

## **Amended**

### **Vancouver and District Area Council General Meeting – September 13, 2016**

#### **In Attendance:**

Aaron Chang (CEIU 20938), Jamey Mills (UTE 20027), Ron Regala (UTE 20027), Bill Pleming (GSU 20008), Todd Smith (AGR 20044), Jennifer Horsley (UPCE 20095), Dennis Wong (UTE 20027) via teleconference, Barry Tchir (UCTE 20219) via teleconference, Monica Urrutia (Staff)

#### **Regrets:**

Sandra Wasilewski, Shane Polak, Cheryl Oenema

#### **Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 PM**

#### **Agenda:**

- Affiliate Reports
- MVA – AGM & Campaign
- October 19 Event
- BC Fed Convention
- VAC AGM
- CUPW Rally – September 16
- CLiFF
- Post Office Review
- Old Port – Solidarity
- Rank & File
- West Coast Domestic Workers

**Previous Minutes** – June 9 2016 (M/S/C) Bill/Aaron

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Regional Women’s Conference – Sept 23-25, 2016

National Equity Conferences – March 24-28, 2017

BC Fed Convention – November 28-December 2, 2016

National Health & Safety Conference – November 18-20, 2016

PSAC BC Regional Convention – June 2017

PSAC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Victoria – October 14, 2016

#### **Affiliate Reports:**

UTE 20027 (Vancouver)

-Strike vote was conducted with a strong mandate to take workplace action

-Strike infrastructure was put in place

-Bargaining team met with the employer and was able to negotiate a tentative agreement

-Ratification vote was held with a Yes mandate from the bargaining team

-Office move to Main & Terminal is happening Jan/FEB 2017, to date good consultation with the union has occurred to minimize impact on staff

-Local President will be retiring before the next AGM and office move

UPCE 20095

- 2 out of 3 stores slated for closure have gone ahead, losing long term employees to bumping/layoff
- we were very busy over the summer due to Canada Post labour dispute
- Joanne Hay (local president) and I are going over to Nanaimo and Victoria to visit our sites in conjunction with Regional Council meeting in October

Added to Agenda – **Activities since our last meeting** –

National Public Service Week Softball Tournament – was very successful, had 7 teams this year, about 100 member came out. All proceeds went to the MVA, just under \$800. Based on this year's turn out and feedback we are expecting to be able to have 10 teams next year. We had a couple of banded together teams from locals that didn't get enough players to make their own team and definitely an option for next year. A fun afternoon of non-competitive competition.

National Aboriginal Day – June 21 – Mainland Human Rights committee combined celebration with their annual barbeque and had an aboriginal speaker come in. Had bannock and salmon

Summer BBQ – was canceled due to equipment failure, literally the wheels fell of the barbeque.

Labour Day – very successful, if rainy event held by the BC Fed at Swangard Stadium. About 2500 people from labour and the community came. We didn't have a spot for some reason, but the BC Fed quickly remedied that. Jen Horsley, Terri Lee and Bowinn Ma staffed the booth along with PSAC staff member Monica Urrutia. We shared our booth with the MVA. Jennifer mentioned that she had hoped that there would be more materials on Phoenix available, but overall very successful. Terri Lee had an interview with Fairchild TV.

Meetings with MPs

This activity continued throughout the summer. Jamey and Terri met with Jodi Wilson-Raybould. They spoke to her about the CFIA Audit and Phoenix. Her perspective on Phoenix seemed to be that there were not that many people impacted, and she was shocked to hear about the real issues around it. She might be willing to host a Town Hall.

Also, Terri and Jamey met with Don Davies and also spoke to him about Phoenix and the impact it is having on members. Don is a vociferous speaker in the House of Commons. Gave him a lot of material on Phoenix.

Monica (Urrutia) bumped into the Minister of Justice at a Filipino cultural event over the summer and spoke to her about Phoenix and the MMW Inquiry. Jody Wilson-Raybould reiterated her desire to hold a town hall, seemed very approachable.

Todd had an MP approach him at the tent at Surrey Pride event, introduced himself and asked about bargaining. Todd spoke to him a bit about bargaining, sick leave, Phoenix and asked him about selling weapons to Saudi Arabia based on their human rights record

Jamey reiterated that MP Lobby was not meant to be a one time campaign, that it should be continuing. Asked if anyone present was meeting with their MP or to consider doing it in the future, that resources/support are available from the Regional Office.

**Metro Vancouver Alliance (MVA) AGM** - The AGM will be held at 7:00 PM on September 22, 2016 at St. Augustine's church. The MVA currently has 55 affiliated bodies representing over 250,000 people in the Metro Vancouver area. At the AGM they will be electing officers and discussing the Provincial Election Accountability Assembly to be held April 4, 2017. Currently the issues that are priorities for the MVA are Affordable Housing, Wage Justice, Transit and Social Isolation. They will be holding further listening campaigns to decide if these are still relevant issues to the membership and for the Provincial Election Accountability Assembly. Will be holding discernment meetings likely in Feb/March to decide which issues to go forward to the assembly and form new research teams if necessary. Hoping to have the leaders of the NDP, Liberals and Green parties (and now the Conservatives) present. The MVA is a non-partisan, issues based alliance of Community, Religious and Labour groups.

**October 19 Event** - As we didn't have our annual barbeque, we would like to hold an event on the one year anniversary of getting rid of Harper to celebrate our hard work and success. Invite Sisters and Brothers within the PSAC and a few executive members from PIPSC and CAPE to the Regional Office for a BBQ.

Motion:

The Vancouver and District Area Council will spend up to \$600 to hold an October 19 Event at the Regional Office. (M/S/C) Jamey/Todd

Jamey will work with Patrick to get a poster done and get it out through our networks. Jamey will get in touch with PIPSC and CAPE.

The \$600 would be to go towards food.

**BC Fed Convention** - The Resolution deadline is September 29, 2016 at 11:00 AM. Jamey will be sitting on the Resolutions Committee for the Convention. PSAC Locals should cc Jamey on any resolutions so he knows they are coming. Bill asked what sort of Resolutions would be good to put forward to the Convention or what we could expect to go forward from PSAC locals. Jamey mentioned Phoenix, cuts, MCSS, ISS, Environmental Policy. Resolutions don't necessarily have to be just Provincial issues as they could go from there on to the CLC Convention.

**Vancouver Area Council AGM** - Suggested dates in February – 1, 2 or 7, 8, 9 or 15 or 16. We will be working on Resolutions and selecting delegate to the Regional Convention. Ad-hoc resolutions committee already exists for the Area Council of Jamey, Sandy, Shane and Todd. A lot of resolutions will be coming out of this Area Council, particularly around the funding of Area Councils. We have been very lucky in this region that active area councils receive funding out of a line item, but also through the political action line item. Bob's retiring so things may change rapidly depending on who is elected. The more bodies that put resolutions through the more likely they are to make it to the floor, ie component, local, regional conventions.

Jamey is also pushing for a one day educational on resolution writing. An email will come out to poll for dates for AGM.

**CUPW Rally – Sept 16, 2016** - CUPW is calling for support for a rally to be held at Jody Wilson-Raybould's constituency office on Friday. Jennifer found out about it at Labour Day, it is a Pan Canadian Day of Action to Defend and Expand the public post office. (this was changed later in the week to just a gathering, which Jennifer notified the Area Council of via email).

**CLiFF** - The Canadian Labour International Film Festival. Jennifer brought this to the area council to give it attention and to see if there would be any interest in holding an event at the R.O. Something to consider or maybe consider doing a joint event with another committee. It takes place through the month of November, and if we decide not to do it ourselves, just to bring awareness of the event to the council. While it is not in the timeline for CLiFF, we might be able to incorporate one or a couple of the films into the October 19 event.

**Post Office Review** - A reminder that the post office review is still underway and that we should all be answering the surveys and taking part in the process. The survey will be available until October 21 at <http://www.parl.gc.ca/Committees/en/OGGO> . There will also be public consultations taking place.

**Solidarity with the Old Port** – The Old Port of Montreal has been on strike since April 2016, both members of PSAC and IATSE work there. They are fighting for a \$15 minimum wage for their members. The strike was brought to our attention at Labour Day by Socialist Alternative, who had had members meet with the striking workers during the summer, who specifically sought out the PSAC booth at Labour Day to hopefully get some support for the workers. Because there was no direct request for financial support, we would still like to offer support in the form of a letter from the Area Council

Motion:

That the Area Council will send a letter of support for the striking workers of the Old Port of Montreal (PSAC Local 10333). (M/S/C) Jennifer/Jamey

Jamey also offered to ask for a similar letter from the REVP.

**Rank and File** – Rank and file is a self funded labour media outlet. They get approximately 20,000 views on facebook weekly and are looking for contributors. It is really good publicity if you want to get your labour story out there. Crystal Warner is already a contributor.

**West Coast Domestic Workers** – Jennifer was approached at the PSAC table at Labour Day to support two campaigns. The first one “End Targeting of Foreign Caregivers, End CBSAs Project Guardian” seems problematic as it specifically mentions our membership at CBSA and Jennifer thinks that it is something that we cannot support, it is too specific in it's target. She brought the information just so that we would know it was out there. The second campaign is “Justice for All Workers” and is more general in scope; it calls on the provincial government to license foreign worker recruiters and immigration consultants, require employers who use foreign workers to register, strengthen and proactively enforce labour standards and make greater investment in skills training and development of all workers. Mabel Elmore has offered to come in to make a presentation on the Justice for All Workers campaign.

**Round Table:**

Fight for \$15 – the next blitz is on September 15 from 3-5 at Metrotown and from 5-7 at Surrey Central Station.

Monica – Education Schedule is underway, grievance handling next weekend, Local Officer’s Workshop in October, TUB in November.

Ron – if he is going to meet MPs what should the main agenda items be or should he just meet with them? He knows that his MP is in his riding at least once a month. If he meets with MP Harjit Sajjan what should he bring up? Suggestions from Jamey are Phoenix or to speak to the REVP for UNDE to find out specific issues to the minister’s portfolio.

Jamey – make sure that we promote the October 19 event. Will be just a barbeque, no games.

Motion to adjourn (M/S/C) Todd/Ron 6:52 pm.