

## **Vancouver and District Area Council Meeting – November 17, 2015 (as amended)**

### **In Attendance:**

Jamey Mills (UTE 20027), Todd Smith (AGR 20044), Jen Horsley (UPCE 20095), Colin Van Haar (AGR 20060), Bowinn Ma (UCTE 20221), Aaron Chang (CEIU 20938), Shane Polak (UVAE 20045), Ruby Langan (UNE 20150), Tracy Shudo (Guest), Sam Wiese (Guest), Monica Urrutia (PSAC Staff), Patrick Bragg (PSAC Staff), Crystal Warner (CEIU 20974 on the phone), Sandy Chatha (MHRC on the phone), Wes Todd (guest on the phone)

### **Regrets:**

Sharon Tieman, Terri Lee, Monica Angell, Sandra Wasilewski, Calvin Smith

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

### **Agenda:**

1. Approve previous minutes (August 19, 2015 meeting)
2. Ratify Queen Alexandra fundraiser donation
3. Financial Report – Submitted by Sharon electronically, copies available
4. BC Forum – Sam
5. MVA Event – Wednesday November 18
6. Fundraising Request for Locked Out BCAA workers – Friday, November 20
7. Subsidies for District Labour Council affiliation
8. Preparation for AGM in 2016 (tentative date)
9. Feedback request on PSAC Election Campaign – Monica
10. Affiliate Reports?

### **Previous Minutes (M/S/C) Jamey/Jen**

### **Business Arising:**

Crystal – Labour Day

- Crystal, Jen, Patrick, Bob, Ferzana staffed the booth, Hetty and her kids, Tracy and her Family and Shane and his Fiancée dropped by
- Feedback to BCFed committee is that it feels like labour is hidden away, no real public participation like there was when we were at one of the parks, would like to see a return to a more public place like a park
- Need more than just labour involved/participating to heighten the profile
- Tracy and Shane agree, should be more public event

### **Ratify Queen Alexandra Fundraiser**

- Funds raised go to support the Free Store at the School
  - Vote held via email in September, ratified at the meeting
- I move that the Vancouver and District Area Council purchase 4 tickets to the Queen Alexandra Elementary Fundraiser for a total of \$200. If the tickets cannot be allocated to a PSAC member*

*by September 22 I ask that the tickets be donated for use by a low income Young Worker.  
(M/S/C) Jamey/Todd/unanimous*

## **Financial Report**

Jamey presented the report prepared by Sharon

Inactive Account at Vancity

- When Sam and Shane were on the Area Council Executive there was an account held at Vancity branch at Pender & Hornby which has about \$250.00 in it, account has gone inactive
- As signing officers on the account Sam & Shane will meet for lunch and go to Vancity to close the account and provide the funds to the Vancouver Area Council

## **BC Forum**

Jamey turned the floor over to Sam Wiese to discuss the BC Forum which is an organization for union members over 50. It offers a voice for members over 50 as well as negotiating benefits for those members, such as extended health, dental and death benefits.

The BC Forum had their executive meeting on November 17, the membership currently stands at 2,049 which is very low, so Sam is out trying to push for more union members to join.

If anyone would like more information on BC Forum, they can contact Sam Wiese

[wiese.sam@gmail.com](mailto:wiese.sam@gmail.com) or 604 726 4654

Also discussed at the executive meeting were the outcome of the Federal Election and the Syrian Refugee Crisis

Federal Election – a lot of discussion around the results. Although it wasn't the Orange Crush we had hoped for, NDP took 14 seats in BC, up from 12 and there are several BC members sitting in the shadow cabinet. Now we have to hold the Liberals to account.

Syrian Refugee Crisis – discussion around the negativity in the media and fearmongering since the Paris attacks. The BC Forum will be coming out with a positive statement on the crisis, including that we already have security measures in place and that we need to be sure that the funds are there to settle refugees properly

Burnaby Family Dialogue on Refugees – November 26, 2015 7-9 PM – Dr. Dan Hiebert will be speaking – Aaron was planning on going

## **MVA Event**

November 18, 2015 – Social Inclusion – discussion on reducing the red-tape to simplify the process of planning and holding public events – at VCC Broadway Campus, Andrea Reimer from Vancouver Council will be attending

## **Fundraising request for Locked out BCAA workers**

**Motion:**

We had a fundraising request for the locked out BCAA workers, they are holding an Event at the Admiral Pub on Friday November 20 at 6:30 PM – purchase a Burger & Beer for \$20.00. As no one on Committee is able to attend, motion brought to the floor to donate \$100.00 to support the locked out workers.

**(M/S/C) Jamey/Crystal/Unanimous**

Further to that motion, Shane proposed that we send a Letter of Support to MoveUp and cc: the employer and also speak to Bob about doing the same for the region. Crystal and Jamey committed to drafting the letter.

Some information to keep in mind regarding the lockout. Don't boycott, but do contact BCAA customer service to let them know that the lockout upsets you. If you don't hear back, follow up on twitter or other social media outlets.

**Subsidies for District Labour Council affiliations**

Reminder that there is up to \$400 subsidy available towards the dues to affiliate with a DLC. For our Committee that would be locals affiliating either to New Westminster or Vancouver District Labour Council. Affiliation allows you to interact with other unions/labour, and there is education offered at the monthly meetings.

**Preparation for AGM**

The fiscal year now ends on December 31. We should have our meeting in late January or first week of February. Jamey will send out an email regarding availability.

**Feedback request on PSAC Election Campaign**

Monica led a discussion of the campaign, asking the Council questions to review the regional campaign and how the Area Council felt about the campaign.

**Lobbying**

We have approximately 11 MPs in our coverage area. We need to get to know them and start building relationships. We'd like to start actually lobbying these MPs. Also need to keep in mind that we have two ministers in our catchment.

There is going to be MP lobbying training upcoming, staff is meeting December 2 to discuss this.

**Affiliate Reports:**

Because of the length of discussions tonight, the council decided not to do affiliate reports this meeting.

**Round Table:**

Human Rights Committee Meeting – December 8

December 6<sup>th</sup> Vigil – Holland Park

December 5<sup>th</sup> – Vigil being held in Abbotsford

**Adjourned 7:30 PM (M/S/C) Jamey/Tracy**