

# PSAC Okanagan Human Rights Committee

## AGM Minutes

### January 19th, 2019

**Present:** Kelly Megyesi, Vernon (CEIU) Linda Woods, Kelowna (UNE), Maria Luiza Romano Vernon (AGR), Joy Harrison Kelowna (APSAR), Robert Strang, Vancouver (PSAC).

**Regrets:** Jeanne Olineck Kamloops (CEIU)

**Welcome:**

Thank you to everyone that could attend our first meeting of 2019. Looking forward to another great year.

**Financial:**

Kelly prepared the year-end reports. Closing balance at December 31, 2018 was \$865.18. Very successful year again. Revenue was \$2770.00 which included our quilt raffle and PSAC contribution. Expenses slightly exceeded our revenue at \$2906.20 Budget for 2019 discussed and approved. Robert will take documents to PSAC BC and ask for a confirmation email.

All financials m/s/c (Kelly/Linda)

**Minutes:**

Previous minutes [psacbc.com/sites/bc/files/2018.1117.ohrc\\_minutes.pdf](https://psacbc.com/sites/bc/files/2018.1117.ohrc_minutes.pdf)

**Migrant Workers:**

Request for assistance received from Project Coordinator for Labour Trafficking in BC Migrant Workers Centre. Group discussed and decided that they were not prepared to host the event but were potentially interested in attending. The event is tentatively scheduled for 3rd or 4th week in March 2019. Robert will try and find out more information about the organization and Kelly will respond to the coordinator.

**Election:**

All positions were acclaimed with no change.  
Kelly Megyesi co-chair, Maria-Luiza Romano co-chair, Linda Woods co-chair.

### **Projects/Events:**

Discussion on an outline for 2019. Decision to proceed with the Advent project and we will work on at our next meeting. Decision to connect with BC Poverty Reduction and affiliate with that organization

Decision to pursue a workshop/ event in partnership with women's and area council. Group was in favour of hosting a Blanket Exercise and building a day or half day session. The blanket exercise ties in with our indigenous youth wellness/suicide prevention that we donated to at the end of 2018. It also ties in with BC Poverty reduction as well. Kelly has contact with a trained facilitator. Linda will also forward contact information for Edna Terbasket from the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society who we could use as a resource.

### **Round Table:**

**Maria-Luiza** – felt that BC Poverty Reduction was a good choice to affiliate with. It will be interesting to connect locally as they have expanded to Kelowna. <http://bcpovertyreduction.ca/>

**Joy** – Wanted us to be aware of Bill C27. She also talked about APSAR views on pension sharing. APSAR disagrees with the Centre for Policy alternatives.

[http://psacunion.ca/sites/psac/files/attachments/pdfs/psac\\_submission\\_to\\_finance\\_minister\\_morneau\\_on\\_bill\\_c-27\\_eng.pdf](http://psacunion.ca/sites/psac/files/attachments/pdfs/psac_submission_to_finance_minister_morneau_on_bill_c-27_eng.pdf)

**Linda** – shared the story of a song. In solidarity and with an open heart for residential school survivors and gratitude to John for writing and singing this song. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyCIV9Ahw5A>

**Robert** – Robert just returned from a trip to Ecuador and showed us interesting pictures and stories. Thank you Robert.

<https://www.telesurenglish.net/analysis/The-Life-of-Dolores-Cacuango-And-Her-Struggle-For-Justice--20181025-0029.html>

**Kelly** – asked Robert if he could research whether there is any type of PSAC human rights training we could have in the Okanagan. We need to build our committee and training is a great way to engage members.



### **Next meeting:**

Dinner meeting March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6pm Vernon

