

Attendance to BC Fed Convention Report

The 56th BC Fed Convention took place from Monday Nov 24 to Friday Nov 28, 2014. Unfortunately, I was only able to attend the BC Fed Convention on Monday Nov 24 and Thursday Nov 27, 2014.

The convention started off with registration of delegates followed by new delegates training. I attended this training since it was my first time attending this convention. An overview was provided about the process, voting, speaking at the microphone, rules of order etc.

The convention commenced with opening ceremonies by an elder followed by the National Anthem. After the opening ceremonies we heard from our President, Jim Sinclair. Jim made an announcement that he will not be seeking re-election, it is time to move forward, and that he will be supporting Irene Lanzinger as the next President of BC Federation of Labour. After lunch, our guest speaker Tom Muclair, Leader of the federal NDP Party, talked about the issues in Ottawa and how they are effecting all Canadians, and the NDP platform for the upcoming federal election. MP, Jenny Sims was also in attendance with Tom Muclair. Next, the Political Action committee provided an excellent power point report on their activities in the community.

When I arrived on Thursday morning, I was surprised to see the excitement of the 2000 delegates in the lobby, in the hallway and on the convention floor campaigning for the two candidates, Amber Hockin and Irene Lanzinger. This was an exciting time because both candidates had a great deal of support! I felt that the election was very well organized by the staff at BC Federation, and was directed very smoothly without any errors. While the votes were being counted the resolution committee continued with their report and resolutions were being debated. Just before lunch, the results were in, and I was very pleased to hear Irene Lanzinger is the next President of BC Federation of Labor. It was a very close race. Irene went to the microphone to say a few words to the floor and to Amber Hockin. The convention resumed with resolutions before breaking for lunch. After lunch we heard from Mayor, Greg Robertson and Dr. Danielle Martin VP Women's College Hospital before going back to resolutions.

I really enjoyed attending this convention and look forward to having the opportunity to fully participate in the next convention.

Sargy Chima