

## Vancouver and District Area Council Meeting – March 13, 2019

### In Attendance:

Todd Smith (AGR 20044), Crystal Isaac (UTE 20027), Marion McLarty (UNE 20150), Aaron Chang (CEIU 20938), Jen Horsley (UPCE 20095), Donna Odne (AGR 20044), Peter Chobotar (UHEW 20031), Harmel Guram (CIU 20040), Teri Lee (AGR 20044), Andre Bessette (UHEW 20729), Sky Belt (AGR 20044) – via teleconference

Regrets: Shane Polak (UVAE 20045), Steve Faria (AGR 20060), Sandra Wasilewski (CEIU 20937), Monica Urrutia (PSAC Staff) was unable to attend due to illness

Called to Order at 6:00 PM

### Agenda:

1. Review of previous minutes – AGM minutes for reference only, will be approved at the next AGM in 2020
2. Business Arising from previous minutes
3. Metro Vancouver Alliance Update
4. Upcoming Events
  - a. Member Mixer on bargaining and Phoenix – April 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Vaisakhi
  - c. Car Free Day – Jun/July?
  - d. Annual softball tournament (Jun?)
  - e. National Indigenous People's Day – June 21
  - f. Canada Day – July 1<sup>st</sup>
  - g. Pride (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in August)
  - h. Annual Barbeque (July/Aug?)
  - i. Baseball & barbeque (July/Aug?)
  - j. CLiFF (fall)
  - k. Labour Day (Sept 2)
  - l. Federal Election (???)
5. Phoenix Subcommittee
6. Affiliate Reports
7. New Business
8. Round Table
9. Adjournment/Next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2019

Agenda adopted (M/S/C) Sky/Aaron

Welcome & Acknowledgement – Todd opened the meeting with the acknowledgement of the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh. Todd spoke about the importance of the Acknowledgement having meaning and being more than just a formality to open a meeting. He mentioned that the CLC is holding the first ever Indigenous Lobby Day on April 2, 2019. Topics being considered for the lobby day are Justice for Indigenous People and issues relevant to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), justice for Residential School Survivors and education on Reserves, access to clean and drinkable water on reserves and creating an Indigenous National Holiday on June 21. The BC

Region will be represented by Jenny McLeod the Indigenous Peoples representative on the Regional Council and Jill McNeil and Mike Ballard from the National Indigenous People's Circle.

Motion to adopt the Agenda (M/S/C) Terri/Aaron

Minutes

The minutes of the AGM were reviewed but will not be approved until the next AGM in 2020.

Business Arising

Terri Lee was sworn in to her position as a Member at Large on the Area Council as she was elected in absentia at the AGM.

MVA Update

Jennifer updated the Area Council about what is currently happening with the Metro Vancouver Alliance. The AGM is coming up on March 26, 2019, and we can have up to 10 delegates. There will be a Civic Academy on Housing held in 2 parts, the first will focus on (Re)Development for Churches, occurring on April 2 from 7PM-9PM. The second part will be more general and begin the conversation on Community Land Trusts, to be held April 27 from 10 AM-3PM. There will also be an Affordable Housing Assembly being held during the 5 day Organizing Institute in May. There is going to be change to the dues structure for the MVA, more news to follow.

Todd realized that there were a number of new faces at the meeting and that we had forgotten to hold a brief round of introductions, so it was done at this point.

Upcoming Events

April 4<sup>th</sup> – Todd - A poster was distributed for the Membership Mixer which is being held at the St Regis Restaurant and Hotel from 3:30 – 6:30 PM. It is an after work drop-in event, please encourage your members to join us, there's no obligation to stay for the whole event. This is a low-barrier event meant to encourage members to come out with any questions that they might have for the Bargaining Team or regional leadership. We provide the Appies, you provide the conversation and Solidarity. Members in the area who are on the mailing list should have received the poster via email. Please make sure to post it on your union board and bring a friend.

Vaisaki – Sky – no update, will try to get in touch with Kelly Sidhu

May Day – Todd – will be held in downtown Vancouver with a march and rally at mid-day

Car Free Day – Jen - no update, Main Street and West End are on Father's Day weekend, Commercial Drive is in July, Jen will look into fees and have an update for the next meeting

Softball Tournament or Baseball/Barbeque – Crystal has no update, she did speak to the East and West Fraser Valley Area Councils about doing a combined event but was told to reach out when the event is a little closer. Discussion then turned to when we would like to hold the event. We came to the decision that July would work best, looking at July 12, or the 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> if there are no parks available on that date. Looking at parks in Burnaby, New West or Coquitlam to maybe include the East and West Fraser Valley Area Councils.

Barbeque – we will hold separately from the Softball tournament, looking a August or September, firm up dates when we have a better idea about the Federal Election

National Indigenous People’s Day – Marion, Crystal and Todd were the leads on this, Marion hasn’t heard anything through work yet about when and where the event is being held this year.

Canada Day – Sky – no update yet, but we would like to go ahead with the Cloverdale event in conjunction with the West Fraser Valley Area Council

Pride – Todd – is super excited, we have tentative support from the REVPs office to have our first ever float in the parade. A few things contributed to our ability to do this, the first being that the cost has come down significantly, but also that it is an election year and we would like to have high political visibility. Also, Sky Belt was just sworn in as the BCFed LGBTQS Representative, they are having a caucus meeting next week.

Going back to the Barbeque – suggestions of Hume Park in New Westminster near Royal Columbian Hospital and Braid SkyTrain Station or Blue Mountain Park in Coquitlam, firm up dates to September 21, 2019 as our ideal date.

Sky had a good idea for maybe next year, when the Federal Election isn’t coming up in October to do a pumpkin carving event to include members and their families.

Labour Day – September 2 – Todd is on the VDLC planning committee. Still waiting for an update. The PNE had mixed reviews last year. Definitely, people had fun spending the day at the PNE, but the content and structure of the Rally were not well received. There are 3 options: continue at the PNE, get a rental permit to hold Labour Day at the Jack Pool Plaza or join the NWDLC at their celebration at Holland Park in Surrey. Todd will update us as he gets more information.

Federal Election – the ramp up will begin later and direction will come from PSAC National. The CLC will be running a campaign to get progressive voters out to actually vote. Main campaigns will be on Pharmacare, Done Waiting, Just Transition and Pensions

#### Phoenix Subcommittee

Our last call was in December. We were going to do something in February to mark the anniversary of Phoenix implementation but were waiting for something to come from National to take the lead from, but they ended up only doing a rally in Ottawa. We are trying something new with the Member Mixer event on April 4.

Terri asked if anyone was planning to see MP Karla Qualtrough. Crystal answered that yes, Jamey and Patrick were trying to book appointments with her as Crystal is in her riding, but that because the MP is wearing 2 ministerial hats she has been canceling a lot lately.

There is another call coming up, Todd invited everyone to dial in, it is an open call.

Sky mentioned that she liked the direction we are trying, it is something new instead of continuous rallies.

#### New Business

Bylaws – Notice of Motions was sent out with the meeting call out.

The motion is:

To be added to the Area Council Bylaws, Section 8 Subsection 1, paragraph 2

The executive may approve expenditures up to \$100.00 by electronic vote with ratification by the Area Council to occur at the following meeting. The quorum for such a vote is a majority of the executive. There shall be no more than three such expenditures between meetings.

Rationale: this will make it easier to do the basics such as supporting another union's picket line.

(M/S/C) Todd/Terri – unanimous

The second motion is:

To be added to the Area Council Bylaws, Section 6, Subsection 1, between the 2 current paragraphs

The term of office shall be for two years for the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. In odd numbered years the President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Secretary shall be elected. In even numbered years the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected. Each year the Members-at-Large are elected for a one-year term.

Rationale: for succession planning and continuity.

(M/S/C) Todd/Jen – unanimous

The open Member-at-Large election will be moved to the next meeting as we do not have a PSAC staff member present to conduct our elections.

Round Table:

Andre spoke about his involvement with the Urban Native Youth Association which is “the centre of indigenous youth excellence, supporting youth on their journeys by amplifying and celebrating their voices.” (from their Mission statement on their website). Andre has been involved with the association for a long time and said that it is at the intersection of indigenous youth and society. The UNYA is opening a Native Youth Centre on donated land at Commercial and East Hastings. This project is led by and run by indigenous youths.

Jen mentioned the United Way Period Promise Campaign which is collecting donations for women and girls who don't have access to feminine hygiene products. There is a box in the hallway of the PSAC office and the campaign is running until the end of March

Sky – don't forget to keep an eye on your email for updates

Todd – the Area Council Executive will be reaching out to locals in our catchment area to try to get more affiliates to come out to meetings and events. Bring a friend, every affiliated local is entitled to at least 2 delegates. Next meeting Todd has arranged for presenters to come from the VDLC and NWDLC, dinner at 5:30, presentations 5:45, meeting to start at 6.

Adjourned (M/S/C) Aaron/Terri 7:35 PM