

## **Vancouver and District Area Council Meeting August 19, 2015 (as amended)**

### **In Attendance:**

Calvin Smith (CEIU 20939), Aaron Chang (CEIU 20938), Anne Marie Friesen (UEW 20729), Colin VanHaar (AGR 20060), Terri Lee (AGR 20044), Jen Horsley (UPCE 20095), Jamey Mills (UTE 20027), Shane Polak (UVAE 20045), Sandy Chatha (CIU 20040), Ruby Langan (UNE 20150), Melissa Shih (Guest), Monica Urrutia (Staff)

### **Regrets:**

Todd Smith (AGR 20044), Sharon Tieman (UPCE 20101), Cheryl Oenema (UCTE 20219)

### **Meeting Called to Order at 5:40 PM**

### **Agenda:**

- **Previous Minutes**
- **Summer Events**
- **First VP Position**
- **Election Mobilization**
- **Member to Member Campaign/Campaign Training**

**Minutes** (M/S/C) Jen / Jamey

### **Summer Events Review**

Our last meeting was in May, we've taken on a significant number and quality of events since then. Just a quick review of events so far and report back from members who have participated/attended.

NPSW – held the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual PS Softball tournament, had enough members participating to field 5 teams and a total of about 80 members came out. We raised \$520 to be donated to the MVA. PIPSC and CAPE members as well as PSAC members came out. Hoping to field 8-10 teams next year.

June 19<sup>th</sup> we held a large rally at Library Square to finish up NPSW. Bob Jackson, Marco Angelini and Aaron Eckman spoke. About 250 people attended. Great way to engage members, saw lots of members who don't usually attend at this rally.

The Human Rights Committee BBQ was held on June 16<sup>th</sup>, there was no business attended to at this meeting, just a relaxed atmosphere to meet/network, enjoy food together.

Young Worker Mixer was held June 17<sup>th</sup>, no one in attendance at the VAC was at this event.

Aboriginal Day at Trout Lake was on June 21<sup>st</sup>. We had a booth again this year. Gave out of the slap fans again this year, there was a great public turnout. Tracy and Ruby's daughter did face painting for the event to draw the public into the booth.

Vancouver Area Council BBQ was held on July 19<sup>th</sup>. The attendance was great, actually had to change from burgers to smokeys so that we could make sure everyone who RSVP'd would be fed. About 140 people replied and over 100 actually came over the course of the day. Had members from just about

every component. Aaron and Jamey would like to especially thank Ron Anderson for helping out with the cooking and shopping trip to Costco.

Pride – August 2<sup>nd</sup> was well attended by members and the public. The booth had to adapt because it was also the day the writ was dropped for the election, so it changed what we were able to hand out. Had several members helping out at the booth throughout the day and good contingent who marched in the parade as well.

Jamey and the Area Council would like to recognize Tracy Shudo for all that she does with the face painting and her engagement of the public. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who give up their time to be at the booths for our engagement activities.

Labour Day is upcoming on September 7. Crystal Warner is taking point on this, still looking for volunteers, please make sure to get in touch with her. It is at Swangard Stadium, Chilliwack is playing this year.

**Motion:** Individuals who volunteer at events for 4 hours or more will have lunch provided up to \$15.25 if no money is given by the REVP's office. (M/S/C) Jamey, Shane, unanimous.

#### **First VP Position**

Crystal has tendered her resignation as First VP of the Area Council. She will still be participating. Todd Smith is now the first VP, we will hold an election at our next meeting to elect a 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

#### **Election Mobilization**

Jamey asked what we would like to do as an Area Council.

We will be supporting the MVA Accountability Meeting at the end of September (29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>). Will be much like the previous Civic Election Accountability meeting, focus will be on Affordable Childcare, engaging candidates for the Vancouver-Granville riding. Not a debate, asking for commitment from candidates to advocate for Affordable Childcare.

Shane is already working on an All Candidates meeting for Vancouver-Centre. Has already been in contact with candidates from NDP, Liberals and Green Party, has had no response from the Conservative candidate. There is a lot of interest in the community for an All Candidates meeting. Is a good opportunity for community outreach. Jamey suggested looking for partnerships with community groups to put it on. Shane already has an approved budget of \$1250.00 from the REVP's Office. Looking at a weekday evening in September.

**Motion:** VAC will allocate up to \$400 to contribute to an all candidate's debate to be held in Vancouver Centre (M/S/C) Jamey, Jen, unanimous

Question – is there anything planned for September 19<sup>th</sup>? Nothing yet because the writ was dropped early. Could be a suggested date for a door-knocking / phone banking member-member campaign.

Floor turned over to Monica to discuss the member to member campaign and then to lead the training activity.

The focus of our entire campaign had to be changed with the early writ drop. We have to do less public engagement and more member to member because of the Fair Elections act. We have to focus on

contacting our members and getting materials to them. Our current focus is on getting members to make the pledge to vote, and from there get them to get their own families to make the pledge to vote. We will focus on asking members to vote for candidates who will uphold public services and uphold workers' rights. So far the campaign has reached 80 homes by doorknocking and 100 through phone bank that were associated with the training session held in July. We have two targeted ridings, Port Moody-Coquitlam and Surrey-Newton. These were determined by looking at the redistribution of ridings, our member concentration and whether the progressive candidate has been labour supportive.

Went into Canvass Training Session.

Decided on Canvassing dates:

August 22<sup>nd</sup> – there is already a phone banking session set up for Surrey-Newton taking place on this date, set up by the Fraser Valley Area Council. 9:45-Noon

September 15<sup>th</sup> – in the evening

September 19<sup>th</sup> – 3-5 pm canvassing session

September 29<sup>th</sup> (depending on when MVA event is finalized for) – evening. *(Note: This date has since changed to September 28<sup>th</sup> as there will be a PSAC Telephone Town Hall on September 29<sup>th</sup> and the MVA event is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>).*

October 3 – Door knocking

October 17 – Door knocking