

Vancouver Area Council Meeting Minutes

19 Oct 11

In Attendance: Jamey Mills UTE 20027, Sharon Tieman UPCE 20101, Cheryl Oenema UNDE 21008, Marion McLarty UNE 20150, Fe De Casto GSU 20008, Sargy Chima CEIU 20949, Allen Schofield CEIU 20938, Sam Wiese CEIU 20949, Aaron Chang CEIU 20938, Angela Duhamel ARG 20044, Sigrid Hagglund UTE 20027,

Guests: Joanne Hay UPCE 20095 – Kelowna, Julie Bussiere CEIU 20944, Bob Jackson BC REVP

Staff Rep: Monica Urrutia

Regrets: Terri Lee, Ryan Ayres, Megan Adams, Erica Yang

Presidents Report (see attached)

REVP Bob Jackson reported on what's going on in the region and in Ottawa. All public service employees need to get more engaged in the face of the proposed cuts by the Harper Conservative Government. Bob has been visiting worksites around the province to talk to members to talk about why our jobs are important and what we need to do to save public services. The renovations on the regional office are going well the 2nd floor should be done in November, then the 3rd floor renos to start. No Cut Campaign, staff and members have been doing work site visits. Check the PSAC BC website <http://www.psacbc.com> for the most current info on what is happening in BC. Also please update your contact info with the regional office if you move or change phone numbers.

Minutes from 14 Sep 11 meeting

M/S/C Sam/Sargy

Treasurer's Report

M/S/C Sharon/Sam

Affiliate Reports:

- CEIU 20944 – Staffing cuts are affecting clients. Claims processing is taking longer in employment insurance and pension supplements. Terms are being laid off
- UPCE 20101 – The contact centres have been surplus, all terms in Winnipeg and Fredericton have been let go.
- UPCE 20095 – Contract ends in 2012. Daniel Kinsella has been brought in to help out with UPCE.
- UNE 20150 – Had their first year as a stand alone local. Component name change from National Component to Union of National Employees. No cuts as of yet. Travel budgets have been frozen. The APTN channel suggested there are cuts coming to the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. Possible cuts to

programs, education and infrastructure. Issues around retirees coming back as contract workers.

- UNDE 201008 – Defence Construction Canada (DCC) is a private company contracted by DND. DCC is contracting out jobs that were and are done by public service employees. They are hiring non unionized trades people for cleaning and building maintenance. Looking at contracting out other trades jobs and fire fighters. Loss of public service apprenticeship opportunities. National President John MacLennan wrote a letter to CFIB in regards to our pensions.
- AGR 20044 – Re-interpretation of the collective agreement. Members are grieving, and they are looking at a policy grievance. The union has not been consulted on the new interpretations. Mileage claims and minimum over time not being authorised. Looking into work requirements to see if members can refuse work. The local AGM to be held in Nov
- CEIU 20949 – Sam Weise talked about International Solidarity in regards to the Suzuki plant in India. A collective agreement was negotiated and workers returned to work after 7 weeks. Suzuki reneged on the CA and workers walked off the job. The employer hired goons and employees were shot at as they came into work the next day. Check out the labour watch website <http://www.labourwatch.com>. The New West and District Labour Council will not be holding their municipal elections chilli cook off this year due to lack of participation from candidate last election time. Contact your local candidates to see what they will do to protect federal service in your area.
- UTE 20027 – At this time there have been no lay offs. There are job competitions being run, but there are no permanent positions being offered. Unsure of what will happen with all the provincial staff that came over from PST to HST. Overtime is being offered in some departments, it is suggested not to take it as to show the need for more full time employees. There was a new president elected at convention. Contract expires Nov 2012, one of the biggest concerns is severance pay.
- GSU 20008 –AGM to be held 18 Nov 11. Had a No Cuts campaign outside the office on 27 Sept to collect petition signatures. Hiring terms and casuals no permanent employees. Erika Yang came to talk about the young workers movement.
- CEIU 20938 – Lots of co op students doing the work of full time employees, taking away work from members. All term employees on the sunset clause. Work loads are increasing, staff is over worked, and can no longer meet production requirements. Duty to accommodate training is needed for managers, team leaders and upper management.

Area Council Executive Elections:

President – Jamey Mills – Acclaimed

1st VP – Sam Weise – Acclaimed

2nd VP – Aaron Chang – Acclaimed

Treasurer – Sharon Tieman – Acclaimed

Secretary – Cheryl Oenema – Acclaimed

3 members at large – Angela Duhamel, Fe De Castro, Julie Bussiere

- Note – if you are on the executive of the AC you do not take up a delegate spot and therefore your local is entitled to that delegate spot.

By-law Change:

Amendment to *Section 5: Meetings, Sub-section 2* to the following, "The quorum of the Vancouver and District Area Council shall consist of a minimum two (2) executive members and three (3) delegates from affiliated bodies."

M/S/C Jamey/Sam

Resolutions for PSCA Triennial Convention:

Living Wage

WHEREAS the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, First Call, the Metro Vancouver Living Wage for Families campaign and the Victoria Community Council have determined the actual amount a working family would need to earn in order to live at a reasonable level, and

WHEREAS this calculation is specific for different communities depending on the actual cost of living in those communities, and

WHEREAS the City of New Westminster and Vancouver City Savings Credit Union have adopted a policy to pay the living wage for families to all of their direct employees and contractors;

BE IT RESOLVED that the PSAC continue to endorse the Living Wage for Families (as calculated by the CCPA/First Call methodology), support the Living Wage for Families campaign and campaign to encourage municipal governments and other large public and private sector employers throughout the country to become living wage employers.

M/S/C Jamey/ Sam

Program Ideas for the 2011/2012 year:

Some ideas from last year; a living wage panel and a talk on the Olympics. We did have the baseball event with the young workers.

New Ideas:

CFIB – campaign to talk to small business that are part of the CFIB that support public service employees and to then show our support for those businesses.

Political Action Panel with Jean Crowder NDP Critic for HRSDC

Labour Day Picnic

May Day event

Guest Speakers

DLC affiliation – how to get more locals affiliated

The executive will meet in late Nov early Dec to discuss the program ideas. If you have any other ideas please email them to Jamey or Monica before 18 Nov 11.

Election of VAC delegate to the PSAC Triennial Convention

Delegate - Jamey Mills

Alternate – Sam Wiese

Round Table:

- Thanks you from the current VAC executive.
- Petition to Tony Clement, please get your co workers, friends, family and community members to sign. If you would like a work site visit contact the regional office.
- Advanced stewards training 19-22 Nov 11
- BC Presidents conference Sat 29 Oct 11.
 - Some concern as to the late notice and therefore not having time to make plans to attend.
- Vancouver Women's Committee Dec 6th event in Surrey
- Check out the Aboriginal Workers page on the PSAC website
- Rhonda Johns is relocating to Ontario

Adjourned