



Southern Interior Regional Women's Committee Minutes

DATE: June 9, 2020 TIME: 7:00 pm LOCATION: Teleconference

MEMBERS:	PRESENT	ABSENT
Karen Sutton, Co-Chair (CIU 20045)	X	
Jeanne Olineck, Co-Chair (CEIU 20914)	X	
Lorelei Sterling, Treasurer (UVAE 20035)	X	
Kareen Stanich, Secretary (AGR 20043)	X	
Nadia Sokal (AGR 20043)	X	
Carolyn McGillivary (CIU 20045)	X	
Linda Woods (UNE 20140)	X	
Maria-Louiza Romano (AGR 20027)		X
Kelly Megyesi (CEIU 20972)	X	
Michelle Sibson (CEIU 20972)		X
Dawn Bassett (AGR 20043)		X
Carmen Thiessen (CEIU 20914)		X
Tracie Komarniski (CEIU 20914)		X
Ashley Wood (UTE 20026)	X	
Joy Harrison (APSAR)		X
STAFF:		
Monica Urrutia, PSAC BC Regional Rep.	X	
GUESTS:		
Nil		

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge that our places of work are within the ancestral, traditional and unceded territories of the *Tk'emlúps* to Secwepemc, Sylex Okanagan Nation and Ktunaxa Nation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Changes / Additions: Additions of Old Business (1) 2020 Local Immigration societies, (2) Kairos Blanket Exercise (Membership Drawing Event and New Business (1) Education funding, (2) Court Ruling in Ontario

Motion to adopt: Linda **Seconded:** Karen **Carried:** Unanimous

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Changes / Additions: Nil

Motion to adopt: Kareen **Seconded:** Linda **Carried:** Unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of February 29, 2020 – \$3818.57

Balance as of June 9, 2020 – \$5155.48

Changes / Additions / Questions: Cheques for (\$13.09) Vesta and (\$150.00) BC Regional Convention delegate registration have cleared.

Opening balance as of February 29, 2020 – \$3818.57

Expenses: (\$13.09) Vesta Conference Call Service
(\$150.00) PSAC BC Regional Convention delegate fee

Revenue: \$1500.00 Allocation from BC REVP

Closing balance as of June 9, 2020 – \$5155.48

Motion to accept: Lorelei **Seconded:** Kareen **Carried:** Unanimous

Discussion of updating signing authority at financial institution to new Executive, new cheques and possibly moving to new financial institution. Karen advised that she contacted Vantage One Credit Union (current institution) and the committee will need to have new cheques when signing authority and name change are implemented. Branches are located in Peachland, Vernon Armstrong, etc. and currently have limited hours which would mean that the Executive would need to take time off work and travel to make changes. Therefore it would be beneficial to change institutions to one with branches in Thompson and Okanagan; unfortunately there are no credit unions that also have branches in the Kootenays. Two credit unions were discussed and Valley First Credit Union has branches in Okanagan (Oliver through Vernon) as well as Thompson (Kamloops) and also offers no fee banking. Cost of new cheques a concern to some members. Linda advised that cheques can be ordered from a third party for significantly less. Discussion of what to do with account at Vantage One and shares; unsure if the shares required to open the account were members own shares (ie/ already banked there) or were paid for by committee. Monica advised that all monies associated with committee must move to new account and current account should be closed.

MOTION by Karen to change to Valley First Credit Union; seconded by Nadia; carried unanimously.**ACTION: Kareen to mail AGM minutes to Lorelei with list of 2020 Executive.****ACTION: Lorelei to open new account at Valley First and advise Executive of next steps to complete setting up the signing authority for the four Executive members.****ACTION: Kelly to review banking records from when Advantage One account was opened to determine if the shares belong to the committee or individual members that had signing authority and forward those records to the Chairs.****ACTION: Kelly and Lorelei to work together to transfer all funds to new account at Valley First and close account at Advantage One.****PREVIOUS BUSINESS****1. UPDATE ON SISTERS IN SPIRIT****CLOSED ACTION: Move item forward to next meeting.**Kelly reported that the committee usually does something to mark October 4th – the day when we honour the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and gender diverse people. To be discussed under new business item "Events".**2. SWAG – WATER BOTTLES****CLOSED ACTION: Kelly to provide an update at next meeting regarding water bottles.**

Kelly reported that the double-walled bottles are available for approximately \$25/each, including tax, when purchasing 2 dozen and the price drops to \$20/each when purchasing 4 dozen from a local supplier.

MOTION by Lorelei to spend up to \$500 to purchase water bottles; seconded by Linda; motion defeated four members to three.

General support for purchasing promotional items. Discussion that budget does not have an approved line item for promotional materials; could this be a convention expense; should a revised budget be prepared considering pandemic, postponed conventions, inability to host events and therefore spend budget; should this be deferred until input can be obtained from REVP Jamey Mills regarding budget.

ACTION: Jeanne to discuss with REVP Jamey Mills and then voting could be conducted by email.**3. 2020 LOCAL IMMIGRATION SOCIETIES****CLOSED ACTION: Move item forward to next meeting.**

Nadia reported that intent was to reach out to societies to determine how we can connect or assist. Limited progress due to pandemic.

4. PSAC NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (APRIL 3-5, 2020, OTTAWA)

Monica reported that REVP Jamey Mills has sent inquiry to PSAC National regarding what will happen with registration fees, resolutions, etc. and is waiting for a response. Discussed number of conference delegates which has not changed drastically.

5. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) MARCH 8

Kareen and Nadia reported that AGR 20043 did not mark event this year. Jeanne reported that CEIU 20914 celebrated by distributing bookmarks and jars of nuts, Kelly reported that CEIU 20972 marked event with a statement, flowers and chocolates.

ONGOING ACTION: Put on agenda in fall to discuss possibility of planning event.

6. KAIROS BLANKET EXERCISE (MEMBERSHIP DRAWING EVENT) APRIL 18, 2020

CLOSED ACTION: Karen to contact Kelly and finalize poster.

CLOSED ACTION: Karen to ensure poster distribution through OAC and SIRWC committee members, to all Locals in Okanagan (Robert will provide contacts), to those who self-identify through PSAC BC Regional, and also on PSAC BC Regional website.

CLOSED ACTION: Carolyn and Jeanne also to distribute through their contacts.

Nadia and Kelly reported that while event is on hold due to the pandemic, it can easily be re-activated as the program is set. Approximately 1 months lead time would be needed to proceed.

ACTION: Re-activate Kairos Blanket Exercise (Membership Drawing Event) when circumstances around pandemic allow.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SUMMARY OF PSAC BC WOMEN'S REGIONAL CALL

Monica provided an update that Kelly Sidhu, PSAC BC Regional Council Women's Coordinator hosted event to which all Regional Women's Committee Chairs were invited. The following topics were discussed: how people are handling the pandemic, how women are impacted by pandemic, COVID-19 Duty to Accommodate webinar being offered, possibility of offering domestic violence webinar, Childcare for All campaign, how to support each other, National Women's Conference, and Roundtable.

2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND COVID – HOW CAN WE HELP

Karen reported that Desert Sun Counselling Centre, Oliver has seen a rise in domestic violence and more people in safe house. The organization has lost revenue and can not accept clothing or household goods due to pandemic. Cash donations would be appreciated. Kelly also reached out to shelter in Vernon which is having similar experience. Discussion of making donation; current budget has \$600 allocated for donation. Discussion of redirecting funds in budget. Monica advised some leniency in budget but it should not have a drastic change without re-submitting to REVP Jamey Mills.

MOTION by Karen to donate \$100 to shelters in Oliver, Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Kamloops and Nelson; seconded by Nadia; defeated (three members in favour, four opposed).

MOTION by Kelly to donate \$100 to shelters in Oliver, Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon and Kamloops; seconded by Lorelei; carried unanimously.

ACTION: Chairs to draft wording for note and forward to Kelly to accompany each cheque.

ACTION: Kelly to send cheques to the five shelters.

3. EVENTS, VIRTUAL OR OTHER – SUGGESTIONS, ENGAGEMENT

ACTION: Deferred until next meeting.

4. NEW MEMBERS – HOW TO REACH OUT

ACTION: Deferred until next meeting.

5. GUEST

REVP Jamey Mills was invited but was unable to attend and sent his regrets.

6. EDUCATION FUNDING

Kelly requested \$75 from the education budget towards attending a webinar course - Anima Leadership, Women's Leadership Institute: Voice, Action Change. Item was voted on over email and approved unanimously.

<https://animaleadership.com/training/vac2020/>

7. COURT RULING IN ONTARIO

Jeanne discussed the recent Ontario Court of Appeals ruling and asked that committee members sign the petition, share with Locals as well as friends and family and also asked Monica to ensure that PSAC Regional & National offices put information out to members via Facebook or website to add names to petition

“Jill Andrew, the Official Opposition Women’s Issues critic, is urging the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney-General to appeal an Ontario Court of Appeal decision that makes voluntary intoxication a legitimate defense in sexual assault and violent crime cases.

Ontario Court of Appeals passes new ruling that is yet another ASSAULT on women! Intoxication is now an excuse for sexual assault. As Ontario NDP Women’s Issues Critic, I’m urging the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney-General to immediately appeal this! This decision flies in the face of the progress made by the [#MeToo](#) movement. It is already difficult for survivors of sexual assault to come forward. The lives of women, trans women and sex workers have value and they deserve justice after surviving sexual assault or violence! [#BelieveWomen](#)

TAKE ACTION! ADD YOUR NAME (SIGN OUR PETITION) to the statement here: <https://www.jillandrewmpp.ca/appeal-the-decision>

Please write to Premier Doug Ford and Attorney General of Ontario Douglas Downey and demand they appeal this decision! premier@ontario.ca “

8. ROUNDTABLE

Nil

ADJOURNMENT

Karen motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:38 pm, Ashley seconded, carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:38 pm

Next Meeting: TBD