

**West Fraser Valley Area Council
Minutes of the Meeting on May 2, 2016
ABC Restaurant Fraser Hwy Surrey, BC**

Present: Johann Ackermann (UTE Local 20029); Richard Hyatt (UTE Local 20050); Jennifer Chieh-ho (UNE Local 20088); Celine Ahodekon (UNE Local 20278); 20088); Shirley Torres (UNE Local 20278); Tracey Cochrane

Regret: Georges Tenn (UTE Local 20050)

Guests: Robert Strang (PSAC Staff Representative), Melvin Dureen. (EFVAC)

Call to order at 5:35PM

1. Call to order:

Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm with Jennifer Chieh Ho welcoming everyone, introducing herself and inviting each participant to introduce himself.

2. Adoption of the Agenda:

M/S by Jennifer / Celine to adopt the agenda - Carried.

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting January 18, 2016 correcting Robert's last name: *M/S Jennifer / Celine Carried.*

4. Business arising from the previous minutes:

None stated.

5. Financial Reports:

No report was provided as the Treasurer was unable to attend. Held to the next meeting.

Motion to approve the \$300 purchase of tickets to the International Women Day event hosted by Sue Hammel. *M/S Richard/Celine.* The tickets were provided based on a call and names were drawn for those to attend. Carried.

6. Education Coordinator's Report:

Tracey Cochrane came later and gave report on bargaining instead

7. Geographical coordinator's report

Highlights of the report can be found on the Regional PSAC website. The last report is posted as of November 2015. Below is the highlight of this report.

Activities	
April 10 – 12, 2015	Regional Council Meeting
April 11, 2015	Regional Bylaws Committee Meeting
April 11, 2015	Regional Education Committee Meeting
April 20 th , 2015	BC Region—Area Council President's Conference Call
April 25 – May 1, 2015	PSAC National Convention
May 11, 2015	WFVAC Meeting
May 28, 2015	BC Regional Council Conference Call
June 2, 2015	East Fraser Valley Area Council Meeting in Abbotsford
June 10, 2015	BRUSH Committee Conference Call
July 18 th , 2015	Fusion Festival – Holland Park, Surrey
July 22 nd , 2015	BC Regional Council Conference Call
September 21 st , 2015	BC Regional Council Conference Call

This was the year of the federal election where we needed to fight for a better Canada by electing a new government. There was a challenge in not contravening the Elections Act in doing our duties as Union Reps and when dealing with Federal politics. Due to other committees he regrets he was not able to participate in the member to member engagement activities but ensured he spoke with the members of his own local. To date, he has not met with his new member of parliament for his riding.

8. PSAC BC Equity Reps:

M/S by Jennifer/Shirley to extend invitation to all PSAC BC Equity Representative to attend WFVAC meetings- Carried.

9. Political Action

a. MP lobbying

Debrief / review of the recent MP visit: Jennifer and Richard visited MP Sukh Dhaliwal on March 4, 2016. Their lobbying report will be sent out to members for information. Robert reminded us again the document entitled “2016 MP Visits-Framework for Discussion.” He stated that the document outlines the purpose of MP visits, suggested approach and the discussion guidelines.

We should follow up with a thank you note for the meeting and a plan for ongoing future MP visits. Jenn will follow up with a thank you note to Sukh Dhaliwal.

- b. **Mobilizing/bargaining/visiting locals:** Robert talked about bargaining campaigns scheduled for June 8th, Actions Day for all PSAC members in the country. PSAC VRO will be sending **banners** to locals for pictures to demonstrate their support to the bargaining team. The campaigns apply to the Treasury Board group only. These pictures will be posted on PSAC website. Tracey also updated the participants on the bargaining situation and indicated that the present government isn't much different from the previous as there is no change in the bargaining demands put on the table

10. Outreach Events

Fusion Festival:

Jennifer reported that Surrey Fusion Festival is taking place on Saturday, July 23 & Sunday, July 24th in Surrey at Holland Parks and PSAC will be having multi union booth. She will send a call out to request volunteers and talk about the logistics with Robert. We will purchase tickets as part of the budget to provide for the volunteers that will be assisting at the PSAC booth.

Pride Festival:

Jennifer shared information about Pride Festival in Surrey and in Vancouver

Asian Heritage Month

Event: Jennifer also updated the participants on Asian Heritage Month celebration organized by CLC and PSAC in New Westminster on May 29, 2016. She also shared information regarding the PSAC BC racially visible members conference scheduled from June 13-15 in Burnaby, BC.

Canada Day

Discussion took place as to whether the Area Council would participate in the Canada Day event in Surrey. Richard indicated he would be willing to coordinate this event with the help of his local. It was suggested that perhaps rather than set up a booth, that we participate in the parade. Searching the information on the web, there was no indication of a parade, but Richard will look into this and share with the Area Council for consideration.

Summer BBQ

(joint event EFVAC + WFVAC)- Melvin indicated that the logistics of setting a date will need to be reconsidered as he was not available in September. Will look later in the year, perhaps October, but the weather may not be with us then.

11. By-Elections for the Province

Robert indicated that we need to **be** ready for the upcoming elections in 2017 and throwing our support behind candidates that support the labour movement, most likely the NDP.

New Business

No new business was presented.

12. Food Bill

Motioned by Richard and seconded by Johann to pay the food bill in the amount of \$174.40. Carried^d.

13. Round table

A meeting should be held in June to discuss the summer events to finalize any details. Suggested a meeting date of June 18, 2016 and return back to the Knight and Day Restaurant.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM