

**British Columbia Regional Union Safety and Health Committee
(BRUSH)
Minutes
March 1, 2017**

In Attendance: Linda Harding (Chair), Jamey Mills (UTE), Jennifer Horsley (UPCE), Johann Ackermann (UTE), Wayne Little (UTE), Brad Klein (UNDE), Sue Yaciw (UTE), Susan Gunn (USGE), Floyd Knelson (UTE), Dean McCann (UCTE), Bill Pleming (GSU), Farida Reid (CEIU), Ernest Hooker (UCTE), Elaine Parker (CEIU), Mariah Moraes (USGE), Shane Polack (UVAE), Coleen Girard (UNDE), Tom Jackson (CIU), Desery Ng (UNE), Jenifer Chie Ho (UNE), Monique Bakker (UHEW), Marcello Lazaro (UNDE), Bert Farwell (UCTE), Brenda Todd (CEIU), Joyce Slett (USGE), Kirsty Havard (USGE) Leanne Hughes (CIU), Kim Kosh (UTE), Wendy Tangye (UHEW), Dan Hermary (UNE), Jim Sidel (DCL), Bob Jackson (REVP BC) and James (PSAC)

Regrets: Donovan Lynch (UHEW)

Agenda

Accepting the Agenda:

Review Previous Minutes

Business Arising

New Business

1. BC Fed Activities
2. National H&S Conference Regional Report
3. 2017 PSAC National H&S Policy Committee Forum
4. Resolutions to BC Regional Convention
5. BRUSH Delegate Selection to BC Regional Convention
6. Invitation and Ideas for Guest Speakers
7. RCG- WCB Article
8. Fire Safety Plan and Mobility of Impaired Members
9. NJC Cyclical Review
10. H&S Education

Round Table

Adjournment

Roll Call

Linda conducted a Roll Call

Accepting of the Agenda

Accepted with minor amendments.

Review Previous Minutes

There were some misspelt names which will be fixed. The date on the minutes is incorrect and should be read as January 25, 2017.

We reviewed the previous minutes all tasks have been completed.

Accepted as amended.

Business Arising

No Business Arising

New Business

BC Fed Activities

Linda gave a brief of the most recent BC Fed all day meeting. She talked about the Exposure Registry, the Safe Supervisor as well as the Golden Tree Candle Light Vigil.

The BC Fed Course Guide has been distributed to members of the BRUSH and there are some very good Federal Courses coming up and this would be a good opportunity for members in remote areas to access this education. They are also promoting an English as a Second Language (ESL) Course for anyone who does not have English as a first language and this might be very helpful for individuals who are new Canadians or recently immigrated to Canada.

TASK: Send out the Notice on ESL from BC Fed

WorkSafe BC – is going to develop a Violence Prevention Programs with regulatory amendments. Linda sits on the sub-committee which will make a presentation to WorkSafe BC.

National H&S Conference Regional Report

We have prepared for review by the BRUSH a DRAFT copy of the National H&S Conference report. The conference was held in Montreal from November 18th to 20th, 2016. The theme is “Shaping a New Culture for Our Health and Safety”, and it will be structured much the same as previous conferences. The resolutions were debated and both of the BRUSH’s primary resolutions were passed.

Most of the concurrence resolutions were passed with the exception of one which was rather poorly written.

The conference focused on Psychological Injuries and Mental Health Awareness along with Violence Prevention. There was a panel on Domestic and Workplace Violence.

We also held a regional caucus as part of the conference on Sunday morning where we developed a regional strategy and a regional strategic plan.

We need members to review the DRAFT Report and outline any changes required. The report will be presented in its final version at the next BRUSH Meeting.

2017 PSAC National H&S Policy Committee Forum

Bob talked about the purpose and objective of the forum and indicated that the focus was on Hazard Prevention. Bob reminded everyone that we need to train our members in how to deal H&S issues and how to become a greater/stronger force at the table.

The Components selected their delegates to the conference and it was considerably smaller and more focused than the previous forum. The meetings were held in the PSAC Office to cut out some of the expense.

The forum was for policy committee members to assist them with the work that they need to complete.

Resolutions to BC Regional Conference

We reviewed the BRUSH resolutions that were passed at the National H&S Conference and recommend they be submitted to the BC Regional Convention.

We looked at the two resolutions and #5 and #2 and we also looked at #1 which was poorly worded and not a resolution of the BRUSH the latter resolution will not be put forward to our BC Regional Convention.

We are going to put forward three resolutions #2 #5 and an amended #3.

Brenda Todd – what is the Component allocation of #2. Basically non if this resolution goes forward.

Marcello – what about the costs, will they be costed at convention. Bob explained that the allocation would go to the regions so each region would be entitled to seven additional delegates.

Resolution #3 – Did not pass nationally because of poor wording. We are suggesting setting the amount at an Increase of 20K..

Marcello – are we currently underfunded. Linda said yes we are and this would make the conferences equitable in terms of funding.

Bob – in terms of funding the Regional H&S Conferences, some regions use their activities funds to supplement the cost of the conference. Which makes it near impossible to fund regional activities. At the national conference the principle of the resolution was supported. However, it did not pass because there wasn't a clear understanding of the cost associated with the change.

Susan – she thought the last conference was small and she supports the idea of having more funds allocated given the subject matter discussed at the conferences.

Resolution #3 as amended will go forward.

Resolution #5 – This was a BRUSH resolution to the national convention which was passed and we will support it going to the Regional Convention as well.

TASK: Send copies of resolutions to Kristen.

BRUSH Delegate Selection to BC Regional Convention

Bill Fleming was elected from among the participating members to represent the BRUSH at the BC Regional Convention. We will need to get Bill a special BRUSH Hat or maybe a Yellow Feather Boa for easy identification.

Invitation and Ideas for Guest Speakers

Rush Crane Guenther (RCG) – WCB Article

Sara O'Leary of RCG has produced some short tips for members who deal with WCB issues in the workplace and who advocate for their member on WCB issues. We reviewed the latest version with the BRUSH members.

Fire Safety Plan and Mobility of Impaired Members

Going to do a little bit more work on this issue and discuss at the next meeting. Work with Bill on the Fire Plan issue and the Fire Departments responsibilities in egressing our members from buildings who have mobility issues.

The basic issue, which was raised by a CEIU BRUSH member was, who is responsible for the egress of mobility impaired members from the workplace. Is it the employer or the fire department?

NJC Cyclical Review

We informed members of the NJC Cyclical Review and shared with them the email requesting input before June 23, 2017. We will send out the notice to all BRUSH members.

Task: Send out the request to BRUSH members.

Education

CLC Part II Course will be taking place in Victoria on March 11/12, 2017 please encourage your members to apply.

Round Table

Farida: Posting info on OSH Bulletin Boards how can we share messages. In some workplaces we have an email proxy which works well.

Kirsty Havard: Term employees, and the Sec.127 process all about security.

Next meeting – May 24th, 2017

Adjourned

TASK: Amend Terms of Reference to define what an active member is for future elections of BRUSH Delegate.