

## **Vancouver Area Council meeting September 14, 2011**

*Present:* Ryan Ayres (guest), Fe De Castro (GSU 20008), Erica Yang (CEIU 20949), Jamey Mills (UTE 20027), Terri Lee (AGR 20044), Sharon Tieman (UPCE 20101), Marion McLarty (UNE 20150), Angela Duhamel (AGR 20044) and Monica Urrutia (PSAC staff person)

*Regrets:* Allen S., Cheryl O., James P., Megan A., Colbey P., Paul C.

### **1. Minutes from January 12, 2011 meeting**

-m/s/c (Angela/Sharon)

### **2. Preparations for VAC Annual General Meeting**

- AGM is set for **Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm at Collingwood Neighbourhood House** (building beside PSAC Vancouver Regional Office)
- Jamey** to look through by-laws for any suggested changes. Changes must be publicized by September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Some discussion ensued on clarifying the by-law on quorum for meetings, may change to requirement for 2 executive members and 3 delegates from affiliated bodies. **Jamey** to draft wording.
- Sharon** to send out invoices to locals for renewal of affiliation to Area Council. UNE 20150 intended to affiliate since April 2011 but wasn't able to cut a cheque for this meeting, so invoice will include that time period.
- Monica** to release announcement of AGM by Friday, September 16, 2011 (to provide four weeks notice).
- Jamey asked everyone to go back to their locals to solicit for resolutions they would like the Area Council to discuss and possibly support to submit to the PSAC Triennial Convention

#### *AGM Agenda:*

1. President's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Affiliate Reports
4. VAC Elections
5. By-Law Changes (if any)
6. VAC program ideas for 2011-2012
7. Elections for VAC delegate and alternate to the PSAC Triennial Convention, May 2012
8. Discussion on resolutions to be submitted to PSAC Triennial Convention, May 2012

### **3. Affiliate reports**

*AGR 20044* – Convention was last month. Terri Lee elected as RVP; some changes in their national executive; passed an increase in their dues which included funding for pension for elected officers. Served CFIA notice to bargain on September 1, no bargaining dates as of yet.

*UPCE 20101* – Convention originally scheduled for next week is now a national consultation happening in Ottawa (if Air Canada is not on strike). Component has been in trusteeship for several months. Need to discuss component finances and dwindling membership numbers. No more job losses in Vancouver so far.

*UNE 20150* – Convention resulted in new name from National Component to Union of National Employees. New national president is Doug Marshall. Had UMC today, many workers are worried about future prospects. There may be changes coming to the Indian Act.

*UEW 20147* – UEW has new national president, Todd Panas.

*GSU 20008* – AGM is coming up on November 18, may be a new slate of officers as some are considering running for regional positions. Local is sending two delegates and two observers to GSU convention. Shared challenges for members to make their severance payout decisions by end of August. Public Service Employment Survey is out and all are encouraged to submit theirs by end of September. Emphasized the possibility to submit comments, but pointed out you have to go to a separate link to do so. Term policy has been suspended for PWGSC. Phil Robinson has been nominated as a life member of GSU. Proud to share that Local Vice-President, Linda Harding, attended the Health and Safety trip to Honduras and has been sharing her experience with their members.

*CEIU 20949* – Term policy also suspended for Service Canada. Laid off six terms for either end of September or end of November. Some may have heard of the national announcement to reduce EI processing from 120 to 22 centres across the country within three years! Component convention is September 16-20. As PSAC Regional Council Young Worker's Coordinator, also reported on free BC Fed youth event on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Might have a youth AGM around end of November, but needs to check if dates coincide with BC Fed Conference. Also, encouraging young workers to apply to be part of the Co-Dev Young Worker delegation to Honduras.

*UTE 20027* – Convention was held in July but didn't attend. Resulted in new president, Bob Campbell and new 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, Chris Alward. With recent HST vote result local may be losing some members. When the PST folks came over from the province, they were given a two year guarantee of work with CRA, and are already 1 year and 4 months in. SP4 and SP5 collections officers (biggest

group of workers) has new work description which they are filing a national grievance on.

*Other reports:*

- No Cuts petition was discussed by Jamey and circulated for members to sign. Monica shared Regional Office's intent to organize Think Public actions at the work sites this fall and that Locals should soon be contacted by their reps.
- Area Council joint activity with Young Worker Caucus – the baseball event was very successful, using every ticket except for two who were last minute no shows. Feedback was really positive with many hope it will become an annual event. Lots of brand new folks and lots of young workers. In future, should try and coordinate message/outreach between VAC and Young Worker Caucus (YWC) as some members misunderstood why there were specific tickets available to the YWC.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.