

## Vancouver Regional Women's Minutes

October 3, 2017

Present: Kelly Megyesi, Victoria Yee, Anne Marie Friesen, Sandra Wasilewski, Sky Belt, Sandy Chatha, Jen Horsley, Ruby Langan, Kelly Sidhu, Monica Urrutia.

### Agenda

Accepted as presented with the addition of United Way.

### Minutes

Reviewed previous minutes. m/s/c

### October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Vigils – Ruby Langan

There is an evening Vigil at Victory Square in Vancouver. 6–830 pm. Ruby will be co-emcee. BCFed, Amnesty international, Pacific Association of First Nations women and Union of National employees are collaborating. They are trying to connect with women from the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre. There will be speakers, Butterflies in spirit will dance, and it is anticipated that there will be lots of media present. Monica will ensure this gets posted on the PSAC website. For other locations [www.nwac.ca](http://www.nwac.ca) Kelly M asked that if anyone participates in an event that they send her a picture to post. It is important that we keep attention on this issue. Kelly M will be walking in Enderby's Red Dress march.

Ruby is participating in a work event. Everyone was encouraged to attend an event or just take a minute to reflect on the stolen sisters plight.

### United Way – Sky Belt

Sky gave an overview of the United Way and her work as a campaign associate. She has been attending a lot of different events (out in Squamish today) and it is a great opportunity to tie in with the labour movement and other unions.

United Way is fully supported by Union and PSAC members make our communities stronger by providing assistance to those in need. Our members have raised millions of dollars over the years, which is essential in supporting the work of thousands of registered charities across the country.

Our REVP Jamey Mills will be putting a support letter/message on the PSACBC website in the near future

Sky also mentioned that if employees are worried about having phoenix issues with the deduction there are now other options (credit card, or direct debit).

[www.uwlm.ca/get-involved/workplace-campaigns/campaign-associate-program/](http://www.uwlm.ca/get-involved/workplace-campaigns/campaign-associate-program/)

### Childcare for all – Monica Urrutia

Monica gave an overview of the childcare for all campaign. Please visit the website as there is a lot of great information. There is a tool kit coming with colouring sheets and crayons that we can use to have discussion about this important issue. <https://childcareforall.ca>

### It's time to solve Canada's Child Care Crisis.

All Canadian families should be able to find and afford high quality child care for their children in 2017. But instead they are still struggling to find safe, decent care they can afford. It's time for the federal government to solve Canada's child care crisis.

We're tired of waiting.

### Financial report – Kelly Megyesi

Balance as of September 30, 2017 is \$3628.43.

Included in this amount is \$1995.00 that was raised specifically for the Shoebox project through the sale of Pink Hats. (\$940 from the Equity conference, \$800 from the PSAC BC regional convention, \$205 from Jen Horsley's local, and \$50 donation from the Vancouver Area Council). Cheques issued since last meeting were \$200 delegate fee for convention Kelly M and \$50 for convention basket Kelly S. Outstanding is cheques for PSAC convention wages \$238.97 and approximately \$850.00 for the water bottles ordered.

**Motion** to ratify the water bottle email vote. **m/s/c**

### Shoebox – Jen Horsley

Jen gave an overview of the project. She has been in touch with Kate who is the lead in our area and Jen will be getting more information about organization that help with this project. There are a few retailers that offer special pricing like Shoppers Drug Mart.

For ideas of what to collect or bring in please take a look at the website. Sandra mentioned that it really talks a lot about what is and isn't appropriate.

The group brainstormed points as listed below.

- We want to have a really great turn out for that event.
- Wrapping paper – Tracy, Sandra, Kelly S
- Boxes – Kelly M checking out some reusable boxes, Sky connected with Payless shoes who will donate boxes. Number required to be advised.
- Items can be dropped off anytime to PSAC BC (Monica)
- Anyone needing us to pick up items can contact Jen or Kelly
- Talk to your locals about donating a box, bringing in items, writing cards
- Bring a friend or two!!!!
- Reach out to connections (Women's groups)

## Shoebbox – continued

- Kelly S and Jen volunteered to do some of the shopping
- The group was in agreement that every box should have a gift card. Possibly \$25 but purchased at a corporate discount – like a Safeway card, Shoppers card, etc.
- Kelly M, Jen and Tracy have dropped items off at PSAC
- Jen is using the leftover wool to knit up some scarves
- Kelly M waiting to hear back from IKEA, Bay, & Sobeys
- Target is 50 boxes.
- Monica to draft something for union facebook (will liaise with Kelly M)
- Kelly S to discuss at BCFed meeting / Kelly M suggested we invite the BCFed committee chairs
- There are people that are planning to attend – Joy Hennan, Karla Backer, Patt Holmes, and so on.
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## Other

Monica mentioned that interest in the women's committee has been increasing!! Yay!! Kelly M asked that Monica let her know new names/emails and she will send a welcome.

## Next Meeting November 15, 2017

What a great meeting – thank you for taking the time to call in. Looking forward to seeing you November 15, 2017

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