

Vancouver Regional Women's Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Held Via Zoom Teleconference

Present:

Zita Lambert (co-chair) UTE 20007, Priscilla Lam (co-chair) UTE 20050, Corinne Clelland (Treasurer) CEIU 20937/UNE 20008, Lea Serron (Communications Officer) UTE 20029, Reena Birk (Secretary) CIU 20040, Ann-Marie Friesen (UHEW 20729), Nielene Chand (UTE 20007), Jennifer Horsley (UPCE 20095), Ruby Langan UNE 20150, Maria Marchiafava CEIU 20938

Guests:

Monica Urrutia, PSAC BC Rep/ Staff Member,
Karen Sutton, PSAC BC Regional Women's Co-Ordinator CIU 20045,
Bonnie Robichaud, PSAC Life Member
Kahla Lichti, VIRWC Vice-Chair,
Kristina MacLean, VIRWC Chair

Regrets:

Angie Esau CIU 20040, Linda Harding GSU 20008, Monique Bakker UHEW 20147

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1. **Call To Order:** Zita acknowledged unceded territory and called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.
 2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion/Seconded – Nielene / Corinne, adopted
 3. **Guest Speaker: Bonnie Robichaud** - a lifetime PSAC member who spearheaded radical new legal protections against workplace harassment and discrimination in Canada thirty-five years ago, work which is so relevant even now. She has recently released a memoir, "It Should Be Easy to Fix".

Bonnie shared her experiences on sexual harassment and gender discrimination in the workplace.

4. **Adoption of Previous minutes from May 18, 2022**
 - Amendments to previous minutes, adding movers and seconders
 - Clarification Request for Samina for funding, but member did not attendMotion / Seconded – Lea / Jennifer, adopted

5. **Committee Business**

Discussion on Sister Check-In Initiative –

Zita discussed updates: Patrick created new cards design, Zita shared what the new cards look like. Wording of what will be printed inside the card. Not including postage cost is \$745, plus delivery and taxes. Around \$1000 in expenses.

Lea – Lea previously wrote proposal letter for Jamey. Posted in whatsapp group but she forgot to give to Monica to send to Jamey. Discussed partnering up with other Women’s committee. Should we amend proposal to include partnering up with other committees?

Zita – It may be good to reduce cost

Monica – Don’t know if it would reduce the cost as the wording would need to change.

Zita – Also delivery needs to be planned for all committee areas

Karen – 2 of the committees are struggling so it might be a great way to get them more involved. Change the wording to say “Your Regional Women’s Committee”, instead of a specific region.

The amount for cost will go up, but each of the regional women’s committee have membership engagement line item.

Zita – Get cards ordered in September so that we can get them out by October, before the Christmas season. Maybe we can get more funding from Jamey’s REVP Office?

Lea – It gives each committee an opportunity to personalize and mention what each committee is working on

Zita – Will go to the other chairs to find out how many cards they would need and go from there.

Lea – Revise the letter to be a sister check-in regional initiative and share the letter to the whatsapp working group for the co-chairs regional working group. So that the other regions can decide if they want to participate or not.

Monica – Each women’s committee does have a line item for membership engagement and they all have healthy budgets, so the PSAC REVP Office may question why the committees need additional funding. Let each women’s committee know what the estimated costs would be so they can calculate their own expenses.

Lea – If we don’t need funding from PSAC REVP Office, then we don’t need to prepare a proposal for the REVP Office, but Lea can still prepare something to share to the Regional Working group whatsapp

Lea Motion: Motion to spend upto \$1100 for the printing of Cards and postage to send out the engagement cards for the Sister Check-in Initiative

Priscilla Seconded – Adopted

Monica – To inform PSAC REVP Office that the RWC has funding in reserves that was not allocated in the budget to be used for the sister check-in initiative

Co-Chairs report – update from Area Council / Regional Committee Summit

Priscilla: July 7 and 8, 2022: Summit was an information/training session on how area councils/committees are run, also was a good opportunity for people to network, work together, and share ideas with other individuals / committees.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Corinne Clelland: Opening balance \$4400.97, 2 cheques for \$100 each for reimbursement for feminine hygiene project, waiting for receipt from Lea for reimbursement, 1 cheque for Child care coalition for \$75, Balance \$4225.97, plus interest \$4227.53

Motion / Seconded – Corinne / Nielene, Adopted

7. New Business – Regional Women’s Conference update: Information should be coming soon.

Karen: November 25, 26, 27 at the Sheraton in Richmond. Call out should be coming soon.

8. Roundtable

Priscilla – For next year 2023, for International Women’s Day in March, invite Bonnie again as a guest speaker for something like a dinner talk? Budget for her flight and accommodation. Also purchase more of her books for a draw, possibly for the sister check-in initiative.

Karen – maybe something to discuss with Jamey and the PSAC Regional office as the cost may be high. If we are thinking of a regional thing, there may be additional costs for travel and if its regional it may be more like a conference, not a dinner. Possible to invite to the next Regional Women’s Conference if she is not available to attend the one coming up.

Lea – Women’s History Month is October, is there anything else we want to do to honor all the sisters that came before us. We can do a draw where women in our area can potentially win a Bonnie’s book. If we get cards out in Oct, we can add a note in the card about being entered into the draw.

Lea – Motion to purchase 3 of Bonnie Robichaud’s book as a prize for attending today’s meeting. Seconded by Corinne. Motion adopted.

Lea – anyone registered for the sister check in will be entered into the draw at the end of October, beginning of November for each week of October

Lea – Motion to purchase an additional 10 of Bonnie’s book in honor of Women’s History month to be used as prizes for draws. Seconded by Priscilla. Motion Adopted.

Karen – Thanks for allowing sisters from BC region to attend to hear from guest speaker Bonnie. Enjoyed meeting some of the Women committee executives at the Summit. October is women’s History Month. Sisters in Spirit October 4, take a moment to honor those missing and murdered indigenous women.

Zita – Think about things to do to commemorate Dec 6, 2022. Do we want to start in person meetings?

Jennifer – Vancouver District Area Council planning next meeting Hybrid. REVP has acquired an OWL that allows people to ZOOM while there is an in-person meeting. It has been used for some meetings and has worked well.

Monica – If we want Hybrid and still offer food for those in person, we need to offer food individually packed, capacity limit in board room and kitchen. Those who eat, come earlier and have meeting start after? Need planning for invitations.

Karen – Is the Oct the last meeting?

Zita– No we will hold another meeting in Dec for a special vote to choose Delegate for PSAC BC Triennial.

Zita – Jennifer to provide feed back to co-chairs on how their hybrid meeting went and then we can decide how to move forward with future meetings. We can discuss in Whatsapp on how everyone feels about hybrid after.

9. Next meeting date: October 12, 2022

Draw for Bonnie Robichauds' Book 3 Winners: Zita Lambert, Pricilla Lam, Maria Marchiafava, (Jennifer Horsley as backup if any of the 3 does not want book)

This meeting adjourned 8:08pm