

Vancouver and District Area Council Meeting May 26, 2015

In Attendance:

Todd Smith (AGR 20044), Aaron Chang (CEIU 20938), Jen Horsley (UPCE 20095), Sharon Tieman (UPCE 20101), Jamey Mills (UTE 20027), Calvin Smith(CEIU 20939),Dennis Wong (UTE 20027), Ruby Langan (UNE 20150), Tracy Shudo (CEIU), Monica Urrutia (Staff), Patrick Bragg (Staff)

Regrets:

Cheryl Oenema (UCTE 20219), Theresa Marion (UNE 20150), Bill Pleming (GSU 20008), Jessica Kerek (CIU 20040)

Meeting Called to Order at 5:40 PM

Agenda:

- Minutes of previous meeting
- Ratify Motions
- Financial Report/Budget
- Political Action Plan from PSAC Regional Office
- Summer Events
- NPSW
- July 19th
- C-59
- Convention – Area Council Resolutions & Jen’s Report
- MP Letters
- Affiliate Reports
- MVA AGM
- Education

Agenda adopted (M/S/C) Jamey, Jen

Minutes (M/S/C) Jen, Sharon (Unanimous)

Motions

- Buy Ticket for NDP fund raiser – carried unanimously by proxy
- \$500 towards 19th Events – carried unanimously by proxy
- \$600 towards NPSW Softball Tournament – carried unanimously by proxy
- \$150 for Labour Day – carried unanimously by proxy

Financial Report (M/S/C) Sharon/Jamey

Jamey noted that the allocation from the REVPs office was \$2000.00. He then turned the floor over to Sharon (treasurer) to present the financial report.

Political Action Plan from Regional Council

Jamey turned the floor over to Monica. The plan is about delivering our election messaging to as many members as possible. To engage members and move them along the political spectrum, to consider who and what they are voting for, but mostly to get the members out to actually vote. Identify those members who want to do more, who would like to participate in campaigns, be more political. Focusing on the pillars set out by the CLC "Time for Change" campaign – Childcare, the Economy, etc.

We want to be driving members to sign up on the voter pledge website, and if they express an interest in being more involved they will be funnelled to the Area Council to participate in political action.

How do we as an Area Council want to get involved politically?

- Get involved in actual target ridings
- Phone banking
- Door knocking to members – training will be provided
- Host or have the area council members go to All Candidates meetings
- Participate in the CLC "Time for Change" campaign

Patrick also let the council know that the BC Region has purchased "Stop Harper" signs. He has made cards to go along with the signs that should be given to members asking for the signs to direct them to the voter pledge website. Another way to identify members that we aren't aware of who would like to be more politically active. Also, have created "I'm voting for..." signs and pins, which will come out during National Public Service Week (June 12-19).

The voter pledge website is: psacbcvotes.ca

Summer Events

May Day – Todd reported back

- 15 members of PSAC participated, along with members of PIPSC and CAPE. A pretty good turnout considering most activists were in Quebec City for PSAC Triennial Convention
- Lots of labour organizations and community groups participated
- Only shut down ½ of Commercial Drive for the march
- Rally organized by the BCFed at the end of the route
- Irene Lanzinger and Joey Hartman spoke, also speakers on the Fight for 15 and Childcare

19th Events

- May 19th was one of the best attended events so far
- Lots of media coverage
- Members from 400 and 800 Burrard, Library Square attended, among others
- Organized by local presidents, more organic, built from the bottom up
- Jamey spoke briefly at the rally
- Crystal did several interviews with media, including 3 in French
- We would like to continue to build the momentum

NPSW

- June 12 – 19th
- Will be holding the 3rd Annual Softball Tournament on June 17th at Douglas Park
- Volunteers welcome
- 4 teams have already committed, looking for more
- There will be a large rally held on the 19th
- Holding plant-gates to “not drink the Kool-Aid”, ie, don’t participate in employer sponsored events

HRC Barbeque

- Being held June 16th at 5:30 PM in the PSAC Regional office. Social event, all are welcome

Young Workers Mixer

- June 17th at Black & Blue on Alberni Street, all are welcome

Aboriginal Day

- Celebration on June 21 at Trout Lake Park
- There will be a pancake breakfast at the Aboriginal Friendship Centre at Hastings and Commercial and then a walk to the park
- PSAC will have a table at Trout Lake, looking for volunteers and for members to come out and share in the celebration, volunteers should contact Ruby Langan
- Tracy will be there face painting with Ruby’s daughter

Canada Day – nothing planned so far

July 19th

- Proposal to move the annual Area Council BBQ to this date, it falls on a Sunday and falls in with the continuing 19th campaigns
- Aaron volunteered to organize the event and get members out, Aaron will run point and Jamey will help out
- We will invite members of CAPE and PIPSC to come as well, Aaron committed to contacting Karen Hall from PIPSC
- Tracy suggested that there be more activities/games and committed to organizing this

Pride Festival

- August 2nd
- Paul Croes is co-ordinating with the BCFed
- Being co-ordinated through the Mainland Human Rights Committee
- PSAC will have a booth there as well, encouraging members to participate in the parade and/or volunteer at the booth

Labour Day

- September 7th, Crystal will be running point

- Will be at Swangaard Stadium again this year
- Monica mentioned that this may be the last big labour event for public engagement before the writ is dropped for the election (latest date to drop is September 11ish, but could be dropped sooner).
- Will be advertised on the PSACBC website

Bill C-59 – Budget Implementation Act

Jamey turned the floor over to Patrick. In particular, Division 20 of C-59 gives the president of the Treasury Board the ability to legislate and impose a Short Term Disability program regardless of bargaining, CAs or PSLRA.

PSAC's main message is that if & when this legislation passes in its current form, we will work hard to get Division 20 removed. It should be noted that it gives the ability to impose an STD, but doesn't require it to be imposed. We need to be telling the President of the Treasury Board "Don't do it". It is not a done deal, we will work hard to change the Government on the 19th of October and if we don't succeed in that we will work in the courts to have Division 20 declared unconstitutional. PSAC is developing a legal strategy against C-59, but it could take years. The Bill does actually say that an STD plan must be in place before it can be implemented. Part of the PSAC plan is in the handout that was made available at the beginning of the meeting regarding talking to and writing to our MPs (see attached).

Convention

Discussed the resolutions that affected the Area Council and how they went. Jen presented her report, see attached.

Jen's Report (M/S/C) Jen, Jamey (Unanimous)

MP Letters – discussed under the C-59 topic

Affiliate Reports

No affiliate reports were received within the 14 days set as response time.

Metro Vancouver Alliance (MVA)

AGM is being held Monday June 8th. Jamey and Patrick will be attending.

PSAC Regional Education

Feedback for the Fall Schedule should be received by May 31. The Fall Education schedule will be offering:

Member Facilitation Training – 3 Days

Advanced Representation for Stewards – 4 Days

Advanced Duty to Accommodate – 3 Days

Round Table

Tracy reported back on the NDP Black & White event. She said that there were a lot of really good speakers, although not a lot of people in attendance. 6 or 7 PSAC members did attend. People were very friendly and gave a lot of good information. The food was brought in too early. She took lots of photos.

Ruby mentioned that her local is also going to organize an after work mixer.

Todd reminded everyone about the HRC BBQ at the PSAC office.

Dennis mentioned that it was his first time attending Area Council

Jamey reminded everyone that you can always bring someone from your local.

Meeting Adjourned 7:30 PM