

North Vancouver Island Area Council

Minutes

October 4, 2018

Attendance:

Josee Tremblay
James Little – PSAC Staff
James Brierley
George Pattern
Richard May
Bert Farwell
Christine Walker
Marcelo Lazaro– Guest
Ernest Hooker – From Victoria

James Brierley taking minutes

Previous minutes read.

Motion to approve – Christine Walker

Motion Seconded – Bert Farwell

Current meeting Agenda read.

Motion to approve agenda as presented – Christine Walker

Motion Seconded – Bert Farwell

Financials:

George presented.

- Sent an email with the current financials and fund details. Was –
- Low on the bank account but had a 2K infusion from the PSAC so things are fairly good.
- Outstanding cheque from ceremony that has yet to be cashed
- Leaves us with a balance of 2214.00 minus the outstanding cheque for total of \$2200.00.
- Motion to approve the finances – Bert Farwell
- Motioned Seconded – Christine Walker

Guest from SV Bargaining Team / Common Issues - Marcelo Lazaro: Bargaining Update

- There are 2 members of each team on the common issues table that deal with common language and issues tied to all bargaining tables.
- Marcelo going to Ottawa on Tuesday to deal with Common Issues committee. We have language to address Phoenix and affected members and one of the big issues for SV is keeping up with pay issues. SV team in Ottawa in 2 weeks.
- SV very intent on stopping casual/sub-contracting out which reduces hiring. What we are asking for is no contracting out and at a minimum way better consultation with the unions.
- Terms of services is still an issue and pushing back on contracting out and as you have seen we have been successful with the cleaners.
- Common issues fighting for increases to support families – increasing the parental leave from 35 to 62 weeks
- National Indigenous day and family day as statutory holidays
- Ten days paid Domestic Violence leave for victims of abuse is a big issue and we are trying to introduce language and leave for this as well as parental leave.

Bert – stated he is also on the sub-committee and the government is dragging their feet and it's not the Hay Group that's doing the study of their issues.

Questions:

James – What is the climate at the table and feel going forward?

Marcelo – the government had no mandate at recent meetings but it looks better moving forward.

James L. - What do you think about whether the employer coming to the table with a mandate in October?

Marcelo – not likely

Christine – What about Family Day included as a statutory holiday?

Marcelo – We continue to be hopeful and this is at the common issues table.

Richard – How can we support our teams that are at the table?

Marcelo – The “Here for Canada” Campaign, spread the word on this and get it out. This really informs the public. You can call with questions at any time. Richard informed that we hope to wear Red and White on bargaining days and other initiatives.

Nanaimo Rally:

National President Chris Aylward, BC REVP Jamey Mills present at the rally to march on the PM and his cabinet retreat at the Nanaimo Conference Center. There were 100+ members in attendance from various components. Richard reported on the rally and how it was a great success with a good collaboration between components in Nanaimo and lots of nationwide media coverage.

Labour Day Update:

Christine reported on the picnic at Transfer Beach in Ladysmith. They severed over 600 hot dogs and Lenord Krog acted as the MC and it was a very good family event. We didn't have a table but we hope to have one next year.

Regional Mobilization Meeting/Here for Canada Campaign:

- James Brierley introduced the area mobilization coordinators for Vancouver Island and provided a full report on the Regional Mobilization Meeting
- Here for Canada Campaign introduction at the meeting with a full debut at the PSAC office in Vancouver. We are looking at Halloween contest centering around Phoenix and we should ramp up the campaigns moving forward.
- There will be a conference call with area coordinators in the near future and follow this up with Canada wide/regional specific initiatives.
- Red and White shirts on bargaining dates where members are at the table is an initiative that Vancouver Island would like to move forward on.

- Richard is going to move forward with this (and others) and have his executive wear red and white on these dates until messaging is out.

James L – UNDE has divided the locals and will move forward with that coordination. James L wants to get the campaign swag into the hands of the committee members. Send him an email for swag; what kinds of things you'd like etc. and they will mail them.

- 1000 lanyards/500 mugs/300 touques: total items for VI

Here for Canada Campaign Launch – Oct 20th:

Christine – there were about 20 people and it was a little disappointing with mostly staff and people from the campaign meeting.

Members were pleased with the campaign and the content of the campaign

<http://psacunion.ca/phoenix-psac-launches-here-canada-national-tv-ad>

Upcoming events

Health and Safety Conference - Nothing to Report

Young Workers – James Brierley

30 delegates to the Young Workers Conference and the Deadline was Sept 28. Selections have been made with very good distribution among components and locals. Letters of acceptance/waiting list to be sent this week to delegates.

Municipal Elections: Nanaimo/Duncan Labour Council – Christine Walker

Important municipal election coming up and the council recommendation (poll card list). Candidates were asked 30 questions and from these the Labour Council decided on endorsing candidates for the city council and school trustee positions.

Tom Duncan is recommendation for Duncan.

Lenoard Kroge is recommendation for Nanaimo mayor.

Full list of endorsed candidates provided at Nanaimo District Labour Council.

Christine Walker - Bill C27 regarding pensions. It was suggested to have an all members meeting to push the issues about pensions Fran Graham (FSNA) who will give a presentation on Pensions. If we make this an area council event we can provide detailed information on this important issue. Could combine NVIAC and Victoria potentially for this.

Richard May - This a great idea and we should all fully support this and possibly November dates. Dates and logistics to be discussed on future call.

BC Referendum on proportional representation – Encourage members to get out and vote on this important issue to British Columbians.

Bylaws:

Motion to table bylaws to next meeting – Christine Walker
Motion Seconded – Bert Farwell

Next Meeting

Meeting dates to be decided via email.

Motion to adjourn – Richard May
Motion Seconded – Christine Walker

Minutes of Meeting

Date: February 17, 2018

Location: ABC Country Restaurant in Nanaimo

Present: George Pattern, Richard May, Bert Farwell, Christine Walker, James Little

Meeting was chaired by Richard and called to order at 10:00 am.

James addressed the meeting and spoke about a planned rally in Vancouver to protest the Phoenix pay system problem. He encouraged Vancouver Island union locals to participate in the event. Richard pointed out the logistical problems in organizing an off-island event for island locals as well as the associated transportation costs. Richard then announced that locals in the Nanaimo area would be planning their own protest rally by the war cenotaph across from the Front Street Government building in downtown Nanaimo. Bert Farwell announced that the Victoria area locals would also be planning a rally to protest the Phoenix pay system in Victoria although the plans were not finalized.

Bert moved that the North Vancouver Island Regional Council should provide up to \$500 to support the planned rally. The motion was seconded by George Pattern and carried unanimously.

James spoke to the meeting concerning a plan by PSAC to hold a plant-gate event outside selected federal government offices to demonstrate the union's concerns over the Phoenix pay system failures and to provide information to workers as they arrive at their workplace. The event was to be attended by HR staff and Phoenix "champions" who could offer advice to affected workers.

Bert addressed the meeting and described his experience as a participant in the Pay Advocacy Training course for Phoenix champions. He recommended that local unions and shop stewards refrain from filing grievances on every level of the pay process, as it tends to slow things down to the detriment of the worker. Richard moved to accept Bert's report, seconded by George and carried unanimously.

George spoke to the meeting and mentioned the difficulty in receiving bank statements in a timely manner. Previously, bank statements were sent to the mailroom at the Pacific Biological Station but due to the partial closure of the mailroom and limited service, statements were lost or discarded. James suggested that the mailing address for bank statements should be changed to the PSAC union

office at 1497 Admiral's Road in Victoria. The motion was moved by George, seconded by Christine and carried unanimously.

James began the nomination process to elect new executive members to the North Vancouver Island Area Council. James outlined the rules for election of officers; term limits on positions and voting procedures and called for nominations to commence. James called for nominations to the position of President. Christine Walker was nominated by Bert but declined. Further nominations were called. Richard May was nominated by George and seconded by Bert to the position of President and accepted. Receiving no further nominations, Richard May was declared President by acclamation. Next, nominations were called for the position of Vice-President. Christine Walker was nominated by Richard and seconded by Bert and receiving no further nominations Christine was acclaimed Vice-President. Vanessa Miller was nominated by Richard and seconded by George to the position of Secretary. No further nominations were made and Vanessa was acclaimed Secretary. Finally, nominations for the position of Treasurer were called. Richard nominated George Pattern; seconded by Bert. No further nominations were made and George was acclaimed as Treasurer. Elections to the executive of the North Vancouver Island Area Council were concluded with the following results: Richard May (President), Christine Walker (Vice-President), George Pattern (Treasurer) and Vanessa Miller (Secretary).

No further business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 11:45am with no date set for future meetings.

Faithfully recorded on February 17, 2018 by George Pattern.