



**DRAFT RECORD OF MEETING
B.C. REGIONAL COUNCIL ZOOM CALL
HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 22 AT 6:30 PM**

In Attendance:

Jamey Mills, REVP-B.C. (Chair)	Jill MacNeill, Northwestern B.C.
Celine Ahodekon, Racially Visible	Trish Martin, South Vancouver Island
Tracy Arrowsmith, Northeastern BC	Marion McLarty, Metro Vancouver
André Bessette, Indigenous Peoples	Kelly Megyesi, Southern Interior
Susie Blyth, West Fraser Valley	Damir Moric, Alternate Metro Vancouver
Emily Craddock, Pride (LGBTQ2+)	Alan Otrosina, East Fraser Valley
Terri D'Souza, Young Workers	Shane Polak, Access (PWD)
Bert Farwell, North Vancouver Island	Karen Sutton, Women's
Linda Harding, Health & Safety	Todd Smith, Alt REVP-B.C.
Jennifer Horsley, Metro Vancouver	Michelle Webster, DCL/SSE
Ernest Hooker, South Vancouver Island	Warren Wulff, Metro Vancouver <i>(first 30 mins only)</i>
Leanne Hughes, National Officers	

Regrets:

Jeanne Olineck, Southern Interior

Guests:

Lea Serron, Alternate Women's Coordinator	Kelly Sidhu, Alternate Racially Visible Coordinator
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Staff:

Patrick Bragg, Political Communications Officer	Kristin Schnider, EA to the REVP-B.C.
Luc Guevremont, B.C. Regional Coordinator	

Jamey Mills called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Indigenous Lands Acknowledgement

Jamey acknowledged that the call is taking place on the unceded lands of several Indigenous Peoples. Jamey in particular is attending the call on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, Squamish and Stó:lō Peoples.

Adoption of Agenda

A draft agenda was circulated in advance of the meeting. Jamey noted the addition of the following items:

- (1) update on Regional Awards Night.
- (2) Occupation Group Structure Update under the REVP Report
- (3) Activist Summit Update

Jamey then called for any further additions.

André requested that the agenda be amended to include the VDLC's call to endorse mandatory training in the TRC Calls to Action and UNDRIP for all K-12 school staff in BC under Other Business.

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved: Alan Otrosina; seconded: Trish Martin

Carried

REVP Report

a. AEC and NBoD Updates

Jamey advised that per the last NBoD meeting the PSAC continues to operate well financially. Current membership numbers are at 221,000 and we had budgeted on 177,000 members. This means PSAC is a surplus revenue situation. Staffing costs are overbudget, but that is reflective of the higher membership numbers that would require additional staffing resources.

At the meeting, the NBoD agreed to support three joint proposals by Components:

1. An occupational cancer study for CIU members working in the Windsor tunnel.
2. A joint campaign with UNDE regarding the harassment of UNDE members. The campaign would encourage members to feel safe and supported to report incidents of harassment.
3. A CEIU campaign, called Uncover the Costs 2.1, which related to the outsourced work for the 1-800-O-Canada phone line. The government's contract with Gatestone is up and the campaign would aim to make that work public and bring those jobs into the PSAC.

The PSAC's anti-oppression and anti-racism work is moving quickly. The PSAC recently concluded a joint pilot training session with senior management, staff and staff union representatives. Member anti-racism training is expected to roll out in late 2021 or early 2022.

The PSAC has also opened the Oppression Prevention Branch within the organization that was approved in April. Currently, the PSAC is building a plan of phased in implementation that will go back to the NBoD for review.

After consultation with staff unions and the AEC, the PSAC is establishing a PSAC Anti-Racism Accountability Committee. This committee will be key to overseeing the work on anti-racism being carried out throughout the union and will allow a voice for unions, staff, management, excluded staff, and AEC representation.

b. Phoenix Damages

There has been no change to the ongoing Phoenix issues since the last meeting: Treasury Board is preventing the Canada Revenue Agency from reviewing its decision on whether Phoenix general damages should be taxed and is refusing to sign off on a joint letter of fact for CRA. The PSAC continues to fight the unfair taxing of our damage settlement and is exploring all our legal options around the taxability issue. Members are encouraged to take action by talking to their MPs.

Treasury Board still has no mechanism for retirees and former employees to seek their damages, which is completely unacceptable. They have no excuse and cannot tell us why it is taking so long. PSAC is advocating for retirees and former employees will continue to do so until this is resolved. A further update is expected at a July meeting. Retirees should talk to their MPs as well and should align with the retiree organizations like APSAR and BC Forum.

New information shows that cases are rising. In April there were 280,000 and the backlog is climbing as the government is only managing 83% of new cases. The majority of Phoenix issues are connected with overpayment recovery, retro payments, and termination. The recent Public Service Survey showed that in the last 12 months 37% of full-time employees have been affected and 61% of seasonal employees have been affected.

Next dashboard numbers are expected later this week.

c. Negotiations and Mobilization

NATIONAL UNITS

Treasury Board

The first round of bargaining got underway this month for members in the PA, TC, SV and EB groups. At the common issues table, the bargaining team will negotiate proposals that encompass the needs of all federal public service workers employed by Treasury Board, while teams at each table will negotiate improvements specific to their membership.

The common issues and table specific package of demands will be posted after each meeting.

Bargaining dates:

- Common issues: June 14-15
- SV group: June 16-17
- TC group: June 16-17
- PA group: June 22-23
- EB group: June 22-23

Team members from BC:

PA Group: Sargy Chima, Leanne Wheeler
SV Group: Bert Farwell, Marcelo Lazaro, Kristina Maclean
TC Group: Scott Hodge
Common Issues Table: Sargy Chima, Marcelo Lazaro, Kristin MacLean, Scott Hodge

It's important for us to show our support for the bargaining teams – early and often. HQ has prepared some virtual backgrounds and other materials you can use to demonstrate that you support the teams and want a fair collective agreement. Please visit the national website to download them, or get in touch with Monica Urrutia, TB Regional Mobilization Coordinator.

Another important way to support bargaining is to get involved with (or start) your Local's internal organizing campaign, which ensures our member's contact information is up to date and also helps start a conversation within your Local or workplace about bargaining. For more information on the ULINK program, please contact the staff Regional Rep assigned to your Local.

Treasury Board - FB Group (CBSA)

The bargaining team and the employer appeared before a Public Interest Commission (PIC) hearing on May 10, 18 and 20. Both sides presented their arguments on the outstanding issues at the table, and then the Commission will prepare a report with its recommendations to reach a settlement. Unlike arbitration, the recommendation is non-binding. While the legislation provides for the PIC to issue its recommendation within 30 days of the hearing, they have asked for an extension on that timeline.

Regardless of the PIC process, we've put the employer on notice – FB members are fed up with the disrespect they've been shown at the table, and they're ready to stand up for a fair contract. We're holding strike vote information sessions throughout June, and we expect CBSA employees will participate in large numbers to fight for fairness.

Votes in BC took place June 17 and June 22 and more dates will be added nationally if required.

Parks / CFIA / CRA / NavCan / StatsCan

The Parks Bargaining Conference took place May 31 through June 2. Teams were elected and mobilization will soon get underway. No members from BC were elected to the team. Patty Ducharme is the PSAC Rep in BC who is responsible for Parks.

The CFIA Bargaining Conference took place June 8 through 10. Teams were elected and mobilization will get underway. Regional Council members Todd Smith and Terri D'Souza were elected to the team. Monica Urrutia is the CFIA mobilization coordinator in BC.

The CRA bargaining conference will be held in the fall. Members working at CRA are encouraged to submit demands via their Local.

Statistics Canada and Nav Canada, two other national units are also beginning the bargaining process. We are waiting for dates from the employer for both these units.

REGIONAL UNITS

CMFC Granville Island

PSAC members working at Granville Island are in a tough round of bargaining. The employer has concessions on the table and is refusing to back down. [Visit the regional website for a link to send CMHC management a letter.](#)

The Vancouver and District Area Council organized a car rally in support of members working at Granville Island on May 23. After several laps around the island and a lot of honking, Granville Island management got the message loud and clear: members of PSAC Local 20378 work hard every day ensuring Granville Island runs smoothly and they deserve a fair collective agreement, without concessions.

BWXT Vancouver

BWXT Isotopes in Vancouver is at an impasse and will be filing for conciliation. The employer is still insisting on concessions for the Vancouver unit despite reaching a tentative agreement for the Kanata unit. An information session was held for members today and an RSCC meeting is being scheduled.

Victoria Airport

Members at Victoria Airport just started bargaining in May.

d. Occupational Group Structure Update

Treasury Board announced [in April](#) that its implementation date for the PA Group's new job evaluation standards will be October 2022. This target date will be confirmed by Treasury Board as it approaches, ensuring that the new classifications and corresponding rates of pay can be seamlessly integrated into the pay system. In anticipation of the new evaluation standards, three occupational group adjustments are to be implemented in the core public service by October 2022.

CS group

The existing Computer Systems (CS) group will become the new Information Technology (IT) group. The target date for implementation is October 2021.

PA group

The Program and Administrative Services (PA) group (CR, AS, PM, ST, DA, IS, OE, CM and WP classifications) will be restructured into five new sub-groups:

- Program and Service Operations (PA-PVO)
- Program Development and Administration (PA-PDM)
- Executive Administrative Assistant (PA-EAA)
- Communications (PA-CMN)
- Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PA-RHB)

The mapping of current positions to these five new sub-groups has not happened yet, but we believe it will reflect the previous Occupation Group Structure update that is available [on the PSAC national website](#). The target date for implementation is October 2022.

MN and CT groups

A new “MN” group will include members of the PA group who work in negotiation, mediation and conciliation and are currently classified as “PM-MCO”. Finally, a new Comptrollership (CT) group will be created for those who work in financial management (FI group), external audit (AU classification of the AV group) and internal audit, (AS classification of the PA group).

Rates of pay for the new groups will be negotiated through the usual collective bargaining process. Rest assured, your current rights will be protected regardless of the outcome of this process. This means no one will suffer a reduction in salary due to their classification potentially being converted to a lower wage level. You will be guaranteed to remain at your current salary as per the salary protection status clause of your collective agreement. This protection will apply until you vacate your position. In addition, as wages for your new classification exceed your current salary, your pay will be increased to the new classification level.

We will keep you updated as implementation moves forward. For more information, please visit the [Classification Renewal](#) GC intranet page, which includes links to a new video explaining upcoming changes as well as Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

e. National President ruling on PSAC BC Regional By-Laws

Following the PSAC BC Regional Convention, the REVP Office received a ruling from the National President on the PSAC BC Regional By-laws relating to Section 11, Sub-Section (2). Within his ruling, Chris Aylward provided that the additional eligibility requirements contained in Section 11, Sub-Section (2) (a) and (e) are in contravention of the PSAC Constitution. Chris Aylward further directed that these additional eligibility requirements be removed to respect the rights of PSAC members in good standing:

(a) The Coordinator for women and her alternate(s) shall be ~~a representative from a duly established Regional Women’s Committee and shall be elected by the women delegates at the Convention.~~

(e) The Coordinator for Health and Safety and their alternate(s) shall be ~~a member of the B.C. Regional Health and Safety Committee and shall be elected by the delegates at the Convention.~~

Accordingly, this language has been removed within the updated Regional By-Laws and the updated version has been posted on the regional website.

The National President noted that his ruling required corrective action to address the Women’s Coordinator elections that took place at the Regional Convention. The member who was deemed ineligible to stand for election as a result of the language that has subsequently been struck was asked if they were still interested in the position, which would have the implication

of requiring a new election. The member advised that they would not be challenging the election results. Consequently, the original results for the Women's Coordinator elections will stand.

A Council member asked why the National President had conducted with review of Section 11. Luc provided that Nominations Committee for the PSAC BC Regional Convention had received a query on the eligibility criteria contained in Section 11, Sub-Section (2), which was forwarded to the National President for interpretation. Following the National President's research into the eligibility language, the National President ruled that the language contained in Sub-Section (2) (a) and (e) was in contravention of the PSAC Constitution and further ruled that it be struck.

Kelly noted that language had originally been included to encourage participation in Regional Committees and asked if there was any way that it could be reintroduced in a different way. Jamey advised that since the language was not in conformity with the Constitution, the way to reintroduce it would be through a constitutional change.

f. National Equity Conferences

The 2021 National Equity Conferences will be held virtually November 22-27, 2021 and a call for applications and resolutions has been issued.

The deadline for applications is Friday, July 30, 2021.

The deadline for resolutions is Friday, August 13, 2021.

All PSAC constitutionally recognized bodies will be entitled to forward resolutions to the 2021 PSAC National Equity Conferences. A maximum of five (5) resolutions per body will be accepted.

Only resolutions aimed at strengthening and improving the Union's work on the respective equity issues will be accepted. The Be It Resolved (BIR) or the Action Requested must specifically address the equity issue to be actioned. Equity issues relate to the historical and longstanding structural systems of inequality that negatively impact people from marginalized communities such as Racially Visible Members, Members with Disabilities, LGBT2Q+, and Indigenous Peoples.

Resolutions will be debated and voted on at the Resolutions Sessions for each equity group and subsequently submitted to the appropriate bodies including the next PSAC National Triennial Convention in 2022.

PSAC members in good standing may apply to be a delegate to these conferences. Priority will be given to those union activists who are leaders and activists on human rights issues. The selection of delegates will also take into account representation (Region, Component, language, gender, and young worker designation). Additional details and the registration form are posted on the national website.

Members of the PSAC National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) are automatic delegates to the NEC. This means that the four Regional Council Equity Coordinators will be automatic delegates to the NEC. Even though they are automatic delegates, each NHRC member still needs to submit an application to attend by the established deadline.

All other delegates will be selected by their respective Components and Regions. Selected Delegates will be advised via email at the end of September. Selected observers will be advised by email in early October.

Jill asked if NIPC representatives would be automatic delegates to the NEC. Jamey advised that the REVP Office would check with Gaëlle Félix and report back.

Celine asked why the NEC were being held virtually when they are so far away. Why are they not being held in person? Jamey answered that we still can't be assured by the fall that we'll be able to have regular interprovincial travel and large in-person conferences. Like all other PSAC conferences held during the pandemic, the NBoD decided to hold the NEC virtually.

Tracy commented that she had applied when the NEC callout came out earlier this week. However, an updated callout was sent a couple days later. For members who applied before the updated information was released, do they need to submit a new application? Jamey advised that the REVP Office would inquire and report back.

g. National Triennial Convention – Deadlines for Area Council and DCL Resolutions

Last week the REVP Office sent out details regarding the Area Council requirements and deadlines for submitting resolutions to the 2022 PSAC National Triennial Convention (NTC) and for submitting their elected delegate's name. The NTC is taking place May 28-June 2, 2022.

Area Councils must have held at least four (4) meetings in the year prior to the NTC and those four meetings must have all taken place no less than six months prior to the start of the NTC. For the purposes of the 2022 NTC that means that **by November 27, 2021 all Area Councils must have held at least four meetings in the 2021 calendar year.**

Minutes for all Area Council meetings must also be submitted to the REVP Office within the prescribed timelines set out in the Section 14, Sub-Section (14) (a) of the Constitution (i.e. within 30 days of the meeting date) to retain Delegate entitlement.

As provided by Section 14, sub-Section (13) (b) of the PSAC Constitution,

“Area Council delegates shall have the right to elect at an annual meeting, held within a period of not more than twelve (12) months and not less than six (6) months prior to the commencement of the regular National Triennial Convention of the PSAC, a delegate to the forthcoming PSAC Convention.”

This means that Area Council Delegate Elections must have taken place by **Saturday, November 27, 2021**. An Area Council Delegate election must take place during a 'Special AGM' for the purpose of electing their Delegate. The Delegate Election meeting must be clearly advertised as such (in writing) in advance of the meeting date with appropriate notice given to the Area Council's affiliates. Once the Area Council has elected their Delegate for the PSAC National Triennial Convention, they must provide the REVP Office with the delegate's name and a copy of the minutes that confirms the election results.

With respect to Area Council resolutions for the PSAC National Triennial Convention, the **submission deadline for Area Councils is Friday, September 17 at 9 PM Pacific.** Resolutions MUST be submitted to the attention of Gaëlle Félix, Convention, Conferences & Project officer, by email to FelixG@psac-afpc.com. All submitted resolutions must comply with the established PSAC formatting criteria:

- Be formatted in 14-point Arial font;
- Be formatted in either the traditional or clear language format and include the title, originating body, and language of origin;

- Be limited to 150 words; and
- Not include any special formatting such as boxes or drawings.

Please keep in mind that resolutions cannot be submitted by individual members. They must be voted on and endorsed by the appropriate originating body (i.e. Component, DCL or Area Council) prior to being submitted. Moreover, the "Be it resolved" and "Be it further resolved" (or "The PSAC will" in clear language format) clauses are the most important parts of the resolution as these are the points delegates will be debating. Therefore, it is important that they are drafted in such a way as to stand alone.

The PSAC's "Checklist for a good resolution" as well as examples of a resolution in traditional and clear language format were sent out by in the REVP Office's email to Area Councils last week. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the REVP Office.

Celine asked how equity caucuses are to submit resolutions. Jamey answered that resolutions must come through a PSAC constitutionally recognized structure (e.g. an Area Council or Committee). Before August 13, the RV caucus could bring a potential resolution to a Human Rights Committee so it can be voted upon for submission to the NEC. For the NTC, only Area Councils can submit resolutions (prior to September 17). Again, an equity caucus could bring a potential resolution to an Area Council for debate and a vote on submitting it for the NTC.

Information Item: Outstanding General Committee Concurrence Resolutions from the PSAC BC Regional Convention

Given the September 17 deadline for Area Council resolutions, the REVP Office will be sending all BC Area Councils the outstanding concurrence resolutions that didn't make the floor at the PSAC BC Regional Convention with the instruction that an Area Council may choose (through debate and adoption at an Area Council meeting) to submit any of these resolutions to the PSAC National Triennial Convention as their own and as they see fit prior to the September 17 AC resolution submission deadline.

The Regional Council will look at (and debate) all outstanding concurrence resolutions at the fall 2-day meeting, but this will be after the September 17 Area Council resolutions submission deadline for the NTC.

Apart from Area Councils, the other PSAC structures that can still submit resolutions to the NTC are Components (through their Conventions), National Conferences (i.e. the NECs and National Women's Conference this fall through the resolutions debate that will occur there), and Directly Chartered Locals. The resolutions submission deadline for DCLs is November 28 at 9 PM Pacific.

Regional Coordinator Report

Luc reported that since the Convention considerable focus has been on member education (in addition to the FB strike vote). Three virtual TUB courses have been delivered and preparations are underway for the Area Council and Regional Committee Summit. Staff have also started talking about fall training, which will include Zoom training for members. The Zoom training had been delayed due to the PSAC's migration to MS Teams from Skype, which has consumed IT resources.

In terms of staffing, H&S representative Sharon Barbour has accepted a one-year position in Halifax. So, a term posting is to fill Sharon's position. Another staff rep is also going on parental leave in coming months. A posting will soon be out for this term position as well.

On the reopening of Regional Offices, Luc reported that some work is being done to prepare (including labeling, signage, installation of partitions, etc.) Currently, we're planning for a gradual return to work in September. Luc noted that the offices will not look as they did prior to the pandemic.

Trish asked if there will be specific guidelines for committee/member use of the RO when meetings are able to take place in person. Luc answered that when member access is granted for the ROs there will be clear health and safety procedures in place including occupancy levels for meetings, etc.

Political Communications Officer Report

Patrick reported that much of his work has been supporting ongoing bargaining and mobilization efforts (reported above). Nationally, the communications team has also been busy with mobilization. Work is also underway to roll out an online mobilization tool to gauge member interests, increase engagement and link with our membership database. The tool, Action Network, is similar to Nation Builder and should be ready soon.

As for a federal election, it's still up in the air if one will be called for the fall.

Alan asked if it was true that all national unit bargaining would be suspended if an election is called. Jamey answered that the majority of national units would be affected if an election is called (TB, CFIA, Parks, SSO). Essentially the government goes into caretaker mode and cannot make any big decision, including signing off on any tentative agreement. However, this doesn't mean that mobilization stops.

Patrick also reported on the work related to the support of other unions, particularly in the in the hospitality sector. PSAC BC has committed its support to UNITE Here Local 40 member at the Hilton Metrotown Vancouver (the site often used for Regional Council meetings). The REVP sent a letter to hotel management advising that if they did not rescind its staff layoffs and recall those workers before then end of June, the Region would not be using the hotel before 2023.

The CLC Convention was held virtually last week. While not a lot of time was available for resolutions debate, a number of PSAC members did go to the mic to speak on issues. Notable resolutions that passed included a dues increase for members, the removal of the age restriction on running for CLC executive positions, a resolution combatting Islamophobia and anti-Asian racism resolution, as well as a calling for the federal government to fulfill the TRC 94 Calls to Action.

Elections were held for all four executive positions. The only member who reoffered for their position, PSAC member Larry Rousseau, was re-elected as Executive Vice-President for the CLC. The other successful candidates were:

CLC President	Bea Bruske from UFCW
CLC Secretary Treasurer	Lily Chang from CUPE Local 79
CLC Executive Vice-President	Siobhán Vipond from the Alberta Federation of Labour

Jamey invited Lea and Todd to speak about their experience at the Convention. Both reported that they appreciated the opportunity to attend and echoed Jamey's comments on the limited resolutions debate.

Ratify Email Vote: Open Letter Calling on Hotels to Safeguard Women’s Jobs in BC – SMA for Gender & Economic Justice (Moved: Kelly Megyesi; seconded: Ernest Hooker)

PSAC BC was asked to sign on to the open letter, calling on the hotel industry to ensure that workers who have been laid off due to the pandemic are able to return to their jobs with their original wages and benefits. The letter was initiated by Single Mothers' Alliance and Migrante BC in support of UNITE Here’s Unequal Women campaign. The [online letter](#) calls on the hotel industry to stop firing women and protect their jobs.

An email vote was sent out to the Regional Council on May 19, 2021 with a motion to sign on to the open letter and the majority of votes received was in favour.

Moved: Kelly Megyesi; seconded: Ernest Hooker
(First and second to reply to the email vote)

The email vote was then ratified by the Regional Council.

PSAC BC Standing Committee Appointments

The 2021-2023 PSAC BC Standing Committee appointments were sent out by email on June 1 along with the established terms of reference for each Committee. A first order of business for each Committee is to elect their Committee chair.

There is still some space on a few of the Committees for additional members if there are Council members who like to take on another appointment. Interested Regional Council members are asked to email Kristin (SchnidK@psac-afpc.com) with their request for consideration by the REVP.

Kelly asked which Committees still have space for additional members. Kristin advised that the following Committees could still accommodate additional members subject to ensuring a balance of gender, equity, and Components: By-Laws, Convention, DASH, and International Solidarity.

Creation of an ad hoc committee on the future of union engagement

Jamey advised that this agenda item is an action item from May 10 Regional Council meeting wherein the minutes it read,

“Todd commented that he doesn’t anticipate that members will be going back to same workplace in the same way as they did prior to the pandemic. This reality will impact how the PSAC will organize and engage members; there will be challenges as we move forward. Todd then suggested that a new Regional Council committee be struck to look at the different impacts, how to mitigate them and how the Regional Council can make member connections going forward. Todd suggested that the Committee be called the ‘Future of union engagement’ committee. Several Council members agreed, noting the additional communication and health and safety issues that relate to WFH arrangements. Jamey noted that there would be nothing preventing the creation of this ad hoc committee. After further discussion ensued, Jamey and Todd agreed to work on a motion for the ad hoc Committee that could be voted upon at the next meeting.”

Motion: BC Regional Council will strike an ad hoc committee called the *Future of Union Engagement Committee*, which will be tasked with investigating the different impacts and challenges of various new member work arrangements (e.g. WFH)

on member engagement, looking at mitigation strategies, and presenting suggestions for ways the Regional Council can make member connections going forward.

Moved: Todd Smith; seconded: Trish Martin

Carried unanimously

The REVP Office will send out an email to solicit Council members' interest in serving on the new ad hoc committee.

Indian Residential Schools Survivors Society – PSAC BC Contribution

The REVP Office received requests from Regional Council members to commit a donation to the Indian Residential Schools Survivors Society (IRSSS) in response to the horrific discovery of a mass burial with the remains of 215 children at the former Kamloops residential school.

To support this request, the REVP Office looked into what donations and/or financials supports the PSAC had provided or would be providing to the IRSSS nationally and was advised that the PSAC's National Indigenous Peoples Circle has committed a \$1500 donation to the IRSSS. Currently, there are further discussions on a potential donation through the Social Justice Fund as well.

Motion: BC Regional Council will commit a \$1,000 donation to the Indian Residential Schools Survivors Society using the Regional Council net asset in recognition of the impact of the devastating discovery at the former Kamloops residential school on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation territory.

Moved: Karen Sutton; seconded: Jeanne Olineck

Several Council members voiced their thanks to the mover and seconder for the motion as well as their support for it. Several noted that other PSAC structures were considering similar donations.

André suggested that a further call be issued by PSAC BC, encouraging all individual members (as well as Locals/Branches, etc.) to commit a donation to the IRSSS or a similar Indigenous-led charities and non-profit organizations providing supports to Indigenous Peoples. Jill added that there are several different Indigenous organizations and communities that could use support at this time; a list of organizations had been generated for an employer-led initiative that could be used for this call.

After some further discussion, it was agreed that the REVP Office will work with André and Jill to put out a call for member donations to Indigenous-led charities and non-profit organizations providing supports to Indigenous communities.

The motion for the IRSSS donation then carried unanimously.

Regional Donation to Support Faye Afzaal

The tragedy that took place in London, Ontario earlier this month has shaken us all. This heinous act has decimated a family and left a child orphaned. Faye Afzaal, the nine-year old sole survivor of the domestic terror attack in London should not be mourning the loss of his parents, grandmother and sister. This horrific and shocking killing of a family is an immeasurable loss for not only the Muslim and London communities, but for all people in Canada. It is a stark reminder of how much we still need to fight Islamophobia in Canada.

Several PSAC Components have committed funds to support Fayeze and have challenges others to the same.

We have learned through a close family friend of the Afzaal family that Faez has an uncle who will be adopting him and Fayeze is surrounded by extended family and friends and many community members. The London Muslim Mosque is establishing a Trust Fund on behalf of the family for Fayeze for his future college/university and to help other children who want education.

Fayeze's mother, Madiha was working on finishing her PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering and was an advocate for education for women. Western University where Madiha attended is also going to be looking at what they can do to honour Madiha and her family with donations raised and are considering a scholarship in Madiha's name.

Donations can be contributed to (1) the London Muslim Mosque, (2) Islamic Relief, and (3) the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM).

A motion was made for the BC Regional Council to commit to a \$1000 donation from the net asset to support Fayeze Afzaal.

Moved: Alan Otrosina; seconded: Susie Blyth

Carried unanimously

Kelly Megyesi asked for clarification on why this donation and the previous donation to the IRSSS were made using the net asset. Jamey answered that the DASH Committee has limited funds for annual donations and memberships. By taking these donations from the net asset, they will not count toward the 2021 \$5000 budget and will not inhibit the DASH Committee in making recommendations on the 2021 sustaining and new donations and membership renewals.

BCFED Standing Committee Appointments

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was deferred to a future meeting that will be scheduled in July 2021.

The REVP Office will also inquire if the BCFED will be accommodating virtual attendance for meetings or just in-person attendance.

2021 PSAC BC Regional Committees and Area Councils Summit – July 15

We have scheduled a one-day virtual summit for Area Council and Regional Committee representatives along with the BC Regional Council on Thursday, July 15 from 9 AM to 3 PM.

The aim of the session is to:

- provide a refresher on Area Council and Regional Committee roles and responsibilities regarding finance and governance
- discuss how the BC Regional Council, Area Councils and Regional Committees can best work together (with assistance from PSAC staff) to support the members in their constituency
- prepare for the 2023 National Triennial Convention
- collaborate on the future of membership engagement with pandemic restrictions expected to lift in later this year

Each Area Council and Regional Committee is required to submit the names of the two Executive Members (Chair/President, Vice-Chair/President, Secretary, Treasurer) who will attend the Summit. Participant names are to be emailed to Kristin (SchnidK@psac-afpc.com) by this **Thursday, June 24**.

Regional Council members who have not yet RSVPed are asked to do so before this Thursday.

DASH Committee Report

a. Donation Request – Cops for Cancer 2021 Ride

The DASH Committee received a donation request via the REVP-BC Office from USJE Local President Laura Wildly. Laura Wildly advised that PSAC member [Shannon Tou will be participating in the Cops for Cancer ride](#) in 2021. The Cops for Cancer is a fundraising event [organized by the Canadian Cancer Society](#).

DASH Committee recommendation: \$100 donation

A motion was made to approve the DASH Committee's recommendation for a \$100 donation.

Moved: Trish Martin; seconded: Karen Sutton

Carried

b. Donation Request – Indspire

The DASH Committee received a donation request for the Regional Council to provide a donation to [Indspire](#).

Indspire is an Indigenous national charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for the long-term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada. Indspire serves First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students in remote communities, rural areas and urban centres across Canada. With the support of their funding partners, Indspire disburses financial awards, delivers programs, and shares resources with the goal of increasing graduation rates for Indigenous students.

The Regional Council has supported this charity annually since 2018.

DASH Committee recommendation: \$250 donation

A motion was made to approve the DASH Committee's recommendation for a \$250 donation.

Moved: Trish Martin; seconded: Karen Sutton

Carried

c. Donation Request – Victoria Women's Transition House

The DASH Committee received a donation request for the Regional Council to provide a donation to the [Victoria Women's Transition House](#).

Since its inception in 1974, the Victoria Women's Transition House has grown from a small collective running a drop-in centre to an organization with five facilities, over 70 staff and close to 70 volunteers. At Victoria Women's Transition House, they have teams of staff to help support women and children fleeing intimate partner violence and abuse, to support education and advocacy programs and to help run our organization. These include counsellors, victim service workers, prevention educators, fundraising, communications, volunteer and human resources professionals, finance and administrative support. In addition to their facilities and

shelter, the organization provides a number of programs and services, including a 24-hour crisis line, children and youth services, counselling and support, and community education.

The Regional Council has provided annual donations to this charity since 2018, providing \$200 annually.

DASH Committee recommendation: \$200 donation

A motion was made to approve the DASH Committee's recommendation for a \$200 donation.

Moved: Trish Martin; seconded: Bert Farwell

Carried

Damir asked if the Victoria Women's Transition House was inclusive for Trans Women+. The DASH Committee chair couldn't confirm definitively, but it was noted that the organization does participate in the Victoria Pride celebrations. The REVP Office will be looking into the matter and report back to the Regional Council.

d. Donation Request – Tears to Hope Virtual Relay, PSAC BC Team

The DASH Committee received a donation request for the Regional Council to provide a \$300 donation to the PSAC BC Team for the Tears to Hope Virtual Relay.

The third annual [Tears to Hope Relay and Virtual 10K Run](#) is taking place on June 26 and 27, 2021, which honours missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls+. Indigenous PSAC BC members have issued a call to action to support of the relay and organized a team of participants. Funds raised in the relay go to the [Tears to Hope Society](#) and assist them in meeting their mission of providing a healthy and safe community for Indigenous women and girls+, through inclusive activities that encourage health and wellness of the body and mind because 'She is Somebody.' This message is important and necessary because disgraceful parts of Canada's history contributes to the need. Additional information is posted on the [PSAC BC regional website](#).

DASH Committee recommendation: \$300 donation

A motion was made to approve the DASH Committee's recommendation for a \$300 donation.

Moved: Trish Martin; seconded: Karen Sutton

Carried

Update on Regional Awards Night

Jamey advised that the event will be moved to Q4 of 2021 to ensure its success. The REVP Office will continue to work with the existing working group on plans and will provide further updates to the Regional Council as they are available.

Update on Activist Summit

Jamey advised that the previous Regional Council voted to provide up to \$60,000 to "host a three-day virtual PSAC BC education event in late 2021," which has been dubbed the *Activist Summit*. We have canvassed RO staff for their availability and we are tentatively looking at December 2-4, 2021. Further updates will be provided to the Regional Council as they are available.

Other Business

a. VDLC's call to endorse mandatory training in the TRC Calls to Action and UNDRIP for all K-12 school staff in BC

The VDLC sent out a call by email yesterday for individuals and organizations to sign the online petition, calling for mandatory training in the TRC Calls to Action and [UNDRIP](#) for all K-12 school staff in BC.

This campaign is being spearheaded by the Anti-Oppression Educators Collective (AOEC), a professional specialist association of the BCTF. Its goal is for the Ministry of Education to implement two days of mandatory in-service training to read these two important documents in concert with Call to Action # 57.

From the [AOEC online petition](#):

“To create change in the education system, we must start by creating change in those tasked with overseeing the education of our youth; school staff. We call on our government to enact the promises they made in ways that are not performative. It is the duty and obligation of educators to intervene when children and youth are in danger or harmed. Because we cannot travel to the past, we must intervene for the future, therefore, we call on the Ministry of Education to mandate two days of in-service training for all K-12 school district staff in the 2021-2022 school year to carry out the following work:

- Read the TRC and UNDRIP in their entirety-Read
- Debrief in collective groups-Learn
- Establish goals and action plans to implement all calls to action-Reckon

By signing this petition, you join the call to demand the Ministry of Education mandate two days of in-service training in the 2021-2022 school year for all K-12 school district staff in public and independent school systems. All must Read, Learn and Reckon.”

A motion was made to have the PSAC BC Region sign on to the petition.

Moved: Andre Bessette; seconded: Alan Otrosina

Carried unanimously

André reminded the Council that the TRC Call to Action #57 calls for the education of all public servants on the history of Indigenous Peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, UNDRIP, Treaties and Indigenous rights, Indigenous law, and Indigenous-Crown relations. As we move in the latest round of bargaining, the skills-based and mandatory training should be tabled as a demand to ensure it is enshrined in the collective agreement.

Round Table

Jill reporting on a recent Prince Rupert action she took part in earlier this month. A community picket, [led by AROC and Block the Boat](#), was held at the Port of Prince Rupert in solidarity with Palestine and workers globally. The picket blocked the Israeli Zim Volans vessel from unloading for two-days, which was an effort to put economic and political pressure on the government of Israel to end their violence against Palestine.

Linda reminder the Regional Council that the next BRUSH Committee meeting is taking place on July 7 at 5:30 PM.

Celine advised that the Racially Visible caucus recently set up their own [caucus page on the regional website](#) with the help of Patrick and Monica Urrutia. The page will be used to post links, articles and anything of interest to the caucus. Members are invited to check it out.

André advised that he has been working with Patty Ducharme and Deanna Kimball to organize an Indigenous Peoples caucus meeting that will take place before the fall Regional Council meeting. As details are confirmed, an information will be sent out.

André also reminded the Council of its commitment to take part in a KAIROS blanket exercise when it can be done safely in person. While there isn't a projected date for this activity yet, André wanted to ensure that the commitment stays on the radar.

Lastly, André asked if there is a possibility of creating an online calendar of PSAC events that includes both national and regional events to assist with scheduling meetings. Jamey committing to raising the request with the AEC to see if there's a way to better integrate scheduling information in a single location for members.

Next Meeting Dates

Jamey noted that the REVP Office would schedule a July Regional Council meeting for the purpose of electing BCFED Standing Committee representatives. The REVP Office will send out a doodle poll to gauge availability and then send confirmation of the date selected.

There will likely be one further evening Zoom call prior to the fall two-day meeting that will take place in August or September. Details and a Doodle poll will be sent out the Regional Council after the July call.

The fall two-day meeting will be either October 25-26 or November 2-3. We are waiting on confirmation of some national dates before setting the meeting date to avoid a potential conflict. Once confirmed, Regional Council members will receive an email calendar appointment to hold the date.

In-Camera discussion

Staff and observers departed meeting at this time to allow for the in-camera discussion of the Regional Council.

Meeting Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.
Moved: Shane Polak; seconded: Trish Martin
Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Minutes recorded by Kristin Schnider
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