

**Public Service Alliance of Canada
British Columbia Regional Union Safety and Health (BRUSH)**

**Minutes
January 2012**

Chair: Sam Wiese (Regional Councilor, H&S)

In Attendance: Linda Harding (alternate Regional Council, H&S), Tracey Shudo (CEIU), Bob Bridgeman (UNDE), Kelly Megyesi (CEIU), Leanne Hughes (CIU), Martha Johnson (UVAE), Susan Yaciw (UTE), Monique Bakker (UEW), Wayne Little (UTE), Bill Pleming (GSU), Phil Carrier (RVP USGE), Michael Small (UTE), Barry Cunningham (UCTE), Francine Baxter (CEIU), Cindy Little (UTE), James Little (PSAC, H&S)

Regrets: Bob Jackson (REVP BC), Melvin Dureen (USGE), Brian Price (AGR), Terri Lee (RVP AGR), Bert Farwell (UCTE), Virginia Vaillancourt (UVAE), Jamey Mills (UTE), Laura Yue (CRA) and Jennifer Ho (NAT).

Agenda

Roll Call including Regrets
Accepting the Agenda
Review Previous Minutes
Business Arising

Standing Items:

1. Ergonomics
2. Membership Survey

New Business

- 1) 2012 H& S Conference update - Organizing Committee
- 2) PSAC National H&S Forum for Policy Committee Members
- 3) PSAC National H&S Conference

Round Table

Adjournment

Introduction/Roll Call

Sam conducted a roll call and expressed member's regrets.

Accepting the Agenda

Accepted as presented

Review of Previous Minutes

Members reviewed and approved the previous minutes with no amendments.

Standing Items:

Ergonomics

Public Works and Government Services has announced that the Regional Master Standing Offer (RMSO) for ergonomic assessments has been awarded. For those in the Lower Mainland, the contract number is E6VIC-110006/001/VIC. And the contractor is **Preventionworks**. For the rest of BC and Victoria and the Yukon is **CBI Workplace Solutions**. Contract number E6VIC-110006/002/VIC.

For more information about these standing offer, you can go to the Standing Offer Index:

<http://soi.pwgsc.gc.ca/app/index.cfm?Fuseaction=sim.search&altlang=-e>

Choose your department and your delivery point and then put in the standing offer number E6VIC-110006. Click on the dot that says Ergonomic Services. This will bring up both standing offers.

We would like to thank the members representing Public Works and Government Services Canada for providing the contact links. There are a few questions outstanding in regard to how the contracts will be administrated and we are hoping that most of the answers will be addressed in the contracts. The access is through the governments websites (internal).

We also want to advise members that if they are having problems accessing the service or with the service providers please let us know as soon as possible.

Membership Survey

We remain committed to this project and continue to work on the process. The BC Regional H&S Survey was launched on late October. Survey questions have been sent to local presidents as well as posted on our website. We issuee a reminder later in December 2011 and will send a second reminder prior to the 2012 Regional Conference as it is our intention to announce the results at the upcoming 2012 Regional H&S Conference.

To date we have 32 of 142 locals responding

Task: Send a reminder to BC National officers asking them to remind their locals to complete the survey then sit back and watch them pour in.

New Business

2012 BC Regional H&S Conference

The conference is scheduled for Feb 24-26 2012 at the Sheraton Richmond Airport Inn. We have received 95 applications for approximately 60 seats and the selection process is underway.

Questions were raised regarding the process for selection and the rationalization for extending the deadline for receiving applications.

James provided a detailed explanation of the selection process and how we have an obligation to ensure regional representation and the deadline was extended because we had not met our regional obligations. It was also explained that the selection process is complex process of blind quantitative scoring and evaluating applicants by several of the committee members. We believe this to one of the most equitable processes used by the PSAC in selecting candidates for conferences.

PSAC National H&S Forum for Policy Committee Members

We shared information about the National H&S Policy Committee Representatives meeting held in Ottawa on November 22-23, 2011.

Leanne Hughes of CIU and James Little PSAC H&S Rep gave a brief overview of the conference and shared with the committee members their experiences.

The conference was focused on H&S Policy committees from a component structured perspective and was very well attended. We would encourage the PSAC to continue with these forms and hope that they would be offered on a triennial basis.

PSAC National H&S Conference

There has been no announcement from the PSAC regarding the National H&S Conference however we would expect that the Conference would be held shortly after the PSAC National Conventions – so the fall of 2012.

There is a rumor that the conference may not be held until the spring of 2013. We will continue to monitor the process and inform members of the date as soon as it is made available to the BRUSH.

Round Table

Wayne Little – We should look at using social media more for H&S engagement.

Francine Baxter – Thanks for the update on the H&S Forum

Bill Fleming – Two issues

- 1) Work at the RCMP H&S conference – Amanda Smith would be the person to contact regarding H&S at RCMP/USGE. We have no information.
- 2) Environmental Hypersensitivity – PSAC has just won a very important case regarding environmental hypersensitivity and Bill would like us to post on the website

Task:

James will try to locate the decision and ensure it is posted on the website and discussed at the next meeting of the BRUSH.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting

June 20, 2012