

Okanagan Human Rights Committee

Meeting April 5^t

Attended the Gahkal memorial in Vernon, BC. This was the 16th memorial gathering and it was good to participate. Several PSAC members were present.

Meeting followed and Annette joined via conference call.

Minutes from last meeting not available. Maria-Luiza will forward.

Donations

Adopt a Union Worker – Discussed the Quebec initiative from the BC FED
Rio Tinto worker – Adopt a Worker Campaign.

Motion made to donate \$50 to the on strike unions tagged for the workers.
All in favour.

Second motion was made to donate \$50 to Burns Lake Union. All in favour.

The Okanagan committee has now made donations to.

Internationally – Kiva,

Nationally – Rio Tinto

Regionally – Burns Lake

Locally – Amnesty

Banking

Annette will finalize banking. We will need to contact regional office to see when our 2012 allocation will be received. No money spent since last meeting.

Quilt

Work on our Supporting Hands quilt is well underway. Maria-Luiza will get the paint and squares to Kelly prior to the April 14th meeting. We still required another 10 squares. Any squares not completed after the meeting we will get members from CFIA. Maria-Luiza will purchase more paint and the batting. All were in favour of the costs to be re-imbursed. The quilt will be displayed and raffled at the September Women's Course in Naramata – "Reaching High".

PSAC BC Human Rights

We are trying to organize a BC Human Rights conference call in the next two months. Although it is an extremely busy time for everyone we still decided that it would be good to get one call in this spring. Reminder that the VIHR is Thursday April 12th at 6 via conference call.

Yoga Day

As yoga day will be during the convention week it was decided to let local yoga businesses know about the event this year and possibly work on the event for 2013. Supporting in spirit.



Training/ Direction

The committee discussed human rights issues and the importance of engaging youth. It was felt that as union evolves it will be about community engagement. “Doesn’t matter where it comes from – Poverty hurts everyone” Maria-Luiza suggested that we get the speaker - Deborah Littmann Mobilizing in Our Communities. Maria-Luiza was very impressed with the presenter and felt that it is something that we could bring to our area-council or to our human rights group. Maria-Luiza will check with Regina. Further discussion on the network in community. Kelly said that there is already a network in Vernon and she will get more information of the type of groups that belong.

Committee is encouraging participation in the Human Rights Conference mid June at UBC Vancouver. Maria-Luiza and Kelly are interested.

Round Table

Maria-Luiza may require help with elections for 20027. She will ask Regina for assistance. Suggestion was Roberta or Kelly if a problem.

Next Meeting:

To be scheduled for May or June, 2012.