



PSAC Okanagan Human Rights Committee June 13, 2020 Minutes

Present - Kelly Megyesi CEIU 20972, Linda Woods UNE 20140, , Justin Lee AGR 20027, Dawn Bassett AGR 20043, Maria-Luiza Romano AGR 20027, Robert Strang PSAC Rep, Todd Smith PSAC BC Alt.

Welcome - Thank you for joining our first Zoom meeting. Special thank you to our guest Todd Smith for connecting with us to share his Guatemala experience.

Agenda

Welcome
Review Minutes
Treasurers Report
Presentation: Todd Smith Guatemala
Terms of Reference
Summit Delegates
Projects/Events
Round Table
Next Meeting

Minutes

Previous minutes (Apr 2020) reviewed and accepted. m/LW s/DB - all in favour

Financial

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Treasurer Report | | |
| Opening balance | \$1524.37 | April 15, 2020 |
| Spending | (100.00) | Maria-Luiza Materials |
| | (100.00) | Wet-suwet'en Donation |
| | (20.18) | Kelly Megyesi Materials |
| Closing balance | \$1304.19 | May 31, 2020 |

(No decisión on reimbursement of delegate fee \$150.00)
m/KM s/DB all in favour

Financial Motions

- Motion – to amend previous motion for the stickers as we could double the quantity at a cost of \$4.68. K Megyesi to be reimbursed 64.68 m/DB s/LW – all in favour
- Motion to reimburse K. Megyesi for Canada Post shipping (package of material to Carolyn) \$24.14 m/ML s/LW – all in favour
- Motion \$25 travel Linda Woods missed from Feb Vernon meeting. m/KM s/ML – all in favour
- Motion – reimburse M. Romano \$70.05 Queeng playing card donation. m/KM s/JL – all in favour
- Motion \$75 K Megyesi Leadership Webinar: Voice, Action, Change m/LW s/ML – all in favour
- Motion up to \$500 Waterbottles to be used for promoting our activities. m/JL s/ML – all in favour

Presentation: Todd Smith Guatemala 2020



How we can be part of the solution

- Awareness
- Ethical products (e.g. Café Justicia)
- Support campaigns (petitions, sharing on social media, fundraisers)
- Lobby our elected officials
- Support local and Canadian organizations doing solidarity work

Resources

PSAC Social Justice Fund - <http://psac-sjf.org> Café Justicia - <http://cafejusticia.ca>
 BC CASA – volunteer group - <http://cafejusticia.ca/bc-casa>
 Canadian Mining Watch - <https://miningwatch.ca>
 8 Tijax Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/8tijax>
 Festivales Solidarios Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/festivales.solidarios.gt>
 CCDA Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/CCDA-202454926533213>
 Maritimes-Guatemala Breaking the Silence Network - <https://www.facebook.com/BTSGuateMaritimes>

“On a cloudy day – sunflowers turn to face each other – beautiful solidarity thought”



Presentation: Kelly Megyesi Guatemala 2018

Kelly showed her 2018 short powerpoint presentation for those that hadn't seen it before.

“When we work together, a better world is possible. Cuando trabajamos juntos, un mundo mejor es posible”.



Terms of Reference

All members were given the original draft to review. PSAC BC (Kristin) reviewed on our behalf and offered suggestions. The executive held a separate meeting to finalize draft and that was included in the meeting call out. It was decided to have a short form page on our terms of reference to address our uniqueness and our values. We also added an addendum to go into more depth on section 15 and other requirements. Justin felt the format was great for people newer to the committee as it gave an overview of expectations and process. The committee made some minor changes. Motion to accept the terms of reference – m/KM s/ML all in favour

Summit Delegates

Reviewed the PSAC BC request for two delegates. General concern about the ability to spend a day online as much of our work is online. Justin potentially interested and will let the group know. Kelly will connect with Dawn to see if she is interested.

Projects/Events

Utilized the breakout zoom feature.

Question:

“Keeping in mind our current COVID limitations..... What is one project/activity our Human Rights Committee might like to work on?”

Response:

Group 1 – would like to revive/move forward with the waterbottles. It was felt that these could be used for promotional events and advertise human rights. Allow for a discussion about our group. Bottles could also be used for guest speakers, conference baskets and even possibly when we reactivate our building communities Blanket exercise project (post COVID)

Group 2 – Discussion about migrant workers and COVID. The groups idea was to reach out to this community in a safe manner during COVID. It seems that there is a fair size population in the Oliver area. After a lot of discussion it was agreed that we reach out to organizations like RAMA and suggest a joint venture. Committee was in agreement that we would have our next meeting in Oliver and look at possibly setting up a table with give aways – to draw workers in. Both Robert and Maria-Luiza are able to communicate in Spanish so this will be extremely helpful.

Round Table

Robert – talked about the high uptake on webinars and encouraged us to get the work out. Kelly mentioned that Service Canada Okanagan front-ends were being allowed to take them on work time (including the right to refuse dangerous work which was a bit of a surprise). Robert also responded to questions on the BC convention – possibly spring 2021.

Linda- Stats Canada is starting to allow some minimal drops but no contact is still in place for the most part. Issues with working from home discussed.

Kelly – Has been participating in a lot of webinars. Recently attend the Anti-Racism CLC webinar as well as Amnesty, Right to Play, etc. Looking forward to attending the women in leadership webinars next week.

Next Meeting

Saturday August 29th, 2020 11am
Oliver, BC (location to be advised)