

## OKANGAN REGIONAL WOMENS MEETING

2018 04 14

**IN attendance: Michele Sibson – UNE; Linda Woods – UNE; Darrel-Lee McKenzie – AGR; Susan Yaciw – APSAR; Joy Harrison – APSAR; Robert Strang – PSAC BC Regional Office; Carolyn McGillivray - CIU**

1. Greeting
2. Previous Minutes (sent by email to members – (m/s/c)
3. Current financial information (provided by Maria Luisa by email / copy to Regional office)
4. REPORTS:
  - a. CLC Lobbying – OTTAWA [Feb 2018](#)

presented by Michele S – provided the details of the event re the four areas of discussion with the MP's – Pharmacare: A Plan for everyone; Canada Needs Proactive Pay Legislation; Governments Can and Must put Workers and Pensioners First & finally Employment Insurance needs to work. Original working documents were presented to meeting members for review and questions – Michele would be please to attend any other lobbying events in the future per her availability. The response on Parliament Hill was, for the most part, positive and the event was clearly well organized and presented. CLC is to be applauded for the preparation efforts
  - b. PSAC Bargaining Conference – OTTAWA [March 2018](#)

presented by Michele S from the perspective of an observer (Darrel Lee was in attendance as a delegate) Extremely interesting and an excellent venue for networking within your component and PSAC nationally. Very political setting and fascinating (though in some cases very lengthy) process to elect a bargaining team. Although an observer, I still participated in all events which meant (for me) Caucus meeting 3 out of 4 mornings from 7 til 9 and each evening from 5 – 6 or later. Attending my table bargaining sessions, strategy/planning groups and watching the voting process (in my case until past 8 p.m.)
  - c. HANDOUTS/MAILING from Regional Office (Monica)

to be distributed as requested
  - d. Linda Woods – HR event [Feb 9 2018](#)

Hope In Her Eyes was attended by Linda Woods & her friend Pat (last name missed); Kelly Megyesi – CEIU; Hanna Lee (??) HRDC and Joy Harrison – Linda reported that this was an interesting event that featured a silent auction for works by Local artists (there was a story behind each piece), and 2 Charities – HER International assisting women in Nepal where often their young women are sold to men (by their families) into sexual slavery; HER international works to purchase the girls back to their family and provide education, training, skills and

teach economic independence (i.e. buying a goat). (see more – visit ***Her.international***)

HOPE Outreach – 17 workers Provide nighttime outreach for homeless and exploited women in the Kelowna area (approx 500), specifically in the downtown core

- At dusk, seven nights per week volunteers take to the streets of downtown, hand out supply bags containing basic necessities, seek to build relationships with the women, encourage them, and support them to get the help they need
- Volunteers also take "Bad Date Reports" and report instances of violence and abuse against sex-workers
- Bad Date Reports are then circulated Okanagan wide, and also in Prince George, Kamloops, and Merritt
- Harm Reduction products are handed out to men and women nightly
- Specialized Narcan Team goes out two nights per week dispensing Narcan Kits to men and women

#### 5. Round Table

Carolyn McGillivray spoke about her experience at the recent Bargaining Conference at which she was elected as an Alternate. She explained that she based her election platform on being a Metis Woman with a disability and with previous Bargaining Table experience. She feels that this campaign was a White Male campaign – there was pushback to diversity and a blow to equity. She felt that the final composition of the Bargaining tables reflected a “Trump Effect” and she was disappointed overall.

Michele Sibson asked members to read the emails from Irene Lanzinger – Bring Back Grant’s Law and Fight for \$15

2018 Labour Day event participation was discussed and tabled until next meeting

#### 6. Closing (next meeting date – JUNE 23 2018)