



Present:

Linda Woods	UNE 20140
Kelly Megyesi	CEIU 20915
Susan Yaciw	UTE 20003
Maria-Luiza Romano	AGR 20027
Michele Sibson,	UNE 20088
Darrell-Lee McKenzie	AGR 20043
Joan Coburn	CEIU 20915
Joanne Hay	UPSW 20095
Joy Harrison	APSAR
Robert Strang	PSAC REP

Regrets

Annette Hale	USGE 20153
Carolyn McGillivary	CIU 20045

Chair

Michele Sibson

Michele called the meeting to order and welcomed the new participants.

Things for women's from the regional office have been super quiet. Michele has not heard from the BC Women's Chair Virginia since spring 2015. Michele read the last correspondence from Deanna PSAC Women's rep.

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2680140557>

<http://psacunion.ca/psac-welcomes-inquiry-missing-and-murdered>

December 8, 2015

PSAC welcomes inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

The Public Service Alliance of Canada is pleased to see that the federal government is taking the issue of violence against Aboriginal women seriously by launching an inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

“Our union is committed to supporting the government inquiry and to standing up for the rights of all Indigenous women in Canada,” said Robyn Benson, PSAC National President.

PSAC advocates for an inquiry

Our union's members and activists have spent more than a decade advocating and rallying for a [serious investigation](#) into the fact that more than 1,200 Indigenous women and girls [have been murdered or gone missing](#) since 1980.

At PSAC's most recent Triennial Convention, delegates voted unanimously to support a campaign to pressure the federal government to launch an inquiry and to support Indigenous women and girls.....

Very proud of the work Women's Committees did to make this a national priority.

Participation in Okanagan Women's Committee

Linda has been chosen for bargaining and she felt that her involvement in the women's committee helped with her selection. Great News Linda and we look forward to your updates as you become involved.

Treasurer's Report

Joan and Kelly met in December and worked on the funding reports due. Full financial statements presented to the committee. Closing balance for the year ending December 31, 2015 was 1876.09. During the reconciliation it was discovered that one cheque had been cashed twice (glitch with electronic banking) and issue has now been resolved and corrected (cheque for 125.00)

Thank you to Shiv Reddy and Joanne Hay for completing the audit on the account. All documentation is finalized and will be sent to Kristin.

Kelly/Joan/carried

Budget for 2016 presented as follows

Funding requested 1500

Donations	300
Projects	600
Meetings	200
Convention/ Conference	350
Bank/ Office	50

Kelly/Joan/carried

IWD

PSAC Okanagan will be participating in the International Women's Day event in Vernon BC Sunday March 6th, 2016 from 1 - 4. Schubert Centre After discussion it was decided that we would like to host a table with PSAC women's information, swag, and hopefully one of Maria-Luiza's quilts. Kelly will be away but Maria-Luiza will look after the table. Joan was hopeful that she will be able to attend. Tickets for the event are \$20. Should be a great event and we should encourage members to attend. Proceeds from the event will be given to the children's equipment at the Vernon Jubilee Hospital.

Robert will help put some things together for us.

Motion \$160.00 sponsorship of one table of 8. Tickets to be donated to women who would not otherwise be able to attend the event (hospice, transition house, seniors centre e)

Kelly/Maria-Luiza/carried

Motion \$50.00 for one vendor table at the event to display PSAC union and women's information.



Draft

Kelly/Susan/carried

Inspirational Poems - Imagine a Woman

What Patricia Lynn Reilly has to say...

Imagine a woman who believes it is right and good she is a woman.
A woman who honours her experience and tells her stories.
Who refuses to carry the sins of others within her body and life.

Imagine a woman who trusts and respects herself.
A woman who listens to her needs and desires.
Who meets them with tenderness and grace.

Imagine a woman who acknowledges the past's influence on the present.
A woman who has walked through her past.
Who has healed into the present.

Imagine a woman who authors her own life.
A woman who exerts, initiates, and moves on her own behalf.
Who refuses to surrender except to her truest self and wisest voice.

Imagine a woman who names her own gods.
A woman who imagines the divine in her image and likeness.
Who designs a personal spirituality to inform her daily life.

Imagine a woman in love with her own body.
A woman who believes her body is enough, just as it is.
Who celebrates its rhythms and cycles as an exquisite resource.

Imagine a woman who honours the body of the Goddess in her changing body.
A woman who celebrates the accumulation of her years and her wisdom.
Who refuses to use her life-energy disguising the changes in her body and life.

Imagine a woman who values the women in her life.
A woman who sits in circles of women.
Who is reminded of the truth about herself when she forgets.

Imagine yourself as this woman.

December 6th Action

Kelly read out a lovely thank you from the Kelowna Women's Shelter. They were thrilled with the boxes we dropped off. The pizza dinner was a real treat. Kelowna CRA and CEIU locals also donated items as well. Linda and Kelly dropped off early December



Elections

Thank you to Robert for running the elections
All positions were acclaimed as follows:

Michele Sibson – chair
Linda Woods – vice chair
Maria-Luiza Romano – treasurer
Joanne Hay – secretary

We realize how busy everyone is so a special thank you for taking added work on. Looking forward to a great 2016

Motion made to keep all existing signing officers on the Vantage One Account but to add Maria-Luiza as well.

Susan/Kelly/carried

Other

Breakfast meeting. Agreement that the Women's Committee would look after the costs for this meeting.

Motion to reimburse Susan Yaciw and Linda Woods up to \$50.00

Joan/Kelly/carried

Next meetings

Tentatively set for February 27th, 2015 Kelowna 10am