

Vancouver Island Regional Women's Committee

August 29, 2023
Hybrid Meeting

Attendees

Kahla Lichti – Chair, UNDE 21016
Kristina MacLean – Co-Chair, UNDE 21008
Monica Racz – Treasurer, UNDE 21008
Bronwyn Heney – Secretary, UNDE 21008
Mackenzie Kathol – UCTE 20220
Karolyn Jones – UNE
Sandeep Parhar – CEIU 20947
Ramya GN Reddy – UTE
Martha Johnston – PSAC facilitator

Meeting called to order 1800 by Kahla Lichti
Kristina MacLean presented the Land Acknowledgment and recitation of Call to Action #06
Introductions were made.

Agenda

- Monica Racz motions to approve agenda. Kristina MacLean seconds. No opposition.

Minutes

- Kristina MacLean motions to approve June 23, 2023. Monica Racz seconds. No opposition.

Treasurer's Report

- Monica Racz reported on the current financial standing of the Committee.
- Monica Racz report will be attached to the minutes.
- Monica Racz moves to accept the treasurer's report. Kristina MacLean seconds. No opposition.

Sub Committee Reports

- Newsletter – not much to report.
- Swag Committee – some correspondence for swag, the subcommittee discussed how to distribute swag and what form the swag should take (i.e., sticker for BC women's Committee, Rosie the Riveter themed maybe)
- Anti-Domestic Violence Committee – this subcommittee discussed how unions can better support women experiencing violence at work, there is a workshop coming up in

November that is currently full, but attendees will come out able to share what they learned. Get in touch to sign up for an upcoming workshop or to get on the sub committee.

- Pride parade organizers - agreed that the Pride Parade was fun and were happy that our swag and treats wagons were emptied.

Members Report Back on Other Union Meetings

- Monica Racz and Kahla Lichti attended the Victoria Area Council meeting and reported that they are looking for volunteers for the Sannich Fair and for Committees to pass up resolutions.
- Monica Racz and Kahla Lichti attended the Victoria District Labour Council general meeting as guests. It would be great to get more PSAC locals attending this meeting which is all the unions in Victoria meeting to discuss greater labour movement, get in touch to find out how to go represent your local there or attend as a guest.
- Monica Racz and Kahla Lichti attended the Reginal and Alternate Coordinators meeting and reported that they talked about the “Sister Check-in”, doing a provincial mentorship program, and maybe doing “Kitchen Table Talks” in the future.
- Bronwyn Heney and Kahla Lichti attended the Human Rights Committee meeting and reported that they are planning to attend the “Songhees Nation South Island Powwow” on September 30th.
- Kahla Lichti and Bronwyn Heney attended the Young Workers Committee and reported that the group is growing, eager to engage young workers, and has recently elected a new Secretary.

What's Next?

- February 13 2023 tuesday AGM, book your calendars!
- Ideally spend our budget before December.
- December 6th Vigil, Kristina MacLean is taking point on this event, planning meeting Sept 27.
- Take Back the Night- Mackenzie would look into this.
- Next Committee meeting in November 15 2023 Wednesday at 6pm
- Appoint a North Island Rep.
- Remind employers to provide menstrual products at work as of December 15 and workplace remind health and safety committee that this is federal mandate them.<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2023/05/canada-labour-code-to-ensure-access-to-menstrual-products-at-work-starting-december-15.html>

Round Table

- Mackenzie Kathol went to the Coast Guard Triennial Convention. Mackenzie Kathol was interested in celebrating women's achievements.
- Ramya GN Reddy was interested in supporting workers experiencing domestic violence subcommittee.
- Sandeep Parha was interested in “Kitchen Table Talks.”
- Kristina MacLean was interested in food security and possibly volunteering together.

- Kahla Lichti shared she is working at diversity and inclusion office and there is programming developed on the subject that anyone can take in to their workplaces, check out: https://wiki.gccollab.ca/Diversity_and_Inclusion_Office
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/privy-council/corporate/clerk/call-to-action-anti-racism-equity-inclusion-federal-public-service.html> particularly the “Cascade,” and “lift as you lead.” Kahla Lichti announced she was elected as Human Rights rep in BC for UNDE

Monica Racz motions to adjourn. Chantel seconds. No opposition. Meeting adjourns 1925.

Next Committee meeting will be held September 28th, and the following meetings will be October 26th and November 15th