

Northwest Area Council Meeting – November 13, 2018

Call to order: 6:00 pm

In attendance:

Jill MacNeill – UHEW 20147  
Nikki McVey – CEIU 20926  
Craig Balderson – AGR 20042  
Gerard Sta Maria – AGR 20042  
David Lewis – CIU 20042  
Rochelle AGR 20042  
Coral Keehn – UHEW 20147  
Jennifer Gordon – UHEW 20147  
Chris McMillan – Unifor

AGENDA:

Jill acknowledged the traditional territory of the people of Gitwilyots of the Tsimshian Nation.

Addition to the agenda – Chris McMillan to give an update on the petition to Treasury Board to have Prince Rupert added as an isolated post. Sargy Cheema to give an update on bargaining.

- 1) Accept agenda as amended – Motion – Gerard Sta Maria  
Second – David Lewis

MOTION CARRIED

Minutes from the previous agenda:

Arising from the minutes – table and tent have not yet been purchased – Jill still working on finding items.

- 1) Accept minutes of previous meeting – Motion – David Lewis  
Second – Gerard Sta Maria

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Update on Petition for Isolated Post Allowances (Chris McMillan)

Some amendments were made to the petition that was circulated at the last meeting. Chris would like to have the amended petition produced and circulated for signatures so that it can be brought to Nathan Cullen.

Chris provided information on the importance of having Prince Rupert recognized as an isolated post. Highway 16 has already been closed once this year due to a rock slide. Travel by air becomes more difficult in the winter due to weather concerns. Hard to attract potential employees in the North without having some “perks” to living in a small community – Isolated post allowance may help retain members and employees.

Chris advised that the Isolated Post Committee is still meeting and is mandated to make decisions regarding isolated posts. This would be a good time to have the petition brought forward. Nathan Cullen has stated that he needs a "majority" of staff to sign the petition in order to bring it to Parliament. This would mean over 50% of staff would need to sign. Discussion was had about how to get the petition out to all of the members and have them sign, as we are so spread out. Jill and Chris to discuss further a list of potential office contacts to get the word out. Suggestion was made that PSAC staff could assist with this. Chris will bring the petition to the next Area Council Meeting so that we can hopefully put it into distribution as soon as possible.

### 3) Update from Regional Representative (Jill MacNeill)

Jill attended the Regional Council Meeting in Vancouver on November 3, 2018. A discussion was had about Phoenix and how to bring issues forward, as well as the dues arrears being collected. A discussion was had about the BC Federation of Labour Convention at the end of November. Reminder that funding is available from PSAC for various training, meetings, and events if a person applies. A discussion was had regarding lobbying Members of Parliament and how to be effective when lobbying. Jill would like to have members join her in requesting that our local MP support a Public Inquiry on the Phoenix Pay System to ensure that responsible entities are held accountable.

Jill attended the Area Summit Meeting in Vancouver on November 4, 2018 with David Lewis and Nikki McVey. Our Area Council is in good shape and we are learning and growing. Our finances have been released back to the Council and monies will be deposited to the account in Prince Rupert. Jill continues to work on the by-laws and is working on having any changes that need to be made to the bi-laws ready for presentation to the Area Council after the next Annual General Meeting.

The North East Area Council is having issues getting enough members to attend their meetings. A discussion was had about having members inform their co-workers/members in the North East Region about the Area Council and encourage attendance.

Jill advised that we need to have our finances audited by two members who are NOT members of the executive, prior to the budget/finances being adopted at the AGM. Wendy Evans and Coral Keehn have volunteered to do this audit on behalf of the members.

\*\* Jill will be attending the National Human Rights Committee Meetings and Assembly of First Nations from December 1 to 9, 2018.

### 4) Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be on December 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm in Prince Rupert at Pavillion Restaurant in Prince Rupert.

The Annual General Meeting will be on January 14, 2019 in Prince Rupert, time and location to be announced.

A discussion was had regarding having the Secretary attend the Annual General Meeting in person (weather permitting) for the purpose of taking minutes as the financial statements and budgets will have to be voted on and adopted and the elections will take place at that meeting.

Motion to have mileage paid for the Secretary to travel from Terrace to Prince Rupert and return for the purpose of attending the Annual General Meeting in January 2019.

Motion – Jennifer Gordon

Second – Craig Balderson

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned 7:35 PM