's
Jennifer Horsley, Metro Vancouver	Todd Smith, Alt REVP-B.C.

Regrets:

Carolyn McGillivray, Southern Interior	Jeanne Olineck, Southern Interior
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Staff:

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

Guests:

Chris Aylward, PSAC NEVP	Dave Knoblauch, CIU Branch President
Dean Babuin, Agriculture RVP	T. Mark Miller, UNDE National Vice-President
Stephen Klaver, CEIU Alternate BC/YT NVP	Keith Palmer, CIU Branch President

Friday, March 2, 2018

Jamey Mills called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM and welcomed all in attendance.

Aboriginal Territory Acknowledgement

Jamey acknowledged and thanked the Coast Salish nations of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil Waututh Peoples on whose traditional, unceded territories the meeting was taking place.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was held to acknowledge workers killed on the job and those individual who have passed since the last in-person meeting.

Particular mention was given to Sister Ann Strutt of UHEW, who worked at the Department of Fisheries and Ocean and who had been killed on the job while returning from Conservation and Protection training in February. Ann Strutt was regarded affectionately as the office's "work mom." Ann was also a social justice advocate, who had been instrumental in obtaining the funding for the unemployment action centre in Prince Rupert. Ann had also been one of the founding members of the PSAC Northwest BC Area Council. She will be dearly missed.

Also involved in the car accident was Patricia DeMille, who survived with injuries. The Regional Council's thoughts are with Patricia at this time.

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 in advance of the meeting and were posted in the meeting space.

Welcome and Introductions

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

Jamey then commented on the success of the Phoenix Day of Action events across BC on February 28. While the Region was only asked to carry out an event at one site in BC, the members of BC were able to organize 13 events across the province in a variety of different formats. Well done, BC.

Jamey then provided an update on the Regional Council composition, noting that Giselle Henry had resigned from her position as Aboriginal Coordinator, and Alternate Jenny Macleod had been appointed to the position. Giselle also resigned from her NACP BC representative position. Subsequently, Alternate Jill MacNeill had been named as the female NACP rep for BC.

The Northeast Coordinator position is currently vacant because when Sharon Bull's six month leave-of-absence expired in February, Sharon advised that she would be permanently stepping down from the position. Tiffany Hobbins, who had been acting in the position during Sharon's leave-of-absence, was offered the position for the balance of the three-year term. However, Tiffany declined the position. The REVP Office is now contacting other alternates to take on the position.

Adoption of Agenda

The meeting agenda had been circulated electronically in advance of the meeting.

A motion was then made to adopt the agenda as circulated.

Moved: Linda Harding; seconded: David Schinbein

Carried

Hours of Session

The Chair reviewed the hours of session as communicated in advance of the meeting.

On motion duly moved, seconded and carried the Hours of Session were adopted as:

Friday, March 2 from	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Saturday, March 3 from	8:30 AM to 10:30 AM Committee Working Groups 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Sunday, March 4 from	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM or completion

Moved: Leanne Hughes; seconded: Sky Belt

Carried

Approval of Previous Minutes

A motion was made to accept the previous minutes of the November 3-4, 2017 meeting, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Moved: Linda Harding; seconded: Bert Farwell

Carried

A motion was made to accept the previous minutes of the December 18, 2017 conference call, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Moved: Bert Farwell; seconded: Shane Polak

Carried

A motion was made to accept the previous minutes of the February 6, 2018 conference call, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Moved: James Brierley; seconded: David Schinbein

Carried

Presentation on the Proposed PSAC 2019-2021 Budget, NEVP Chris Aylward

Chris Aylward explained that the budget process for 2015 greatly differed from this Convention's budget process: in 2015 the PSAC was faced with the Harper government and a constant barrage of cuts. Consequently, the 2015 budget was built with a projection of a budgetary deficit, and laid plans to begin shifting the PSAC to a smaller organization. When the 2015 federal election resulted in a Liberal government, the cuts stopped and hiring began again in the public service. The result was that we did not realize deficit that was anticipated in the budget that had been passed at 2015 PSAC National Triennial Convention. So with this next budget, the PSAC will have to increase the staffing budget line to account for the current staffing positions that we did not cut over the last cycle. Chris added that we also need to increase the budget in some other areas to reflect the resources needed for current membership activities and operations. Therefore, this budget is a dues increase budget with an increase of \$1.32.

Another change from the 2015 budget is with respect to the pension solvency levy. Chris advised that this levy had been introduced in the 2012 budget when it was realized that the staff pension plan has a solvency issue. Based on Ontario legislation, the PSAC had a legal obligation to ensure the plan's solvency. The special dues levy was then adopted and implemented. In 2015, the budget again included the pension solvency levy because the actuarial on the staff pension plan indicated that it was still needed. However, we are not going to collect the pension solvency levy going forward because the staff pension plan is now solvent. The levy ceased as of December 31, 2017.

Chris then identified the process by which the budget was developed, noting that it first involved the NBoD Standing Finance Committee. From there, the draft budget was presented to the AEC and the NBoD in December 2017 where it passed unamended by the Board. In late February the budget was then reviewed by the Convention Finance Committee at the Pre-Convention Committee meetings, where the Committee passed in unanimously. Chris added that the Finance Convention Committee has two members from BC: REVP Jamey Mills and UVAE NEVP Virginia Vaillancourt.

Chris then provided an overview of the increases and decreased to various budget lines in the proposed budget. He noted that because of Phoenix, we couldn't look at current membership numbers, when constructing this draft budget; we had to rely on 2015 numbers. Additionally, the proposed budget includes a resolutions fund of \$750,000, which is to be used for one-time cost resolutions adopted at Convention.

As part of his summary Chris noted the following distinctions within the proposed budget:

- The "Participation in the Labour Movement" budget line includes the affiliation fees to the CLC and Federations of labour. In the past there has been no cap to the number of members that can be affiliated. However, within this proposed budget a cap of 176,000 members is being implemented.

- Total member expenses have increased 1.5% per year with 23,714,000 in the second year and 24,070,000 in the third year of the budget
- Under “Other Operating Expenses” a new budget line for internal meetings has been added: since 2009, staff have always had national conferences (one for admin staff and one for staff officers). However, this practice ceased over the last two cycles. It is now being added back in at cost of \$160,000 per year.
- In the 2015 budget the “Local Development” budget was included in with “Stewards Initiatives,” but is now being broken out again for greater clarity and to ensure it is utilized.
- There will be some savings in communications as the organization is moving to a VOIP system versus traditional landline phones at PSAC headquarters and in all regional offices. The costs savings will be approximately 50%.

Chris then addressed the change in dues levies that took place at the start of 2018. As previously explained, the pension solvency fund levy ended on December 31, 2017. However, as of January 1 PSAC implemented the general fund levy at the same amount that was previously being collected for the pension solvency fund. This was because in the fall the PSAC leadership were advised that the organization’s dues revenues were short \$14-16M as a result of Phoenix pay issues. Because the staff pension plan actuarial indicated that the plan was solvent, the Board then voted in October to stop that levy in initiate the general fund levy to mitigate the impact of the dues shortfall. The general fund dues levy is being directed to a separate account, and is being tracked separately.

Chris provided that the general fund levy passed in the 2016-2018 budget would have allowed the PSAC to deduct up to \$5 per member per month. However, the Board agreed to keep the amount at the same amount as the pension solvency fund for fear of further Phoenix implications.

Chris further explained that \$6.7M of the dues shortfall is a result of the change tapes not being run. The balance of the shortfall is due to the non-implementation of the Treasury Board (TB) collective agreements. The PSAC has every intention of recovering the dues shortfall, either through the established recovery process with members or from TB. Chris then noted that TB has made a commitment to the PSAC to provide an advance of \$5M for the dues owed.

Sky Belt asked why it took the PSAC so long to ask Treasury Board for a loan to cover the dues shortfall. Why did the PSAC choose, instead, to reallocate the pension solvency levy to the general fund levy without member permission. Chris clarified that the permission was granted by the membership by the fact that the NBoD is the governing body of the PSAC between conventions. The NBoD voted on the levy change prior to implementation. Chris further noted that the general fund levy was debated and approved as part of 2016-2018 budget passed by the delegates at the 2015 National Triennial Convention. In fact, the general fund levy included in that budget would have allowed the PSAC to deduct a greater amount than the amount currently being collected. However, the NBoD decided to keep the amount the same as the pension solvency fund levy to avoid any Phoenix-related payroll issues.

Sky then commented that she is glad to hear the general fund levy is being tracked separate from the pension solvency fund. However, she hopes that the PSAC will be demanding interest from TB on the dues shortfall. Sky concluded her comments by noting that she found the communication to the membership on the dues levy changes misleading, which upset many members. Chris agreed that the communication to the membership on the changes to the dues levies could have been better.

Terri Lee then asked for clarity on the levies in the proposed 2019-2021 budget. Chris further clarified that there are three levy funds: the pension solvency levy, the general fund levy, and the

strike fund levy. As noted earlier, the pension solvency levy is not continuing at this time. The proposed budget does include a general fund levy if revenues drop 2% or more. The strike fund levy in the budget is initiated if the strike fund falls below \$10M. For the strike fund levy, members who earn more than \$30,000 per year would see a deduction of \$4/month. For members who earn less than \$30,000 per year, the levy imposed would equate to \$2/month.

Colleen asked how many resolutions will be going forward that include a dues increase. Chris answered that nearly all the priority resolutions have a costing. As such, it's likely that the first 20 resolutions debated will have a cost. Colleen then commented that her concern is that as soon as a dues increase is implemented there will be Phoenix implications for members, and the system will again be flooded with pay issues. Chris responded that they are hopeful that TB will be able to read the change tapes by June of this year. If so, a dues increase is not expected to have the same impact as it would presently. That said, Chris asserted that if he is elected, he will not implement any dues increase until PSPC can confirm that the system will be able to receive the changes.

Colleen then asked for clarity on the PSAC operating costs, querying what the largest cost is outside of staff salaries and benefits. Chris answered that it would be travel and sundry expenses. Chris further noted that the travel budget was being increased from \$3.3M to \$3.7M per year.

Colleen followed up Chris' answer, asking if the PSAC was investigating way to be more efficient and fiscally responsible (e.g. looking technological options to meet remotely rather than in person). Chris advised that the PSAC continues to use more efficient technologies to mitigate costs, such as Skype for Business. In addition, there are three programs/budgets currently under review: the National Equity Conference, UDP, and the Leadership conferences. The aim of the reviews is to determine if the current format is the most efficient ways to be carrying out these programs and events.

Sky Belt asked what will happen to members who haven't been paying due when the change tapes are finally read. Chris answered that the PSAC has an established policy that they will only collect dues in arrears of for maximum period of one year, and those dues will be collected at the same rate at which they are paid. That means that no member with dues in arrears will have more than double their dues deducted per month, and that will only occur over the course of one year even if greater dues are outstanding. Chris noted that the PSAC will make allowances for members who are not in a situation to repay their dues in arrears at that rate. For the balance of dues still owing beyond the scope of that one-year period, the PSAC will seek them from Treasury Board.

For members whose dues have been over-deducted by the PSAC in error, the PSAC will pay out the monies owed to the member immediately at 100 percent.

All repayment information will be communicated to members by the PSAC and posted on the national website with specific details once we know when the change tape can be read.

T. Mark Miller asked for clarity on how the resolutions fund may be applied at convention. Chris answered that the \$750,000 resolutions funds may only be used for resolutions that have a one-time cost. It cannot be used for ongoing costs (e.g. increases to existing budget lines, new regional conferences, etc.). Before a dues increase is proposed to the membership, there is the \$1.42/member per month reduction realized as a result of the changes in the dues levies in the proposed budget.

Linda Harding asked what mechanism allowed the PSAC to redirect the Pension solvency levy funds to the General levy. Chris answered that the NBoD is the governing body of the PSAC between Triennial Conventions. This matter was discussed at the NBoD, and that body decided this would be

the best way to keep dues deductions seamless for the membership. However, for clarity, it is one levy ceasing and a separate levy commencing at the same rate.

After some additional comments, Jamey thanked Chris for presenting to the Regional Council and providing some clarity on the draft 2019-2021 PSAC budget.

Swearing-in of Regional Council Member

NEVP Chris Aylward conducted the oath of office for Colleen Girard, South Vancouver Island Coordinator on the B.C. Regional Council.

Phoenix Pay System Campaign Update from NEVP Chris Aylward

Chris Aylward began by thanking the members of BC for their involvement with the February 28 Day of Action events. Chris noted that the February 28 actions are just the start of future Phoenix campaign initiatives; the NBoD's Phoenix Committee will continue to develop plan for further plans for the campaign.

Chris then reminded the Council that he and PSAC National President Robyn Benson sit on the UMC with Treasury Board (TB), which includes the Assistant Deputy Minister, CRA officials and other TB officials. The experience at the UMC has been rather frustrating at times: Chris noted that they've been told one thing at a meeting, only to find out that the statement is not accurate (e.g. system downtime in Miramichi). Presently they're still waiting on a long overdue report from PSPC.

Speaking on the February 28 Day of Action, Chris acknowledged that the Ottawa demonstration was not at the level expected. The challenge in the NCR (and in other Regions) has been mobilizing members.

After some discussion, Colleen asserted that the campaign messaging needs to change: When Colleen talks with members, she finds that it's their opinion that the leadership needs to take action to fix Phoenix. Members often dissociate themselves from the PSAC saying "the Union," and they don't acknowledge their role. We need to communicate to members that we are all "the Union," and we need everyone's involvement to be successful.

Antony Paller asked if a parliamentary committee had been set up to look at Phoenix. Chris answered that there is a Ministerial Committee, which includes five senior ministers. The Committee has met with PSAC, PIPSC and CAPE. However, the Committee proceedings are not minuted nor of public record.

Antony then asked whether or not the PSAC is tracking Employer-paid and payroll-deducted benefits; if paycheques are incorrect, these benefits are likely incorrect as well. Do members still have coverage even if the deductions are not being made (accurately) with each paycheque? Chris answered that payroll-deducted benefits and Employer-paid benefits are on the radar of the PSAC and the monies will be recovered from the Employer as necessary.

Sky Belt asked if the minutes from the national UMCs could be sent out to the membership in an effort to fact-check the Government on outstanding Phoenix issues and erroneous statements by the Government. Chris acknowledged Sky's suggestion and committed to raising it in Ottawa.

Shane Polak suggested that we start a start work to rule campaign and refuse acting positions until Phoenix is fixed. Chris explained that many members are already doing this in that they are not accepting acting positions, promotions, and/or transfer for fear of a potential Phoenix impact on their paycheques. Colleen commented that we have to be careful with this tactic as it may lead to

the possibility of contracting out: if there's a gap that our members are not filling, the Employer will look at other alternatives.

After further discussion, Colleen asked if there have been any explorations conducted to looking for a different payroll system. Chris answered that no specific alternative system was being explored at this time. Further discussion ensued.

Jamey then asked if Chris could provide a summary of what the \$431M of Phoenix funding, announced in the federal budget, would be going toward. Chris advised that a large portion of the five-year funding would be for new hires as the staffing level at Miramishi is three times the number anticipated. Staffing funding will also be allocated at the worksite level. A lot of funding is also going to IBM to implement further fixes to the system. There is also \$16M allocated in the budget to investigate a new system.

Chris noted that there has been some talk of PIPSC designing a new payroll system. From the PSAC perspective, Chris explained that we don't care who the Government works with to bring in a working payroll system; we do believe that PIPSC can build one. However, the PSAC is open to working with any party that is able to deliver an effective system. That said, in the budget the Liberals have committed to consulting with the unions on the investigation of the new system.

Sky commented that she does care who builds system; she would like a unionized provider to build it. More importantly, she doesn't want the same situation Australia faced when IBM got a second contract for their payroll system after it took them seven years to get rid of Phoenix. Chris clarified that if PIPSC is able to build system, the PSAC will support it.

Chris then provided some clarity on the damages the PSAC will be seeking, noting that there are two streams for damages: (1) damages for mental anguish incurred by members and (2) damages owed in light of the Collective Agreements not being implemented on time. On the first stream, the PSAC is getting closer to the agreement with the Employer. However, discussions are still ongoing.

After further discussion, Trish asserted that we need to focus on membership engagement to ensure member participation at Phoenix events. That engagement may require us to call each Local President for every event. More importantly, we need to get members to start saying "my union" rather than "the union" so there is an increased level of ownership in what we need to do as a union, not just what the elected officers need to do. Trish added that plantgating is crucial in advance of any event to ensure effective communication with members. Chris agreed with Trish's comments and asserted that there should be a union presence at the worksite monthly.

Sky commented that there needs to be a national campaign for plantgating as there aren't funds in the Region to cover these activities on an ongoing basis. Jamey answered that no Coordinator should be using their Coordinator Allowance for Phoenix-related activities. The Region submitted a budget to Ottawa to cover the cost of the Day of Action activities and this process will continue going forward. If members would like to organize an action, please submit a proposal to the REVP Office, and we will endeavor to seek resources where possible.

Jamey went on to say that in BC, our February 28 events were very successful: 15-20% of membership participated. That success is largely attributed to the fact the members had the license to take their own actions and design the type of action that would work for members in their area and/or worksite. One factor that worked against are success, which Jamey will be reporting back to the NBoD Phoenix Committee, is the secrecy around the Day of Action. It would have been better to communicate the event details with members earlier and be clearer with members on what the Day of Action entailed.

On the issue of funding, Chris added that going forward the funding for Phoenix-related activities will still be coordinated centrally through Ottawa with proposals being submitted by each Region.

After further discussion, Chris commented that he recognizes the need to give the activists the tools they need to engage with members on Phoenix so rank-and-file members will come out the events and get involved.

Before concluding the discussion, Jamey thanked Chris for presenting to the Regional Council and for sharing the information on the Phoenix.

REVP Report

Jamey Mills turned the Chair over to Alternate REVP Todd Smith for the duration of his report.

Report moved by Jamey Mills; seconded: Linda Harding

Jamey began by noting the numerous successes in the Region, including the Day of Action, the reactivation of the Northwest BC Area Council, and the successful AGM for the East Fraser Valley where Area Council where they were able to elect a new executive.

Jamey then provided an update on the BCFED, noting that the Officers met yesterday for their monthly meeting. At that meeting, the Officers discussed the recent appointment of a permanent chair for the BC Labour Board: Jacquie de Aguayo. PSAC members may recall that Jacquie is a former PSAC staff member. Another anticipated Board change is with respect to the WCB Board: the Officers are looking forward of a more balance board that is not so employer focused.

The Officers also discussed the recent government announcement regarding the minimum wage: the BC NDP Government has committed to a \$15/hour minimum wage by 2021. While this is a victory for workers, the BCFED would have liked to see the increase happen more quickly and have the inclusion of server work and piece weight work captured in the minimum wage changes. Server and piece work wages will become the focus of the Fight for \$15 campaign going forward, and Labour will be speaking with Geoff Meggs, Premier John Horgan's chief of staff, regarding the exclusion of these workers from the minimum wage in BC.

The BCFED will also be conducting their Women' lobby in Victoria next week. Kelly Sidhu and Linda Harding will be participating as representatives for the PSAC.

For Labour Day, the BCFED is planning something different than previous years: Together, with Affiliates, they're hoping to have march from downtown to the PNE. As part of this activity, the BCFED is hoping to partner with the PNE to get fair admissions covered for members who participate in the march. At the PNE, other Labour Day activities will take place.

Jamey then addressed the status of Unifor with the CLC and the Federations of Labour, explaining that Unifor has ended their affiliation with both. As such, Unifor and its members cannot participate in the Federations of Labour, the CLC generally or with District Labour Councils. Instead, Unifor members may attend as guests with no voting privileges.

Finally, Jamey advised that the BCFED will be holding their regional conference this spring in Cumberland in concert with the Miners Memorial Weekend. Part of the reason for this venue is that this year marks the 100 year anniversary of the assassination of labour activist Ginger Goodwin. Further details on the conference are provided in the Regional Council materials circulated in advance of the meeting.

Jamey then called for questions on report.

Antony Paller extended his thanks to Jamey for meeting with the membership at various events over the last few months and for assisting with MP Lobbying, particularly when Jamey joined Antony in December to meet with his MP, Mark Strahl.

After some further discussion the motion to accept the report of the REVP was carried. Jamey then resumed as the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

Political Communications Officer Report

Patrick began his report by speaking to the recent Phoenix Day of Action on February 28, noting the large media attention that was garnered for the multiple events across the Region:

- In Ucluelet, there was a rally of 20 members, which had two media hits
- In Victoria, there was an action that involved 300 members. Media coverage included CBC, Chek TV, CFAX, the Times Colonist, and the Victoria News
- In Nanaimo there was a lunchtime rally, which was covered by WOLF FM and the Nanaimo Daily News.
- In Agassiz, there was a members worksite action covered by the Agassiz Harrison Reporter
- In Kamloops, there was a lunchtime event, which was covered by CFJC
- The Kelowna worksite rally had two media hits and was included in CBC's provincial report
- The Vancouver events at 800 Burrard was covered by Global TV

Nationally, the Day of Action events across the country achieved good media coverage on all major news outlets. Patrick commented that this coverage shows the hard work done by members to keep the Phoenix disaster in the public eye and as a national news story. Congrats to all. Patrick added that in the past it has been a challenge to get rank-and-file members involved in actions like this. However, it appears that more and more members are getting engaged.

CLC Working Group on Pharmacare

The CLC has an active campaign advocating for universal pharmacare. At this point, it is only being investigated by the government and would impose a cap for individuals who earn less than \$40,000/year.

CLC Municipal Elections Working Group

Patrick reported that the focus of the group's discussion has been around the new campaign financing rules for municipal elections. The CLC has received a legal opinion on the new rules, which are arguably even tougher than the provincial election rules.

The municipal elections are taking place on October 20, and – as always – the PSAC will be encouraging members to get involved. The CLC District Labour Councils will be issuing poll cards to identify labour-friendly candidates up for election this fall. Patrick further noted that for these elections, the CLC is trying to get members involved with the DLCs sooner than later, especially those considering running for office. The CLC will also be offering training and supports to members for the elections.

Johann commented that he spoke with Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North who advised that if a donor contributes to a team of candidates running for municipal the election, they donation cap applies to the team and/or slate of candidates, not to the individuals running on the slate.

Minimum Wage Campaign – Fight for \$15

The BCFED's *Fight for \$15* campaign is still ongoing, but in light of recent announcement the focus has shifted to ensuring that servers and farmworkers also receive the \$15/hour wage rather than the

current reduced respective server wage and the piece weight wage. There is still a good amount of work to be done in this area.

Make Every Voter Count Campaign – Pro-Proportional Representation

Patrick reminded the Regional Council that they had decided to endorse the *Make Every Voter Count* (MEVC) campaign during the February conference call. The MEVC campaign is backed by a consortium of unions and labour-friendly groups. As part of the PSAC's involvement, the REVP Office put forward a proposal to HQ seeking a \$10,000 campaign contribution to help launch the campaign this spring. Patrick noted that the BC Government is likely to introduce electoral reform legislation in April that will mandate a referendum in BC. When introduced, we will know terms of engagement, and the MEVC campaign will kick off.

In the interim, the Province has called for submissions on what the legislation should look like. PSAC BC made a submission with guidance from MEVC, referencing three recommendations:

1. **Ballot Question:** The ballot should include a specific question requesting a public mandate to adopt proportional voting that is linked to a transparent public process to choose a specific proportional system.
2. **Timing of Referendum:** The referendum campaign should not overlap with the fall municipal election campaigns.
3. **Campaign Finance and Third-Party Advertising Regulations:** The referendum should be subject to regulations that limit the influence of big money.

More details will be provided once the legislation is introduced.

Jen Horsley asked if Patrick knew why the government's online public consultations regarding proportional voting had not been widely publicized. Patrick suggested they it may have been due to the short timelines for consultation. However, results are expected to be published at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/>

BCFED Polling

Patrick reported on some recent public polling the BC Federation of Labour commissioned.

Membership Poll

Jamey advised the Council that in October and November 2017, the PSAC contracted the services of Environics to conduct some polling of the membership and of the general public. Over 4,000 members participated in the online survey, which provided a lot of data on member views (as provided in the meeting reference materials). Jamey highlighted the following results:

- 56% believe that PSAC is doing a good or excellent job. This is up from 2015 (54%) and 2013 (48%).
- The top five priorities of our members, according to the percentage rating it extremely important, are: Negotiating collective agreements (73%); Enforcing contracts through grievance and adjudication (54%); Ensuring that workplaces are safe and healthy (46%); Promoting legislative reform and policy change (36%); and Promoting human rights (33%).
- We asked members about their willingness to engage in various union activities. Most (53%) report they would be "very willing" to sign a petition. Twenty percent report that they would be very willing to attend a rally or visit an MP. Eighteen percent say they would be very willing to become a shop steward and fifteen percent say they would be very willing to run for a position in the Union.

- 70% of the membership reports an awareness of PSAC’s response to Phoenix, and more than half (56%) perceive this response as excellent or good.
- “Fix Phoenix” is the top campaign that members are aware of at 87%, followed by 50% for our campaign on secure pensions.

In terms of the public polling results, Jamey reported that overall the public has a positive perception of front-line federal public service workers at about 70%. When asked about familiarity with the Phoenix payroll system, just over a quarter report hearing a lot about Phoenix, while almost 40% have not heard of Phoenix before.

The PSAC will be conducting some follow up focus groups with members, which will take place in all Regions and will focus on understanding the priorities of average members. The PSAC is recruiting members who support the Union, but are not yet active in the PSAC to understand what will help them get more engaged and what barriers they experience when it comes to union involvement.

Trish Martin asked for clarification on how the polling was conducted relative to the 2015 survey. Patrick answered the sample pools for both surveys were representative sample of the PSAC membership. While there weren’t necessarily the same individuals the sample has been designed within an acceptable margin of error that would reflect the views of the PSAC membership.

Colleen then asked if the PSAC is considering polling the entire membership to get a comprehensive, accurate reflection of member views. Chris answered that the PSAC has done more polling in the last couple of years as compared with the organization entire history. The plan is to continue using the services of providers such as Environics to continue polling the membership which provides very good data on what each Component, Region and the general membership are saying.

Bargaining Updates

NATIONAL UNITS

- Treasury Board: the national TB Bargaining Conference will be held in Ottawa this March. Team members will be elected at the conference.
- FB Group: the team is still waiting for the PIC report, which was anticipated in February. Large mobilizations have been taking place across the country to bring public awareness to the outstanding bargaining, including an event in BC that took place on February 14.
- Canada Post: this unit ratified their agreement last week
- CFIA: this unit ratified their agreement
- Parks: a tentative agreement has been achieved. Ratification meetings will be organized shortly and will include both online and in-person meetings.
- SSO: bargaining is still ongoing. Meetings are scheduled in Ottawa April 17-19 with further dates in May and June.

REGIONAL UNITS

- IMP Comox (UNDE): the Parties have exchanged arbitration briefs and the team plans to reply to the Employers submission. Jamey and NVP T. Mark Miller conducted a site tour in February to meet with members. Jamey noted that the situation has gotten worse with this unit as the Employer is forcing members to travel from Comox for work to the base in Nova Scotia without compensation or overtime.
- First Nations Health Authority (DCL): bargaining was held February 20-23. However, there is no tentative agreement yet.
- North Peace Airport (UCTE): the bargaining team was elected and they are now waiting for the Employer’s response on proposed bargaining dates.

- Purolator (UPCE): the first set of bargaining dates have been set for the end of March. Jennifer Horsley has been elected as a member of the bargaining team.
- Prince Rupert Airport (UCTE): bargaining dates have been scheduled for April.

T. Mark Miller asked for clarification on the election process for bargaining team members at the Treasury Board Conference. Chris Aylward clarified that bargaining team elections would be conducted by Region within the plenary (each Region would only be able to vote for their regional representatives to the bargaining team). For the TB units, there are six Regions: BC combines with the Yukon, Prairies combines with the Northwest Territories and Nunavut combines with the NCR.

- The PA group will elect eleven team members, including 6 regional representatives. Five team members will be elected at large.
- The TC and SV groups will elect six regional representatives. Three team members will be elected at large.
- The EB group will elect five team members.

Following the TB Conference, the AEC will look at the elected teams and assess the need for any top ups to account for equity, gender and/or language balance.

Coordinator Reports

Alternate REVP BC Report – Todd Smith

Report moved by Todd Smith; seconded by Antony Paller

Todd advised that he was sworn in as a member of the BCFED Executive Council at the October 2017 meeting in Victoria. Todd also attended the BCFED Union Renewal Conference in Victoria.

Some other highlights of the last few months include Todd's participation in the Sacred Water Ceremony in Victoria with the Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee. Todd then extended his thanks to all who were involved with the event. Todd noted that another highlight was his acceptance into the CLC Labour College certificate program, which spans 15 months and is project based.

Finally, Todd noted that he was appointed as the Area Council representative on the General Resolutions Committee for the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention. The Committee met in February and prioritized the resolutions received. Todd added that it was a great experience and he's looking forward to the Convention and bringing back the knowledge gained.

Jamey commented that he worked with both Todd and Shane Polak on the resolutions that were submitted by the Vancouver & District AC. At least three of those resolutions have been prioritized for convention. Jamey then congratulated all BC Area Councils and their hard work on resolutions that were submitted for convention.

The motion to accept the report of the Alternate REVP BC was then carried.

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATOR REPORTS

Metro Vancouver Coordinator Report – Jennifer Horsley

Report moved by Jennifer Horsley; seconded by Bert Farwell

Jennifer reported that she attended the Vancouver & Dist. Area Council AGM as was reelected as secretary. Jen added that she also attended the recent Day of Action Phoenix event in Vancouver and was part of the contingent that occupied 800 Burrard.

The motion to accept Jennifer Horsley's Coordinator report was then carried.

Metro Vancouver Coordinator Report – Sky Belt

Report moved by Sky Belt; seconded by Bert Farwell

Further to her written report, Sky spoke about her participation on the BCFED's Community and Social Action Committee. The Committee has been involved with the BC Government's public consultations on reducing poverty in the province. Several community meetings have taken place across the province over the last few months, and Sky encouraged Regional Council members to get involved.

Sky added that she's also been busy with Phoenix actions, but wants to ensure that there is a balance in terms of focus on other PSAC issues such as privatization and bargaining, etc.

The motion to accept Sky Belt's Coordinator report was then carried.

Metro Vancouver Coordinator Report – Terri Lee

Report moved by Terri Lee; seconded by Shane Polak

Terri moved her report as submitted. The motion to accept Terri Lee's Coordinator report was then carried.

West Fraser Valley Coordinator Report – Johann Ackermann

As no written report was submitted in advance of the meeting, Johann provided some comments on his activities over the last few months noting that he attended the meetings of the West Fraser Valley Area Council and the December 6 vigil in Surrey.

A written report was received late and is attached to these minutes.

East Fraser Valley Coordinator Report – Antony Paller

Report moved by Antony Paller; seconded by James Brierley

Antony moved his report as submitted. The motion to accept Antony Paller's Coordinator report was then carried.

Northeast B.C. Coordinator Report

It was noted that there was no report of the Northeast B.C. Coordinator because the position is currently vacant.

REVP Jamey Mills further provided that Tiffany Hobbins, who had assumed the role on the Regional Council during Sister Bull's 6-month leave of absence, was asked if she would like to continue in the position for the balance of the three-year term. However, Sister Hobbins declined the position and did not submit a report for the March BC Regional Council meeting before the expiry of her 6-month term on the BC Regional Council.

The REVP Office is currently contacting other alternates to see if they would be interested in assuming the role for the balance of the team.

North Vancouver Island Coordinator Report – Bert Farwell

Report moved by Bert Farwell; seconded by Trish Martin

Bert advised that he attempted to attend the Conservation Party event in Cobble Hill, but wasn't able to get a ticket. Bert also tried to attend the Town Hall meeting in Nanaimo with Prime Minister Trudeau, but again was able to get in. Bert now plans to attend the meet and greet with NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh on March 6.

The motion to accept Bert Farwell’s Coordinator report was then carried.

Northwest B.C. Coordinator Report – Jill MacNeill

Report moved by Jill MacNeill; seconded by Shane Polak

Jill moved her report as submitted. Jamey commented that he’s happy to see that the Northwest BC Area Council has been revitalized. Thanks to Jill for her work in this area.

The motion to accept Jill MacNeill’s Coordinator report was then carried.

Southern Interior Coordinator Report – Jeanne Olineck

No report was submitted.

Southern Interior Coordinator Report – Carolyn McGillivray

No report was submitted.

A written report was received late and is attached to these minutes.

South Vancouver Island Coordinator Report – Colleen Girard

Report moved by Colleen Girard; seconded by Nia Gillies

Further to Colleen’s written report, Colleen noted that her focus has been on encouraging further participation with the Regional Committees in Victoria. As part of this initiative, the Victoria Regional Women’s Committee and the Vancouver Island Human Rights Committees are coordinating their meeting schedules and holding their meetings on the same night. In addition, they are scheduling the meeting with some overlap to encourage further collaboration between the committees. Colleen also noted that she’s recently taken on the role of Chair for the Victoria Regional Women’s Committee.

Jamey commented that Kelly Megyesi, Chair of the Vancouver Regional Women’s Committee had asked the REVP to speak with the National Officers about encouraging committee and Area Council participation with their Locals, which was done at the February 27 meeting. As part of that discussion, the REVP Office committed to sending out an information sheet for all Regional Committees and Area Councils along with contact information and meetings dates. Jamey added that he would send the same document out to the Regional Council to share with their constituents.

ACTION ITEM:	REVP Office to send the Regional Council the information sheet on PSAC BC Regional Committees and Area Councils
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The motion to accept Colleen Girard’s Coordinator report was then carried.

South Vancouver Island Coordinator Report – Trish Martin

Report moved by Trish Martin; seconded by Nia Gillies

Trish reported that this year, her focus has been on reactivating and engaging participation with the Area Council and Regional Committees in the South Island area. Trish noted that she was disappointed that the annual December 6 vigil in Victoria had to be cancelled due to low volunteer numbers, but this has only further encouraged Trish to engage members. To that end, Trish was elected as the president of the Victoria Area Council and has been actively working to bring speakers in at meetings and make deeper community connections. Recently, Trish invited the Victoria-based [Retail Action Network](#) to speak at a meeting. The Network tries to bring union values and principles, and knowledge of labour standards into non-union work environments.

Trish then spoke to the personal situation with her sister's cancer journey. As written in her report, Trish reminded the Council that we need to recognize and appreciate ourselves for the personal sacrifices we make to fulfill our roles on the Regional Council and in our union involvement.

The motion to accept Trish Martin's Coordinator report was then carried.

CONSTITUENCY COORDINATOR REPORTS

Aboriginal Coordinator Report – Jenny Macleod

In December 2018 Giselle Henry resigned from the Aboriginal Coordinator position on the B.C. Regional Council. Subsequently, Jenny Macleod assumed the role of the Aboriginal Coordinator in December for the balance of the three-year term.

Given Jenny Macleod's limited time in the role thus far, no Coordinator report is required from Jenny for this reporting period.

Women's Coordinator Report – Kelly Sidhu

Report moved by Kelly Sidhu; seconded by Jennifer Chieh Ho

Kelly moved her report as submitted, noting that she's seen some good traction with the Regional Women's Committees. Kelly added that she'll be attending the BCFED's Women's Lobby in Victoria next week as a representative of the PSAC.

The motion to accept Kelly Sidhu's Coordinator report was then carried.

Members With Disabilities Coordinator Report – Shane Polak

Report moved by Shane Polak; seconded by Todd Smith

Shane reported that he's been busy over the last few months as a Local President, on the Vancouver Area Council executive, and in his role on the Regional Council. However, Shane is cognizant not to over-extend himself and to ensure his own mental health.

The motion to accept Shane Polak's Coordinator report was then carried.

Racially Visible Coordinator Report – Jennifer Chieh Ho

Report moved by Jennifer Chieh Ho; seconded by Kelly Sidhu

Jennifer began her reporting by thanking the Regional Council for their support of the 2018 KDocs Film Festival this past February. Jennifer staffed a booth at the festival where she talked to attendees about Phoenix and was able to get postcards signed by the public.

Jennifer noted that last month was Black History Month. To recognize the month-long observance, Jennifer organize a film night and panel discussion at the Vancouver RO on February 26, where they showed "Return to Hogan's Alley." Jennifer added that going forward she plans to work with the Coalition Against Bigotry – Pacific with regard to RV issues. Jennifer added that she's also continuing her work with migrant workers in BC through Migrante and similar organizations.

The motion to accept Jennifer Chieh Ho's Coordinator report was then carried.

Pride Coordinator Report – Nia Gillies

Report moved by Nia Gillies; seconded by Colleen Girard

Supplementary to Nia's written report, Nia advised that she will be making plans to attend the Vancouver Pride parade this summer.

The motion to accept Nia Gillies' Coordinator report was then carried.

Young Workers Coordinator Report – James Brierley

Report moved by James Brierley; seconded by Shane Polak

James reported that he and the chairs of the Region's Young Workers Committees met in February to discuss their 2018 action plan. Included within the plan is a Young Workers Conference, slated to take place at the end of November, adjacent to the BCFED Convention.

In his role as Coordinator, James has continued to participate in and encourage MP lobbying. One lobbying issue for young workers is child care. James noted that the recent BC budget does include some historic funding for child care. However, this is just a first step toward universal child care as the budget did not specifically reference the \$10/day child care plan for which they had been advocating.

Young Workers are also focused on the BCFED's Fight for \$15 campaign, and its latest shift toward raising wages for servers and farmworkers.

Jamey added that he has been appointed the AEC Officer responsible for the Young Workers portfolio, and during a recent call the Young Workers talked about initiating a campaign to encourage the members and the public to donate their \$25 Loblaws gift cards (received as part of the bread price fixing scandal) to a food bank in their area. Further details on this initiative will be sent out as they are available.

The motion to accept James Brierley's Coordinator report was then carried.

Health and Safety Coordinator Report – Linda Harding

Report moved by Linda Harding; seconded by Trish Martin

Linda reported that she had participated in the CLC lobby in Ottawa this winter. At three of the four MP meetings, Linda was able to raise the topic of Phoenix with the respective MP.

Next week Linda will be participating in the BCFED's women's provincial lobby at the Legislature in Victoria. The focus of the lobby will be on the issue of health and safety of women in our communities and in workplaces, with a particular focus on sexual assault services for women, domestic violence in the workplace language, and sexual assault and harassment at work. Linda noted that she is schedule to meet with MLA Janet Routledge.

Linda then commented that she had been advised that two of the health and safety resolutions from BC had been prioritized by the General Resolutions Committee for the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention this fall. Hopefully, they'll make the floor during the debate.

Jamey added that Linda has also been busy representing that PSAC at the United Way of the Lower Mainland's Labour Cabinet meetings with other BCFED Affiliates. Jamey then extended his thanks to Linda for serving in this role.

The motion to accept Linda Harding's Coordinator report was then carried.

National Officers Coordinator Report – Leanne Hughes

As no written report was submitted in advance of the meeting, Leanne provided some comments on her activities over the last few months. Leanne noted that she attended the Leadership Conference in Ottawa in November.

Leanne also met with her MP, Randall Garrison, and spoke about the situation with FB bargaining and Phoenix.

Earlier this week, Leanne co-chaired the PSAC BC National Officers meeting with REVP Jamey Mills and also attend the Phoenix rally in Victoria. Leanne extended her thanks to Trish and Colleen for organizing such a great rally.

A written report was received late and is attached to these minutes.

Directly Chartered Locals and Small Separate Employers Coordinator Report – David Schinbein
Report moved by David Schinbein; seconded by Trish Martin

Further to David's written submission, David advised that over the last several months his focus has been on his Local and working with the Employer to discuss benefits. Consequently, David hasn't had much time to allocate to his role with DCLs and Small Separate Employer units.

The motion to accept David Schinbein's Coordinator report was then carried.

Media Training Workshop delivered by Patrick Bragg

Patrick delivered a presentation on media training.

The Council then broke into small groups to practice the tools and training. Afterward, the group debriefed the session. To conclude the session, Council members were reminded to advise the REVP Office (where possible) in advance of media interviews as the Office may be able to provide speaking notes, reference documents and other useful information.

Jamey reminded the Council that if they have any feedback or suggestions for workshops or training that could be incorporated into future Regional Council meetings, please let the REVP Office know.

After some brief announcements, the meeting recessed for the day at 4:15 PM.

Saturday, March 3, 2018

The meeting reconvened at 10:35 AM.

Regional Coordinator Report

Luc Guevremont reported on a number of different areas under the Regional Office Branch:

MEMBER EDUCATION

The Winter/Spring regional course schedule has been fairly heavy in light of the other competing priorities in the Region. Consequently, the Region had to cancel one weekend course recently, which had been scheduled on the same weekend as two other weekend courses. The course that was cancelled was originally scheduled to take place in the north. Those members who had registered to attend were given the opportunity to attend the same course in Vancouver. However, affected member declined the offer.

Luc advised that the OH&S activist course that was to take place in early March has been postponed due to low enrolment. However, the balance of the March and April weekend courses do have a good level of applications and should proceed as expected. Luc then requested that Council members promote course offerings with their constituents to ensure sufficient applications.

Linda commented that, in the past, if a course was close to cancellation a notice was sent to the Education Committee, which asked them to help recruit participants. Linda asked if this practice would continue going forward. Luc answered that this is generally the practice. However, in this particular case it was not possible with the availability of staff resources.

Luc went on to advise that the Regional Office received a request from CEIU to put on an advanced stewards training course for their members. As the regularly scheduled ARTS course was on the calendar, an agreement was made with the Component such that CEIU would fund an additional 4 designated seats for CEIU members at the course separate from the original 20 course seats. Evaluations received from course participants were positive, and the Region may explore the feasibility of additional Component requests if they are received.

ORGANIZING

Luc reported that the Regional Office staff have been busy over the last month working with UCTE regarding a decertification application submitted by members of the Swissport Administrators and Supervisors unit (a 19-member unit at YVR). A coordinated campaign was conducted over a few weeks with the assistance of a regional organizer who was brought in from the Prairies. However, despite our best efforts, the decertification vote was lost. Luc noted that the take-away lesson from this experience is that we need to better communicate on matters like this, even if it's just on the potential for a situation. Given the short timeline staff had to work within, it made the situation more challenging.

Luc then advised that the PSAC continues to work with USJE on the organizing campaigns for CMs within the RCMP. The lead on this organizing drive is USJE RVP Nicole Gibson.

A couple of organizing leads within the Region have also surfaced. An organizer based in Ottawa is investigating these potential opportunities.

On the Swissport situation, Jamey commented that while we were not successful in defeating decertification vote, the PSAC was fully responsive to the organizing needs of the unit: there was an organizer in Vancouver within 24 hours of the PSAC being advised of the situation with Swissport. Moreover, even if there had been an organizer stationed in BC, the situation would have unfolded with the same result. Jamey then asserted that he is still advocating at the AEC for a regional organizer in BC, especially in light of any potential raids and other new organizing leads.

Colleen commented that she understood that the organizer position in the Prairies is a term. She then asked if the Region had given any thought to pushing for a term position in BC. Colleen added that pushing for a term position may be easier than pushing for an indeterminate position.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

We are nearing the completion of AGM season, which many regional reps have been attending. Staff have also been busy with the Phoenix campaign in terms of the pay advocate assemblies, lunch and learn sessions and the day of action activities.

In BC, three pay advocate assemblies were held: in Richmond, the Fraser Valley and Victoria (with the last assembly being the largest). To date, there have been several requests for lunch and learn sessions as well, particularly on Vancouver Island and in the Southern Interior. Reception of the information provided by staff at the assemblies and at the lunch and learn sessions has varied. Given the impact that Phoenix has had on many members, some members are not necessarily able to receive the information provided in a positive manner; this has proven challenging for staff. However, staff can empathize with member frustrations regarding Phoenix.

REGIONAL OFFICE UPGRADES

Both the Vancouver and Victoria Regional Offices are having some minor upgrades and cosmetic changes. A new 10-year lease was recently signed for the Vancouver RO, which includes a review after five years. The upgrades at the Vancouver RO are part of this lease renewal, and the landlord is incurring the costs for these improvements. Victoria is also looking at a five-year renewal with some small improvements.

STAFFING

There are a couple of active competitions that have been reposted for the Regional Office: the Vancouver Regional Representative position and the Health and Safety Representative position. In the absence of the Health and Safety Representative, member queries and WCB member representation, etc. have continued with the assistance of former Health and Safety Rep James Little and all other Regional Representatives. All reps have received some health and safety training and are able to provide members with assistance on WCB matters and health and safety queries.

Trish then asked for some clarity around the reposting of the positions, asking if it was a matter of the application deadline being extended. Luc answered that it was not an extension; the new application deadline is March 8.

Colleen then asked that in light of the vacancies, is the office looking at creating a new eligibility list for short term absences? Luc answered there has been discussion with the staff unions, and it was agreed that if temporary replacements are needed, they would go back to the individuals who filled such vacancies in the past for the respective positions.

Standing Committee Reports

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Report moved by Trish Martin, seconded by Jennifer Horsley

On behalf of the Committee, Trish advised that the Committee met this morning and reviewed the By-Laws for the Northwest BC Area Council and offered some suggestions to allow for consistency and efficient operation.

During the Committee meeting, Johann further suggested that the Committee get together over the next few months to work on a by-laws template for all Area Councils that would outline executive positions, roles and responsibilities, quorum requirements, etc.

After some further discussion the motion to accept the report of the By-Laws Committee was carried.

DASH COMMITTEE

Report moved by Jennifer Horsley; seconded by Antony Paller

Jennifer reported that the Committee had received a Regulation 7 subsidy application from Amrit Sihota who was attending the PSAC National Triennial Convention as an observer. The Committee was recommending a subsidy of \$500 for Sister Sihota.

A motion was made to approve the recommendation for the \$500 subsidy to Amrit Sihota.

Moved: Jennifer Horsley; seconded Jennifer Chieh Ho

Carried

With regard to Donations and Memberships, Jennifer reported that the Committee had discussed a donation for the Metro Vancouver Alliance for their upcoming transit campaign, and a recommendation for \$100 was being put forward.

A motion was made to approve the recommendation for the \$100 donation to the Metro Vancouver Alliance.

Moved: Jennifer Horsley; seconded Jennifer Chieh Ho

Carried

Jennifer further reported that the Committee also discussed expanding the regional awards to include three additional awards. The Committee looked at the awards offered in the Prairies Regions for ideas and suggested the following awards to recognize the good work of PSAC BC members:

1. Emerging Activist Award
2. Community Champion Award
3. Union Warrior Award

The Committee was suggesting that the proposed awards be offered annually with an unlimited number of recipients, and the Committee further suggested that the award be a certificate for recipients. Awards could be presented at AGMs, Local/Branch, Area Council or Regional Committee meetings. Along with this, award recipients could be listed at the PSAC Regional Triennial Convention.

Colleen Girard asked if there had been any closure on the criteria for the Solidarity Excellence Award, referencing a previous discussion of the BC Regional Council in November 2016. Jamey noted that the November 2016 discussion was in camera and the Committee will have to be apprised of the discussion so they can follow up.

The motion to approve the report of the DASH Committee was then carried.

Jennifer Horsley commented that the Committee would appreciate further input from the Council on the suggestions for new regional awards. After some discussion, it was agreed that the DASH Committee would formalize their award suggestions in writing (with nominations criteria, award format, etc.) so they could be discussed at the next in-person meeting.

ACTION ITEM: DASH Committee to provide a written report on their suggestions for new regional awards, which will be discussed at the next in-person BC Regional Council meeting

Next Steps for the \$10aDay.ca Child Care Plan, Sharon Gregson of Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC

Jamey provided a brief introduction for Sharon Gregson of the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC).

Sharon began by explaining her work with the CCABC and their \$10/day child care plan. Sharon advised that the CCCABC has been working with Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), labour allies (including the PSAC) and community groups and together they launched a community plan for an integrated system of child care services with a vision to make child care affordable for all families in Canada. This plan garnered public attention during the last provincial election, which has now resulted in the announcement of an historic investment in child care within the proposed BC provincial budget. While it is not the full \$10/day plan, it is still considered a victory by the CCCABC.

Sharon then provided a snapshot of what child care currently looks like in BC, advising that the average cost for child care is \$1,500/month for one preschool aged child. Moreover, there aren't enough spots available and result has been long wait lists for families. Currently, there are 600,000 kids in BC ages 6-12 and only 100,000 licensed space in the province. The result is that many children are subject to unsafe, illegal child care situations. And finally, the ECEs and providers of child care services in BC are paid some of the lowest wages in Canada. High fees and high demand in BC has never translated into decent wages for the ECEs and child care providers in BC.

So the BC Government's announcement of child care funding has been well received by the CCCABC. Included in the plan are subsidies for preschool aged children that will begin this April as

well as supports for children with special needs, and supports for indigenous led child care programming. The Government has also made a commitment to introduce 22,000 new licensed child care spaces and \$136M for the recruitment and retention of ECES. A new commitment has also been made by the federal government with a bilateral agreement with BC that would commit \$51M in new child care money for BC.

Sharon then thanked the PSAC for its support and their assistance in achieving this first step in BC. However, the victory is marked with a caveat: the work is not done. CCCABC will continue to put pressure on the government at federal level and provincial levels across the country to see how similar child care funding can be actuated in all provinces. Sharon added that the CCCABC continues to encourage the public to sign their postcards to keep up the pressure on the Provincial and Federal governments. There is also an online petition available at https://www.10aday.ca/add_your_name.

James Brierley then asked if Sharon could provide some clarity on the subsidy for daycares that was announced in the provincial budget. Sharon confirmed that the subsidy was an opt-in program for child care providers. As such, she recommended that parents ask their providers to sign up for the subsidy. For not-for-profit child care providers, there will likely be no opposition. The only challenge may be with for-profit facilities that want to keep fees higher.

James then asked about the family income subsidy noting that his family income exceeds the threshold, but they still pay around 36% of their income on child care. How can income testing be used as measure of need? Sharon agreed with James' concerns, commenting that income testing is an antiquated way of assessing a family's child care needs. She added that we need to continue putting pressure on the government to address these challenges as we move forward with the government's child care program.

Sky then commented that another flaw in system relates to kids with special needs. Currently, there are only two facilities in all of Burnaby that can accommodate kids with special needs. Consequently, there are even longer waitlists for these families. How do we address the child care needs for these families? Sharon answered that the challenge is not just a lack of spaces, but also having providers with the required training. Sharon added that there needs to be incentives for providers to take the training coupled with wage enhancement.

Johann Ackermann asked how the quality of child care is controlled. Sharon answered that the CCCABC continues to assert that public dollars should only be spent in licensed child care facilities and further suggests to government that they should phase out support for unlicensed services. Sharon noted that under the proposed BC budget there are financial incentives for unlicensed provider to move into licensed work.

David Schinbein asked if the campaign had given any thought to advocating for parents who choose to stay at home to care for their children. Sharon answered that this is not the role of the CCCABC. However, they do support the rights of parents who choose to stay at home. Sharon then stressed that parents who use child care programs are not abdicating their parenting responsibility; they are sharing it.

Kristin commented that her frustration with the budget announcement is that it completely ignores the fact that child care needs don't stop at age five; elementary school is not a replacement for child care. No funding has been announced to address child care needs for children aged 6-12. In

the absence of funding and child care spaces, many children are being left (illegally) without care after school. The CCCABC needs to continue to advocate for these forgotten children and the 'lucky' parents who can find licensed child care spaces, but are still paying exorbitant rates for a few hours a day. Sharon acknowledged the concern and noted that they are anticipating further announcement for additional spaces for all ages. They will also be pushing government to consider using public spaces, such as schools and community centres to facilitate these child care needs.

After further discussion, Jamey then thanked Sharon for her presentation and her work in advocating for child care needs in BC.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

Report moved by Linda Harding; seconded by Nia Gillies

On behalf of the Committee, Linda Harding reported that the Committee met and discussed a number of items. Linda highlighted that Kelly Megyesi will be to Guatemala as part of the [Education in Action Project](#) this March as part of the 2018 delegation. The Committee is suggesting that Kelly Megyesi be invited to speak at a future Regional Council meeting regarding her experience.

The Committee also talked about the [Blessing Basket Project](#), which strives to reduce poverty in developing countries by paying artisan for products that are sold through their online store. Further details are available on their website.

Another discussion topic was on how the PSAC can support migrant workers. Committee member Jennifer Chieh Ho is working with a number of organizations in this area and provided some good information for the Committee. The Committee suggested having Jennifer organize a presentation at a future Regional Council.

The Committee was also interested in finding out which (if any) Regional Council members have personal memberships or have been involved with CoDevelopment Canada. A quick poll of the Council was then taken.

Linda concluded the committee report by advising that the committee will be meeting via teleconference in June to follow up on discussions and action items.

The motion to approve the report of the International Solidarity Committee was then carried.

A motion was then made for the Regional Council to purchase a table of ten tickets for the [CoDevelopment Canada](#) annual solidarity dinner, which would be given to members of the Regional Council and other International Solidarity activists.

Moved: Lind Harding; seconded: Jennifer Chieh Ho

Linda provided that the CoDevelopment Canada annual solidarity dinner raises funds the local solidarity organization and their working social justice initiatives. The dinner also provides a venue for members to network with like-minded organizations and individuals working toward social change and community empowerment. The annual dinner is typically help in June.

After some discussion the motion was carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report moved by Shane Polak; seconded by Terri Lee

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Shane Polak reported that the Committee met via teleconference on February 28 to review the 2017 Financial Statements as at December 31 and the 2018 Financial Statements as at February 21.

Shane then reviewed the 2017 Financial Statements as at December 31 and the 2018 Financial Statements as at February 21.

The motion to approve the report of the Finance Committee was then carried.

Coordinator Allowance Recommendations

Moved: Shane Polak; seconded: Jennifer Chieh Ho

Shane reviewed the spreadsheet outlining the spending history of the Regional Council Coordinators for the period 2012-2017, which is attached to these minutes. Shane then spoke to the Committee's recommendation for the 2018 Coordinator Allowance allocations, noting that the Alternate REVP had fully expended the budget line during the 2015-2017 cycle. Moreover, the Committee would like to see a more equitable distribution of funds to assist Coordinators with Region-wide portfolios.

Colleen asked why consideration hadn't been given to increasing the budget for the Health and Safety Coordinator given that it is a Region-wide portfolio. Jamey Mills answered that the Health and Safety Coordinator is able to draw upon the Region's Health & Safety Activities budget line if there aren't sufficient funds in the Coordinator Allowance. The Regional Health & Safety Activities budget line administered by the REVP Office and is separate from Regional Council funds.

Colleen then voiced the concern that these proposed allocations may be putting barriers up for positions that have significant cost requirements given their geographic challenges. Shane answered that the Committee is only suggesting a one-year trial period for the Coordinator Allowance adjusts that will be reviewed at the end of the current fiscal year. The intent of the Committee's recommendation is to established more balanced approach for equity and constituency portfolios that are province-wide. There is a finite budget of \$24,000 to allocate in which they need to work.

After further discussion, the motioned to approve the 2018 Coordinator Allowance allocations, as recommended and presented by the Finance Committee, was carried.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

There was no report of the Convention Committee as the Committee was not required to meet given the amount of time before the next Regional Triennial Convention in 2020.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Report moved by Shane Polak; seconded by David Schinbein

On behalf of the Committee, Shane reported that the Committee met and discussed several items as provided in the written report attached to these minutes. Of particular note was their discussion on the BCFED's "Sharing our stories on Climate Action and Just Transition" event on April 5, which members are encouraged to attend. Details on the event are available at <http://bcfed.ca/events/sharing-our-stories-climate-action-just-transition>.

Shane added that the Committee also discussed developing some regional swag for the Environmental Committee. The Committee will look into options and feasibility.

Shane then reminded the Council of a couple upcoming environmental dates to be aware of: Sunday, March 24 is [Earth Hour](#) and Sunday, April 22 is [Earth Day](#).

Jennifer Chieh Ho wanted to know if the Committee had discussed a water campaign given that there's a regional policy on water. Shane answered that the Committee will add this agenda item to their next Committee conference call and include it as a standing item going forward.

After some further discussion the motion to accept the report of the Environment Committee was carried.

A motion was then made for the PSAC BC Regional Council to support and attend the Kwekwecnewtxw's [Protect the Inlet](#) rally on March 10 in Metro Vancouver that is in support of the First Nation's opposition to the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion.

Moved: Shane Polak; seconded: Todd Smith

Todd advised that the event organizers are engaging allies to attend the events where possible, and there would be no financial obligation for the PSAC participation. Todd added that participating in this event would further foster solidarity between Labour and the community. The motion was then carried.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report moved by Johann Ackermann; seconded by Nia Gillies

On behalf of the Committee, Johann reported that the Committee met this morning and discussed the items as outlined in their written report attached to these minutes.

Johann then highlighted the Committee's discussion on developing a lobbying course for members and the suggestion that it be added to the next regional education budget. Jamey advised that the PSAC has an existing lobbying course that was developed for the FB group. The course could be modified as needed for other PSAC MP lobbying initiatives.

The motion to accept the report of the Education Committee was carried.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Report moved by Todd Smith; seconded by Colleen Girard

On behalf of the Committee, Todd Smith reported that the Committee would like to develop a 2018 action plan for the Region. Ideas for the action plan include the following:

1. Continued MP lobbying on issues such as contracting out, privatization, the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion, Phoenix payroll system
2. Community actions focused largely on Phoenix
3. A Phoenix action on April 7 in concert with the PSAC BC Pre-Convention Delegates' meeting
4. Developing support for one major action per geographic area across the Region
5. Rolling actions, rotating around the different issues identified in above in point number 1

On the suggestion for an action on April 7, Trish Martin asked if it would be possible to schedule the action the previous day. Jamey answered that travel is already booked participants, and the majority will be coming on the Saturday for the meeting. Unfortunately, it would not be logistically possible to conduct an action on the Friday. However, Jamey agreed that it is a very good idea to organize a Phoenix action on April 7 as there will be approximately 50 activists in Vancouver that day for the meeting. The REVP Office will look into arrangements for the action.

ACTION ITEM:	REVP Office to look into arrangements for a Phoenix action on Saturday, April 7 as part of the agenda for the PSAC BC Pre-Convention Delegates' meeting in Vancouver
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On the suggestion to organize major actions across the Region, Jill advised that the Northwest BC area is planning a BBQ where they will have a contest for members to bring their best Phoenix which will be burned in effigy. Jamey added that where events are being organized, members are encouraged to draft proposals with budgets so they can be submitted for national funding.

Todd concluded his report by noting that the Committee also discussed formalizing the schedule for Phoenix conference calls with the Committee and Area Councils and conducting them quarterly. This will make the calls more anticipatory for participants.

The motion to accept the report of the Political Action Committee was carried.

Discussion on Radical Action with Migrants in Agriculture (RAMA) Proposal

Todd Smith began the discussion on the proposal from the Radical Action with Migrants in Agriculture (RAMA) that had been circulated in advance of the meeting. At the heart of the proposal is a concern of the quality of housing for migrant farmworkers in the Okanagan. RAMA's proposal then provides three recommendations to address the housing situation with the aim of proving quality housing for these workers:

1. Provide housing for farmworkers in the community
2. Multiple, random inspections throughout the season by approved inspectors
3. Consult with farmworkers to gain insight on how to improve living conditions from the perspective of those who are impacted

Todd noted that the PSAC has partnered with RAMA in the past through the Okanagan Human Rights Committee film presentation of "Migrant Dreams" in the fall of 2017.

A motion was then made to for the PSAC BC Region to endorse the proposal as set forward by Radical Action with Migrants in Agricultural (RAMA) with respect to migrant farmworkers in the Okanagan.

Moved: Todd Smith; seconded: Sky Belt

After some further discussion, the motion was carried.

Richmond Family Place – Golf Tournament Sponsorship Request

The sponsorship information for the Richmond Family Place annual golf tournament was circulated in advance of the meeting. In previous years, the Regional Council has committee to a \$500 sponsorship for the tournament and the event organizers are once again seeking PSAC support.

A motion was made to contribute up to a \$500 sponsorship for the 2018 Richmond Family Place golf tournament fundraiser.

Moved: Jennifer Chieh Ho; seconded: Sky Belt

Sky Belt commented that the Richmond Family Place is a deserving community organizer that support one of the most impoverished communities in the Metro Vancouver area.

Colleen Girard commented that she would prefer the donation be donated directly to the Richmond Family Place rather than have it as part of the golf fundraiser that is largely supported by large corporations. Colleen then motioned that the matter be referred to the DASH Committee for consideration as a donation.

Moved: Colleen Girard; seconded: Trish Martin

Carried

The discussion was then tabled to allow the DASH Committee to meet and make a recommendation on a donation to the Richmond Family Place.

Sponsorship for the Miners Memorial Weekend in Cumberland

The sponsorship information for the 2018 Miners Memorial Weekend was circulated in advance of the meeting. Jamey reminded the Council that the BCFED will be hosting their spring regional conference in conjunction with the Miners Memorial Weekend largely because of the 100th anniversary of the death of Ginger Goodwin. Jamey added that it would be good for the PSAC to have its name attached to this important Labour event.

The request from the Miners Memorial Weekend provided a range of sponsorship opportunities.

A motion was made to approve a \$1,000 sponsorship for the 2018 Miners Memorial Weekend, marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Ginger Goodwin.

Moved: Linda Harding; seconded: Trish Martin

Carried

Discussion on District Labour Council Affiliation

Jamey began the discussion, noting that DLCs are the fundamental political arms of the CLC. They are a vibrant source of social change and play an important role in electing progressive governments. DLCs provide an important opportunity to hear what's happening in other unions in terms of labour disputes, campaigns, political action, etc. Through the DLCs, affiliates hear about other issues in the labour movement and are able to offer their support where possible.

Jamey added that it's important the PSAC Locals participate with DLCs wherever possible. To assist with Local participation, the Region does have some funding available to help with affiliation costs. Eight geographically-based subsidies are available through the Region and several Components also provide financial support for their Locals.

In some areas of the province, Area Councils are able to directly affiliate to the DLC. However, in most cases only Locals are able to affiliate in light of their by-laws.

Trish commented that many Island Locals are struggling to affiliate to the BCFED (and DLCs). At the Victoria Area Council, this matter was discussed at the AGM and it was discovered that many Locals do not know how to affiliate and what the value of affiliating is.

Jamey acknowledged Trish's concerns, and they provided some further information on how Locals can seek funding through the Region for DLC affiliations. Jamey provided that the REVP Office provides reimbursement up to a maximum of \$400 per geographic area per fiscal year. The \$400 is divided amongst the Locals (and Area Councils in some circumstances) that apply for reimbursement within the respective geographic area. The geographic areas correspond with the Region's eight Area Councils.

It should be noted that before any DLC affiliation fee reimbursement request can be considered, the Local must first approach their Component for funding. Locals may submit a fee reimbursement request (along with a copy of the receipt) to the REVP Office. With their request, they must also their Area Council President because as DLC affiliations need to be reported at Area Council meetings.

PSAC BC Pre-Convention Delegates Meeting

As in previous cycles, the Regional Council budget provides for a one-day PSAC BC delegates caucus meeting in advance of the PSAC National Triennial Convention. The intent of that meeting is to

bring the BC delegates together to discussion the resolution priorities and discuss, where possible, any potential regional strategies for promoting resolutions in the interest of the BC Region.

The PSAC BC Pre-Convention Delegates meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, April 7 at the Pinnacle Hotel Harbourfront in Vancouver. There will be around 42 delegates in attendance as well as some unfunded participants who will be attending the PSAC Convention as observers.

Regional Council Communication

Jamey reminded the Council that when Coordinators require loss of salary coverage or leave with pay authorization for Treasury Board (TB) members, they need to ensure that they communicate with the REVP Office in advance of the event/activity. Given the new TB leave with pay requirements, we do not want to be in a position where we need to submit letters to the Employer retroactively. In concert with this, funding proposals with all anticipated costs (salary and non-salary) need to be submitted to the REVP Office in advance for authorization.

Dean Babuin asked for some clarification on what types of leave are covered under the new TB leave requirements, which Kristin provided.

Regional Council Meeting Format

Jamey noted that the last two Regional Council meetings have concluded after two days rather than the scheduled three days. Jamey then asked the Council for feedback on whether or not to proceed with a two-day meeting format going forward.

Trish Martin commented that closer to the Regional Convention, the Council may require the third day. Going forward, however, the third day only needs to be scheduled as needed. All agreed.

Sky Belt commented that it would be helpful to allot the Committee time on first day rather than the second day. Shane added that he finds it difficult to schedule the Committee meetings given the membership overlaps. Jamey suggested that to avoid conflicts, Committee can meet in advance via teleconference. Committees wishing to book conference call, coordinate call arrangements through the REVP Office.

Other Business: Regional Council Jackets

Colleen began the discussion, asking if the Council would consider purchasing some jackets for the Regional Council. The jackets would be useful at events, where Regional Council members could be easily identified. They would also be beneficial during media interviews when representing the Region. Jamey agreed that the jackets would be a good idea, and funding could be sourced through the Advertising and Visibility budget line. The REVP Office can look into union-made options. All agreed.

ACTION ITEM:	REVP Office to look into union-made options for Regional Council jackets and report back
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Q & A Session with National Officers

Stephen Klaver advised that he met with CEIU NEVP Crystal Warner on February 28 and discussed the impact of Phoenix on CEIU members. Reports show that CEIU may have been hit by Phoenix more than other Components as 88% of its member have reported payment problems. Stephen added that CEIU will be holding its Presidents' conference this April, which will include all Local Presidents as well as the CEIU National President, CEIU NEVP, and CEIU RVP for BC/Yukon.

Terri Lee reminded the Council that Agriculture Union has partnered with PSAC in the past for political campaigns including the *Food Safety First* campaign. Recently the Component brought attention to [Oceana's](#) campaign on [Seafood Fraud](#), which calls on the government to require

traceable, reliable information on seafood consumer products to prevent mislabeling and illegal fishing.

Terri further advised that Agriculture is holding its BC Regional Seminar next weekend in Burnaby. There will be a meet and greet on the Friday evening; Regional Council members and National Officers are invited to attend.

T. Mark Miller advised that UNDE has a large contingent of red seal trades workers. Currently, the Component is facing some challenges with the Employer given that they are not pursuing an apprenticeship program for trades on the base. In light of this, T. Mark would like the Region's support in seeking a seat at the BCFED's Apprenticeship & Skills Working Group. Jamey advised that he will look into whether or not the PSAC can send a representative to the working group so Mark can attend.

ACTION ITEM:	REVP to look into have T. Mark Miller as a PSAC Representative on the BCFED's Apprenticeship & Skills Working Group
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Summer Outreach

Jamey asked the Council to advise of their plans for summer outreach, both for the members and the general public.

Nia Gillies advised that she plans to participate in Pride events in Vancouver and Victoria this summer.

Trish Martin provided that the Victoria Area Council will be participating in the Saanich Fair again this year as well as the Labour Day festivities. Trish encouraged other Area Councils to consider local fairs as they present good opportunities to speak with the public. Some thought has been given to organizing a picnic/camp out for members and their families around the time of the fair. The Area Council is also participating in the Victoria Day parade.

Trish further commented that the Victoria Area Council faces the same challenges as others with respect to seeking volunteers for events. They're hoping to have members sign up for a least one event over the summer and will be producing pamphlets to share information on their events. Relatedly, their hoping to achieve better communication with Components and Trish encouraged National Officers to respond to their requests and invites.

Sky Belt advised that the Vancouver & District Area Council is planning to participate in a number of events this summer, including: the Vancouver Vaisakhi parade, May Day, Car Free Days in Vancouver, the PSAC Women's event on May 9, the Area Council annual softball tournament, National Aboriginal Day in June, the Vancouver Canada Day parade, Vancouver Pride Parade, the Area Council's annual BBQ, and the BCFED Labour Day event in Vancouver. Jamey commented that if members are planning to attend the Labour Day event in Vancouver, please advise the REVP Office so they can be included in the PSAC numbers that we submit to the BCFED.

James Brierley advised that the Vancouver Island Young Workers Committee will be holding their AGM on March 20.

Jennifer Chieh Ho advised that the West Fraser Valley is planning to participate in several summer events in Surrey, including the Surrey Fusion Festival, Canada Day celebrations and the Surrey Pride Festival. Jamey Mills noted that the REVP Office has already registered as a sponsor for the Surrey Pride festival, which includes a vendor space for the Area Council. However, to date, the Region has

not committed to the Surrey Fusion Festival as we'll need firm commitments for volunteers given the vendor costs for the two-day festival.

Jill MacNeill advised that the Northwest BC Area Council is planning a number of summer outreach events including the Area Council "Burnt by Phoenix" BBQ around May Day, participation in Seafest in Prince Rupert, participation in Terrace's River Board Days, and a health and safety event for members. Around Labour Day, the Area Council also plans to send out information to members, promoting the value of unions, explaining why they are important.

Bert Farwell advised that he will be looking into hosting information tables at the Nanaimo Bathtub races and the Port Alberni Fair. For Labour Day, Bert is also looking into participation opportunities in Black Creek and Duncan. As plans are further developed, Bert will be in touch with the REVP Office with funding proposals.

DASH Committee – Recommendation on Donation to the Richmond Family Place

On behalf of the Committee, Jennifer Horsley advised that the DASH Committee had discussed the request from the Council to make a recommendation on a donation to the Richmond Family Place. Given the reduction to the Donations & Membership total budget line from \$5,500 to \$5,000 in the 2018 fiscal year, the Committee is recommending a donation of \$250 rather than a \$500 donation.

A motion was then made to make a \$250 donation to the Richmond Family Place from the Donations & Membership budget line.

Moved: Jennifer Horsley; seconded: Trish Martin

Carried

Scheduling of Next Conference Call and the Next In-Person Meeting

It was agreed that the next in-person meeting should take place after the October NBoD meeting and before the BC Federation of Labour Convention. Based on the national calendar of events, November 2-3, 2018 were proposed for the meeting dates. A save-the-date notice will be sent out by the REVP Office.

Jamey advised that the REVP Office will send out a doodle poll for the next Regional Council conference call. It was suggested that the call be scheduled after the PSAC National Triennial Convention, in mid-May.

ACTION ITEM: Kristin Schnider to send out a doodle poll to the BC Regional Council for the next conference call, which is to take place in mid-May
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Meeting Adjournment

Before adjourning the meeting, Jamey Mills thanked everyone for their engagement and participation during the meeting.

A motion was then made to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: David Schinbein; seconded: Shane Polak

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 PM.

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Schnider

Minutes published: March 2018



Report to the PSAC B.C. Regional Council

Name: Johann Ackermann	Date: March 2, 2018
Regional Council Position: West Fraser Valley	
Reporting Period: November 2017 to March 2018	
Activities Since the Last Regional Council Meeting	
Activity	How it fulfilled role on the Regional Council
November 3 and 4, 2018	Attended the PSAC Regional Council face to face meeting
November 17, 2017 meeting with Carla Qualtrough, MP responsible for Phoenix	Represented all the WFV PSAC members concerning Phoenix. (Todd Smith attended the meeting with me.)
November 29 to December 3, 2018 PSAC Leadership Forum	Through the Leadership Forum I was able to interact with a large number of activists from across Canada and gave us an opportunity to attend a variety of workshops and to listen to some very interesting union activists. The speakers included several activists from the USA with really powerful messages. The workshop I learned the most from was about how to use social media more effectively.
December 6, 2018 Holland Park Commemorating the massacre at Polytechnic in Quebec	Represented the WFVAC and the WFV membership
December 18, 2018 Regional Council Tele-conference	Conference call for the PSAC Regional Council
January 15, 2018 West Fraser Valley Area Council Annual General Meeting	The WFVAC AGM and other meetings of the Area Council allow me the best opportunity to touch bases with members in the WFV area. Note: I was elected to the position of Area Council Secretary.
February 19, 2018	This is meeting was basically to deal with the AC budget.
Challenges you had to cope with since the last meeting	
I was the Acting Local President for UTE Local 20029 from Sept 18 th , 2017 to February 22 nd , 2018. Because the local has around 1250 members it occupied a lot of my time.	
What would you like to work on next?	
I would like to connect with all of the locals in the WFV.	



Report to the PSAC B.C. Regional Council

Carolyn McGillivray- BC Southern Interior Representative
March 2018 meeting report

I have attended some conference calls of the Regional Council and one for the Political Action Committee.

I was also able to attend the advanced leadership training where the BC political action committee was able to have a quick meeting and talk more about our plans and strategies. The training was some of the best I've had in a long time and was a really great networking opportunity.

It was great to have an onsite brown bagger in Osoyoos on Phoenix which was well received by the members. Thanks to all who came and to Brother Robert for getting the training done.

Things continue to be very time consuming focusing on family issues and my Father's estate. Hopefully things will smooth out soon.

I look forward to reengaging and working to move forward and build our union.

In Solidarity,

Carolyn



Report to the PSAC B.C. Regional Council

I apologize for not previously submitting a written report.

In November I attended the Leadership conference.

In December I was able to meet with my MP Randall Garrison to discuss FB issues: 25 and out, pensions, lack of collective agreement and Phoenix.

I co-chaired the National Officers meetings with REVP Jamey Mills on November 6 and February 27.

On February 28, I attended the Phoenix Rally in Victoria. It was well attended, well organized and well covered by the media.

Leanne Hughes
National Officers Coordinator
BC Regional Council

PSAC BC Regional Education Committee Meeting held on March 3, 2018

Present: Johann Ackermann (Chair), Nia Gilles, James Brierley

Guests: Luc Guevremont, Stephen Klaver

Regrets: Linda Harding and Tiffany Hobbins

- ARTS (Advanced Representation Training for Stewards) course had a pilot with the CEIU component. The budget was for 20 participants. If a course is Component specific the component is responsible for the budget. So 20 seats were done per budget and an additional 4 participants were added by the component.
- Lobbying Course – To research whether the PSAC already has a lobbying course and if not this will have to be brought up for the next convention. Noted that if a Union Rep is present a lobbying report must be done. However, if a member at large meets with an MP/MLA it's not required to have a report done but the union would like to be informed.
- Discussion on members attending non PSAC courses that are already offered by the union. It was suggested that the union should not be funding courses the PSAC already offers.

Meeting adjourned

Environment Committee Report
March 03, 2018

Chair: Michael Shane Polak

- 1) Sharing Stories on Climate Action on Just Transition Thursday April 5 5:30 – 9:00.

The committee recommends that members attend. Shane gave an explanation of what a Just Transition means.

- 2) Environmental Assessment (EA) Reform hosted by the West Coast Environmental Law Group.

Shane gave a report on the meeting that was held on February 5. EA reform is coming to BC and the Federal Government introduced legislation to combine 4 entities into one.

- 3) Kwekwecnewtxw's Protect the Inlet

On March 10 a peaceful rally is scheduled to support the First Nation's opposition to the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion.

The committee moved a resolution for the council as follows:

Whereas the Kwekwecnewtxw's Project follows the PSAC LEAP Manifesto;

That the PSAC BC Regional Council fully support the Kwekwecnewtxw's Protect the Inlet Project and

That wherever possible the PSAC BC Regional Council members attend the March 10 rally to show support.

- 4) Teleconference – The committee commits to having regular teleconferences to keep up to date.

- 5) Oceans Protection Plan – Jill reported that April 11 – 15 DFO is sponsoring an event in the North West of BC in response to the Federal Oceans Protection Plan. In the North Killer Whales is a species at risk. Jill will participate. There will be education and information.

- 6) SWAT for the Environment - The committee would like to design and purchase a banner, flags and giveaways that have a PSAC and Environment Committee Logo. Hopefully not plastic.

- 7) Mother Earth Day is April 22. Please go out and observe nature.

- 8) Earth Hour is March 24 at 8:30 – 9:30 PM. Please turn off lights and other non-essential powered up items. If the PSACBC website could advertise that would be great. We would like a poster designed and sent to the locals.

- 9) World Water Day is March 22.