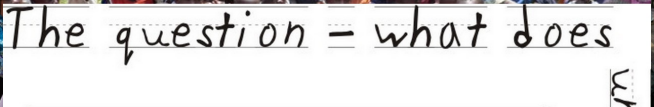


*Women working for Women*

*The question - what does*

*which mean to you?*

SUPPORT  
PROTECT  
ADVOCATE  
UNITY  
BRIDGE



## **PSAC BC WOMEN'S COORDINATOR REPORT**

### **MAY – SEPTEMBER 2011 IN REVIEW**

- May** Successful in running for the PSAC BC Regional Women's Coordinator. PSAC conference was very busy with the election and included Okanagan Meetings, Candidate meetings, Disabilities meetings, election speech and after election, meeting with all of the other Women Coordinators on a one to one basis to get their views & ideas. First meeting with the regional council. Prepared and donated buttons for May Day event in Penticton. Canada Post strike – organized picket line support. Worked in Kelowna so that I didn't have to break the line and walked the picket line on days off. Prepared three year plan for PSAC Women's
- Community – Special Olympics Soccer, Performing Arts Volunteering  
Political Action – Picket Line – Canada Post
- June** PSAC road trip to Enderby, Sicamous, Salmon Arm (Regina, Susan, Annette). Organized first Okanagan Human Rights Function, "A Taste of Justice" Union/Community support – very successful [www.amnesty.ca](http://www.amnesty.ca) Participated via conference call Vancouver Women's Committee meeting Community Soccer Jamboree – buttons. Mass grievance for Okanagan – CEIU – hours of work and variable hour removal attend the Women's World Conference in Ottawa. While in Ottawa all of the Regional Women's coordinators met for a day of planning with Andrea Cote, and Patty Ducharme. Met with Quebec women's rights leaders. Disability meet and greet – held at PSAC. Finnish embassy for Women and girls project – the loveliest girl project [www.yourottawaregion.com/news/article/1050211](http://www.yourottawaregion.com/news/article/1050211) JLP – Union Management Consultation Workshop.
- Community: Supported a non-union call centre worker in Ottawa.  
Participated in her Human Resources meeting.
- Political Action: Walked to Parliament Hill – demonstrating on behalf of murdered women. Postcard campaign Lubicon Cree
- July** Summer Institute for Union Women in Victoria. We worked hard and put in a lot of energy. We even demonstrated in [a flash mob downtown Victoria](#). Worked with a non-union call centre worker in Ottawa that was being harrassed by her employer. Corresponding with a lady from Kenya met at the Women's World Conference. Worked on Women's Retreat – travelled to Naramata to look at site. Liaised with Regina. Put together a proposal. Filed a second mass grievance. Made up some business cards and button for Pride Parade/ Booth. BC Fed Media Training.
- Community: Hospice Fundraiser  
Political Action: HST Campaign

**August** Public Hearing on Environment. Accepted into JLP Facilitator Program  
Donations for Sisters in Spirit – requested. Worked on website – special  
thank you to Patrick for helping me with that. Buttons for Human Rights  
Delegate. Connected with BC Fed Women’s Committee. BC Fed Media  
Training.

Community Rare Earth Music Festival Volunteer  
Organized Co-ed soccer tournament

Political Action Minimum Wage IHOP /We’re Sorry Campaign Asbestos  
Maxim Coal Mine / Fossil Fuel Subsidy Phase Out

Upcoming:

**September** CEIU National Conference – Halifax. JLP Facilitator Training  
Okanagan Meeting – Area Council, Women’s, Human Rights. Island –  
Human Rights teleconference.

Community

Political Action Hospital Rally  
Teacher demands  
Service Canada Cuts

### **Information Attachments**

2011 Summer Institute	i
Walk4Justice Update	ii
Beauty Night	iii
Three year plan	iv
Women’s Retreat - Proposal Naramata	v
Website Update	vi

### **Discussion pieces**

Communication

Protocol

Donation Beauty Night Society

Project 2012 Women’s Course course – Regina/ Kelly

**2011 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR UNION WOMEN**  
Putting Women in Their Places.... in our Unions, in Politics and in our Communities  
July 13 – 17, 2011 University of Victoria

My summer institute experience was amazing.

It started by meeting women at the airport who were also travelling to the program. We all lunched together before boarding the shuttle to the University. It was interesting to come together like that, as most of us didn't know each other. The accommodations were a little shocking – should have reread my notes. The little hand towels were a bit sparse.

Feeling a little antsy, I volunteered myself to help with registration and spent a couple of hours doing that.

I participated to the fullest – attended every course & plenary session available, as well as all of the optional activities. The courses I took were Advanced Campaign Strategies, Getting Equipped, & Joining Women's Voices. The highlight was the networking. It is always inspiring to get to work along side strong women.

In my new role as PSAC BC Women's Coordinator, it was a great chance for me to connect with the other PSAC women (a lot of whom were CEIU members). We held a meeting and talked about ideas for women. I appreciated this time and loved that we had the old & experienced and the young & fresh coming together with energy. One of our political actions was the flash mob around the HST. It was great and weeks later it still makes me smile. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldR5uHNYvpo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldR5uHNYvpo). Also, will be sitting on the BC Federations Women's Committee so it was nice to meet some of the faces to that.

Thank you to both PSAC and CEIU for their support of the institute. The weekend was a wonderful opportunity to grow as a woman, to reconfirm the importance of union, to reflect on past successes/contribution and to build solidarity.

My favourite saying from the weekend was ...  
*"If you want something done, give it to a busy woman!"*





FW: Walk4Justice Update ` Thursday, August 11, 2011  
.by Aboriginal Women's Action Network on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at  
7:06am.walk4Justice update

by Gladys Radek on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 6:57am

Good day all, Walk4Justice is in Dryden. Huge thanks to Treaty 3 for accommodating 12 walkers in Dryden. Also for your kind donations in Kenora ensuring we get to eat. We are heading to Ignace today and would like to see if there are any contacts out there to meet us. Please feel free to call or text my cell at 1-778-235-5251. Service is not always available, but if you leave a message I will get it or please keep trying. Thank you all so much for your support for our walkers. We are 12 strong at this time and we are all happy to be in Ontario. We look forward to seeing all our sisters and brothers as we walk around Lake Superior. Next Major stop, Thunder Bay! Thanks Sharon Johnson and ONWA for organizing for our arrival. See you on the weekend. What do we want? JUSTICE! When do we want it? NOW!

<http://beautynight.org/>



KEN VILLENEUVE



**BUILDING HOPE AND TRUST  
FOR WOMEN LIVING IN POVERTY  
AND ISOLATION.**

KEN VILLENEUVE



**BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM  
AND CHANGING LIVES  
FOR WOMEN LIVING IN POVERTY.**

KEN VILLENEUVE



Sketch of a three year plan – one major & one minor function, training, political action.

**2011 –**

Convention & Summer Institute training

Formalize three year plan

Rebuild Vancouver Committee

Set-up communication with Chairs / with other regions / with youth

Sisters in Spirit Vigil

Dec 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Walk4Justice – this will be happening shortly so information will just be shared.

Hope to have networks set up for the next walk and have full PSAC participation across the province (+)

**2012 –**

Retreat

Demonstration or Walk

Travel to each location

Liaise with other regions (Sister idea)

Training / BC Fed?

Work on network

Sisters in Spirit Vigil

Dec 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Mar 8 International Women's Day\_

**2013 -**

BC Regional Women's Conference/ National

Project – political action

Travel to each location

Sisters in Spirit Vigil

Dec 6 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Mar 8 International Women's Day\_

Kelly Megyesi

## **Okanagan Women's Retreat**

### **INITIATIVE**

To host a women's retreat in Naramata September 2012

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **Primary objectives:**

- To increase awareness of PSAC Women's Committees
- To provide education and awareness building opportunities (possibly)
- To engage our membership
- To obtain feedback from PSAC Women
- To increase participation
- To give women a voice

#### **The secondary objective of hosting Okanagan Retreat**

Develop existing women's committee by working together on project



## **SCHEDULE – PLAN A (One night)**

Saturday

Morning

Introduction to PSAC Women's  
Ice Breaker  
Team Building

What are the issues?

Afternoon

Having a clue – Living Library (series of speakers and participants would travel through a mock library and have discussion with different really interesting women. Ideas, Artist Cheryl-Ann Webster, Internment camp survivor, Feminist, etc.

Evening

Dinner out at a local winery

Sunday morning

Walk & talk – outdoor session  
Petition signing or letter writing

Closing &

## **SCHEDULE – PLAN B (two nights)**

Friday	
PSAC training – Women’s course/ modified with our input Costs paid by PSAC Education. Possibly Andre Cote & Regina Brennan/Janelle	
Saturday	
Morning	
Introduction to PSAC Women’s Ice Breaker Team Building	
What are the issues?	
Afternoon	
	Having a clue –
Living Library (series of speakers and participants would travel through a mock library and have discussion with different really interesting women. Ideas, Artist Cheryl-Ann Webster, Internment camp survivor, Feminist, etc.	
Evening	
Dinner out at a local winery	
Sunday morning	
Walk & talk – outdoor session Petition signing or letter writing Closing &	

## **PROPOSED AUDIENCE**

Target will be to host 25-35 PSAC Okanagan women on a first come first serve basis.

## **SUCCESS MEASUREMENTS / OUTCOMES**

- ~ Increased membership/participation PSAC Women's
- ~ Identification of issues and resolutions
- ~ Gathering of feedback
- ~ Incorporating Results into Future Plans
- ~ Stronger partnership with members in the Kootenays

## **BUDGET**

Budget	Based on 25 participants	
Income		
Okanagan Regional Women's Committee Funding		500
Registration Fee 75.00 per participant		1875
Fundraising or accessing other funding		250
		<u>2625</u>
Costs		
Accommodation/ 1 Lunch/ 1 Breakfast (80 per participant)		2000
Gas Reimbursement		250
Prizes, give aways		250 (Only if other money received)
Other		125
		<u>2625</u>

## OTHER

- ❑ Invite Women coordinators from other provinces
- ❑ Set-up a big sister system
- ❑ Make a difference
- ❑ **Incorporate committee idea into program**
- ❑ Keep it meaningful and fun.
- ❑ Have some “A HA” moments
- ❑ Childcare
- ❑ Social Justice
- ❑ Wanted to do the retreat BC wide but there was resistance from some chairs, and there was also the fact that if it was for BC PSAC would need to cover complete costs. If it was done in a specific location, it could be more informal
- ❑ Ideas to be worked on by committee
- ❑ A lot of regional council were supportive of the plan – Sargy, Patt, Chris, Terry, Erica, Jennifer, Alberta, Paul. Patti Ducharme supportive of idea. Most of Okanagan council in support.
- ❑ Action is better than inaction
- ❑ No per diems unless we add training

# Womens Committees

## BC PSAC Women's Committees

Welcome to the union!

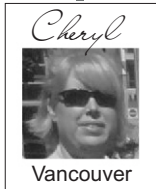
Our women's committees are made up of woman from many different components. We have a very open door and welcome anyone wanting to join us.

Get involved today! Contact the PSAC BC Women's Coordinator [Kelly Megyesi](#) or PSAC Women's Rep [Janelle Ho-Shing](#)

**There are Regional Women's Committees** currently in the Okanagan, Vancouver, Prince George, and Victoria. For meeting dates and times, contact your local Women's Committee, or check the Upcoming Events page.

### BC Regional Women's Committee Contact Info

Okanagan RWC Chairperson: [Roberta Gourlie](#)  
Prince George RWC Co-chairs: [Patt Holmes](#) and Anne Evasin  
Vancouver RWC Co-Chairs: [Jennifer Ho](#) and [Cheryl Oenema](#)  
Victoria RWC Chairperson: [Virginia Vaillancourt](#)



In May we had elections for the BC Regional Council. It is exciting to kick off the next three years for BC Women. In June, I was lucky enough to attend the Women's World Conference in Ottawa. While in Ottawa all of the Regional Women's Coordinators met for a day of planning with *Andrée Côté*, PSAC Women's Program Officer, and Patty Ducharme, PSAC National Executive Vice-President.

Also in June a large number of PSAC women attended the Summer Institute for Union Women in Victoria. We worked hard and put in a lot of energy. We even demonstrated in a flash mob downtown Victoria.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldR5uHNyvp0>

Over the summer BC Women have been participating in conferences, rally's, demonstrations, parades, etc. Hope to see some of you at our fall meetings. Wishing you a great August.

*Kelly Megyesi*

BC Regional Women's Coordinator

*Women working for Women*