

DRAFT

## **Vancouver and District Area Council Annual General Meeting February 7, 2024**

In Person and via Zoom

### **In Attendance:**

In Person: Jamey Mills REVP-BC, Nielene Chand PSAC Regional Rep, Jen Horsley UPCE 20095, Damir Moric CEIU 20937, Matthew Di Nicolo CEIU 20937, Priscilla Lam UTE 20050

Virtually: Jay McKinnon AGR 20060, Sylvie Martin CEIU 20951, Klara Wyse UNE 20378, Carol Wagner UCTE 20088, Edward He CEIU 20951, Theresa Kelley AGR 20060, Denzil John Asche UTE 20027,

### **Regrets:**

Brian Georgievski (CEIU 20937)

**Meeting Called to Order at 6:08 PM**

### **Agenda:**

1. Land Acknowledgement conducted by Jen Horsley
2. Prior Minutes-AGM 27Feb2023 (attached)-amendment needed Damir moved and Denzil seconded
3. Agenda amended to include ratification of e-vote for December 2023 donation of \$450 to Unite Here 40. Amended agenda motioned by Damir, Seconded by Matthew
4. Ratification of e-vote from January 2024 regarding Lunar New Year donation of \$100
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report  
Financials 2023 (to be attached in reminder email)  
Budget 2024 (to be attached in reminder email)
7. Affiliate Reports (3 Minutes) – NOTE: please send written affiliate reports to Secretary, Denzil John Asche, at [murduck@gmail.com](mailto:murduck@gmail.com) either beforehand or within two weeks after the meeting to be included in the official minutes.

8. Elections  
Vice-President (two-year term)  
Treasurer (two-year term)
9. Standing Updates (Metro Vancouver Alliance; Phoenix)
10. PSAC Education
11. Annual plan
12. Round Table
13. Oath of Office
14. Next Meeting dates (set for the year)

Jennifer opened the meeting with the acknowledgement of the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-W'aututh and asked the members in attendance to reflect on the territory they were calling in from.

Adoption of the Agenda (M/S/C) Damir/Matt

### **Ratification of Previous Minutes**

Previous AGM Minutes – February 22, 2022 (M/S/C) Damir/Denzil

### **Ratification of e-vote from December 2023 regarding Lunar New Year**

### **President's Report:** (M/S/C) Damir/Matt

#### **Vancouver and District Area Council – President's Report 2023**

Hello Area Council!

2023 has been an eventful year for our union and for this Area Council. We saw the largest public sector strike in Canada, with members from coast to coast on the picket lines standing up for the rights of our members. We also saw a new fiasco from the employer in the form of the change of insurance providers to Canada Life that has hurt our members in new ways. And continuing into the eighth year, the Phoenix pay system is still not resolved.

For this Area Council, we have held another successful membership engagement event in our Annual Barbecue and continued to deepen our relationships in the community with our continuing participation with the Metro Vancouver Alliance and the VDLC/NWDLC Labour Day Picnic. I am happy that we saw new members and continuing members participating in the barbecue, bringing their families and donations

for the Vancouver Regional Women's Committee campaign for lower mainland women's shelters. I want to thank the Mainland Human Rights Committee for their partnership in making the barbecue a success. The Metro Vancouver Alliance is continuing in its cycle to renew and re-emerge as a non-partisan political influence in our city, and I am happy that we are continuing our relationship and support, including myself being elected as a Labour Representative on the MVA Board. We have hosted two of their Strategy Team meetings, which were attended by Priscilla and myself and we are seeing progress towards the launch of the housing campaign. I also want to thank the members of the Area Council for putting forward several progressive Resolutions to the National Triennial Convention in May of 2024, which hopefully will hit the floor to be debated by the delegates. As your delegate, I will be prepared to speak to these resolutions.

As we go forward into 2024, I have started the year by meeting with MP Jenny Kwan, at her request, to speak about the upcoming Anti-Scab legislation, and I hope that we can fulfill the NDP request that we lobby to our MPs on this important legislation, as it still faces many hurdles to passing and being implemented. While it is not perfect legislation and doesn't include updates to the PSLRA, it is a start.

I would like to see us have more in-person interactions this year, I would love to see more members attending meetings here in the office so that we can build relationships amongst each other, our locals and our committees. At the Area Council and Committees summit held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the committees and Area Councils talked about partnering and holding events together so that we can reach more members and find out what members want and need from us and increase participation. I am hoping that we will be able to hold a barbecue again this year and that we will look at participating in community events such as Car Free Days, Labour Day, Hats Off Day or any other community events that we as an Area Council are interested in and can staff a booth at. But to do this, we do need to draw in more member participation, so any ideas you have to achieve this will be welcomed.

At our last meeting we also talked about making a commitment to meaningful land acknowledgements and Reconciliation. I am hoping that everyone will come with ideas on how we can achieve this.

We should also keep in mind that there will be a Provincial Election in the fall, and as the political arm of our union, we should look to participate in and support progressive candidates in this election, whether this is individuals helping on campaigns, having calling parties to contact our own members or even going out and speaking to our members on their doorsteps.

I hope I can count on the members of this council to step up and help out with all of these goals this year and that we can all think about someone we can ask to come out to a meeting or event to build our Area Council.

In Solidarity,

Jennifer Horsley, Vancouver and District Area Council President

### **Treasurer's Report:** (M/S/C) Damir/Matt

Jen presented the financials on behalf of Aaron. She thanked Tracy Arrowsmith and Warren Wulff for their work auditing the Financial Statements.

### **ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

#### **Area Council: Vancouver & District**

**For the Period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**

Bank balance as of January 1, 2023 \$ 2,825.23

#### **REVENUE**

National allocation \$ 2,500.00

Metro Vancouver Coordinator contribution to annual bbq \$ 482.78

Dues \$ 111.00

Interest \$ 112.22

**Total Revenue \$ 3,206.00**

#### **EXPENSES**

Political Action \$ -

General membership meetings / member engagement \$ 863.56  
(e.g. annual bbq, outreach such as diversity days, labour day)

Conventions, Conferences & Education \$ -

Office expenses \$ -

Donations \$ -

Metro Vancouver Alliance - Dues (ongoing) \$ 500.00

Other \$ -

**Total Expenses \$ 1,363.56**

#### **TOTAL PROFIT (LOSS) \$ 4,667.67**

Bank Balance, as of December 31, 2023 \$ 4,667.67

Note: \$70 from MVA strategy session in Nov still to be reimbursed.

### **Budget Request 2024:** (M/S/C) Damir/Matt

There was a suggestion from the REVP's office to reduce donations from \$500 to \$300 and put the \$200 into general membership meetings and member engagement, which was accepted.

## **ANNUAL BUDGET REQUEST**

**Area Council: Vancouver & District**

**For the Period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**

### **EXPENSES**

Political Action \$ 2,700.00

General membership meetings / member engagement \$ 1,570.00

(e.g. annual bbq, outreach such as diversity days, labour day)

Conventions, Conferences & Education \$ 1,000.00

Office expenses \$ 25.00

Donations \$ 500.00

Metro Vancouver Alliance - Dues (ongoing) \$ 500.00

Other \$ -

**Total Expenses \$ 6,295.00**

### **TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES \$ 6,295.00**

Bank Balance, as of December 31, 2023 \$ 4,667.67

### **TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2024 \$ 1,627.33**

\*Please indicate if donations are ongoing or new

\*\*Please attach a description of projects with a breakdown of costs. There may be other revenue sources (e.g. Political Action, Social Justice, etc.) to assist.

## **Affiliate Reports:**

President's report for local 20951:

Commissionnaires: the commissionnaires has been removed in October 2023, due to lack of fund, the are available only at the Passport Service Canada Office. Management has been advised that there were concerns from staff pertaining to security, order, helping with the flow, I was told it will be reassess, but so far no change.

Staff: we add an addition of two new staff and one was transferred from another office. It did help, but those staff were not fully trained, it was difficult for them to finish their training for operational purposes. As of now everyone is fully trained.

Training: it seem that when a new program is advertised, that the training available is always provided late, so we have to manage the office while doing the training, which could put us at working with limited staff.

Renovation: at the beginning of January 2024, the building has been under renovation after hours and weekend. On January 12th one of my co-worker was smelling something. On January 22, 2024, the carpet, baseboard were removed and the wall has been sanded, there

was a strong smell and dust, staff started having nose bleed, feeling dizzy, having headache, coughing, running nose, watery eyes and sore throat, management was advise at 8:30am. The staff that had a nose bleed went home, everyone else remained. Two small purifiers were brought by management around 11:30am, but the smell still remained. The office was finally closed around 2pm. I met management at 3:30pm explaining to them that it took a long time for the office to close, it seems that the emergency preparedness does not allow a specific time to action a closure, unlike if we have a temperature issue. I asked if emergency responders will be provided no reply. It seem management were trying their best to close the office, but the director had concerned. I was told some commercial fan will be installed that night. The property management was not helpful during that time. Ticket was put in. On Tuesday management went to the office early morning and it was decided to open the office. When staff returned same issues as Monday, the fans and purifiers did not prevent the smell, it was still there. Again management was advised and ticket was put in. Staff remained at the office even though some had headache, felt dizzy, running nose, coughing, sore throat and watery eyes. The office remained opened until Wednesday noon, it was decided to close it down. Air quality inspector came on Wednesday Jan 24, 2024. The office remained close until January 30th ,2024. The second floor remained opened to the public and Service Canada set up a desk so we could help clients by booking appointments and provided general information, no access to computers. Staff still had to go to the 3rd floor to do data entry, and the situation remained. As of January 31st, 2024, it seems the smell and dust were better, fans and purifiers were still there. The fans did produce some noise and staff were complaining that client do not hear their numbers and they have to speak louder to be understood. The air quality came back inconclusive. Union was advised and got feedback from the Health and Safety rep. WCB claim were put. I did put a prevention claim with WCB, but so far I have been unable to speak to my representative. My co-worker told me, that she had better luck and unfortunately we have to go with Labour Program Canada, I called them but was told that a complaint as to be put when there is an issue not afterwards.

That's it for now.

*The following reports were given, but no written documents were received:*

Jennifer Horsley's report from UPCE 20095

Damir Moric's report from CEIU 20937

Matthew Di Nicolo's report from CEIU 20937

## **Elections**

The floor was turned over to Jamey to run the elections. Jamey explained the election process. The area council had previously changed their election cycle. Jamey wanted to thank all previous executive members, particularly thank Aaron Chan for his long

service as Treasurer. After the floor was returned to Jen who also thanked Aaron for his work, as well as Damir and Edward.

**Treasurer**

Damir – Jennifer/Edward

Acclaimed

**First Vice-President**

Edward He – Damir/Priscilla

Acclaimed

**Standing Reports:**

**Metro Vancouver Alliance - Jennifer**

- Jennifer is a labour representative and had been attending with Priscilla. Feb 25 there will be a Strategy Housing Research Team Analysis Meeting. They will be looking at co-op housing, and are working through February and March. One issue is tying rental rates to tenants rather than units. In February or March there will be foundations community training. There will be another strategy team meeting. Jen will ask for a motion to fund refreshments of \$30-\$40. There will be a Delegates Assembly in April. There will be National Training in Denver in July. There will be a two day Affiliate Holding conference May 12 - 13, on reimagining faith property for housing rather than parking. Margaret Lockhart is interested in speaking to people. If you want to do get in touch with her, contact Jen or Priscilla.

**Phoenix - Jamey**

- There is still over 450,000 pay action requests. It does not make a difference how many compensation advisors are hired. Attrition is bad and it takes 2-3 years to train them. The number of requests are exceeding the numbers completed each month. The biggest issues are still transfers and leave credits which are not seen as being a priority by the employer. Another big issue is people ending their employment. Some people are still entitled to severance pay. Another issue is recover of overpayments, and they are still working on 2016 to 2018. It is important that the employer justify these. The union is still fighting the taxability of damage payments. They are currently saying it will be eight to ten years to correct matters. This week will be the eighth anniversary of the debacle. There will be mobilisation for lobbying. There are current memoranda being updated on the website with useful information.

<https://psacunion.ca/psac-files-policy-grievances-over-phoenix>

- **PSAC Education - Nielene**

- Courses for February 22 to 25 are almost full. Courses for March 9 and 10 in person. The office will be reaching out to locals to see what's needed for future education. Some courses coming will be advanced courses for Local Officers Training, Duty to Accommodate, and for Stewards. There will be an Introduction to Grievance Handling. Talking Union Basics is offered every period, spring, fall, winter.

### **Plan - Jennifer**

- Barbecue. South Memorial Park is a good location. Jennifer will start looking at dates.
- Labour Day. The VDLC are looking at having it at Edmond's Park again. They want to include a bike valet, keep the speeches shorter, reduce the area, and increase the time.
- They are looking at having Mayday events and a history scavenger hunt in the ten days afterwards. Jennifer will get more details. It may be a parade.
- 2SLGBTQIA+ Coordinator Damir mentioned we walked in the Pride Parade and had booths at Burnaby Pride and New Westminster Pride, and we would like to do that again, and could use volunteers at the booths and maybe help from other organisations with the costs. Richmond had their first Pride Week last year and we would like to have a presence there if possible.
- It was suggested we could participate in Car Free Day and Hats Off Day in Burnaby, and it is nice for people to see PSAC there. We would need people to volunteer for that, as well, when we know where these will be. Priscilla will get more information about these.
- With a previous election, we had sponsored an All Candidate's meeting. There will be a provincial election in the fall. It would make sense to do this in a battleground riding. The REVP's office is working on this. Damir is interested in working on this, and Jennifer is interested in getting people together and educating them.
- We had tried to organise a bowling night, but we could also reach out to Young Workers or the Human Rights Committee to work together and also help with costs. If anyone has ideas, they could contact Jennifer. One suggestion would be a games night. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- Matthew said people on the island were talking about coffee chats, which could be held in outlying areas. He said he would be interested in looking into that in the tri-cities.

### **Round Table**

- Damir: The first ever 2SLGBTQIA+ summit will be going on in May 3 - 5, and the committee is working on creating engaging workshops and speakers. If people identify as a part of the community they could sign up for the summit, and people can let their

locals know so we can have as broad a range of participants as possible. They are looking into getting a QR code. A self-ID link is as follows: <https://psacbc.com/self-id/>  
A link to the summit is as follows: <https://psacbc.com/events/psac-bc-2slgbtqia-summit/>

- Jennifer received a Living Wage Toolkit from Shane Pollack, to campaign to restore the living wage to the City of Vancouver, as the issue will be coming up again. They are looking for people to speak to the City Council dates and particularly on February 26. There will be a townhall at the Maritime Labour Centre February 26. The motion will be voted on by Vancouver City Council February 28.
- October 19 will be the Provincial Election.
- The Golden Tree Farmworker's Memorial will be March 9 in Abbotsford
- Current disputes are HBC in Kamloops; Unite Here 40 are on strike the Sheraton, Hilton, and Marriott Vancouver Airport hotels as of June 2023. Unite Here 40 locked out at the Raddison Blue Hotel since May 2021.
- Motion to provide MVA Strategy Team meeting with refreshments of not more than \$50. Priscilla moved. Damir seconded.
- Motion to cover the expense of \$117.08 for the in-person dinner for this meeting. Moved by Damir. Seconded by Matt.
- We want to celebrate Jennifer's Birthday! \*singing\*

## **Oath of Office**

- Jamey performed the Oath of Office for Edward He and Damir Moric.

## **Next Meetings**

- May 8
- July 17
- September 18

## **Adjournment**

8:11 PM (M/S/C) Matt/Damir