

## **East Fraser Valley Area Council AGM Minutes**

February 15, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Meeting called to order 6:43pm

Quorum was met.

### **In attendance**

Jamey Mills, BC PSAC REVP

Alex (vital) Struit, PSAC Regional Rep

Antony Paller, President AGR Local 20044

Heidi Kay, Secretary USJE Local 20156

Kirsty Havard, RVP USJE

Julie Kelly, CIU Local 20045

Kendy Micholoski, CIU Local 20045

Alan Otrosina, USJE Local 20141

Garth Krieger, USJE Local 20011

Nikki Mattila, USJE Local 20091

Tabitha Swanson, USJE Local 20040

Susanne Dier, CEIU Local 20903

Pippa Mann, USJE Local 20130

Laura Wildly, USJE Local 20017

Karen Thind, CEIU Local 20903

Shanna Kirkland, USJE Local 20054

Lena Sterne, USJE Local 20017

Mihaela Decon, USJE Local 20054

Krista Tebbutt, USJE Local 20091

Regrets – Amanda McKinnon, Vice President

Roundtable Introductions were done.

Land Acknowledgments

### **Review Proposed 2024 AGM Agenda**

Financial statement was removed as it has not been reviewed yet by 2 auditors.

Alan motioned for the agenda to be approved as amended.

Laura seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Adoption of 2023 AGM Minutes**

Minutes were reviewed and no changes were needed.

Kendy motioned for the minutes to be accepted as presented.

Alan seconded.

Motion carried.

### **President's Report for 2023**

Antony reported on the actions on the previous year including the following:

- Treasury Board employees participated in a general strike in April for almost 2 weeks. Antony attended strike lines in Mission and Abbotsford to show support for our union brothers and sisters.
- The Labour Day picnic this year has a larger turn out than in previous years. EFVAC was there handing out popsicles and engaging members in conversations about our local.
- EFVAC supported a Pottery & Paint membership engagement activity in December.
- We made and donated 40 hygiene bags for homeless individuals in the Abbotsford and Chilliwack communities. These bags included, shampoo, toothpaste, a toothbrush, dental floss, wash clothes, feminine hygiene products as well as gloves, toques and socks.
- Patty Ducharme our PSAC Area Representative retired, and Alex (Vital) Stuit has joined as our new Area Representative.

Antony motioned for his report to be accepted as presented.

Tabitha seconded.

Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Will be presented at a Special AGM to be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm via zoom. Alex will send out the invite with joining instructions.

Setting the Budget for 2024 will be discussed at the same time.

### **Elections**

President, Secretary and Treasurer positions are all up for elections.

President and Secretary are 2 years terms and Treasurer is for 1 year to fill in the vacancy created when the previous Treasurer resigned before the end of his term.

Jamey called for nominations for President.

Laura nominated Julie Kelly.

Seconded by Kendy.

Antony was nominated by Alan and seconded by Tabitha but declined the nomination.

Julie accepted the nomination.

Jamey called for nominations for Secretary.

Laura nominated Tabitha Swanson.

Seconded by Gareth.

No other nominations were received.

Tabitha accepted the nomination.

Jamey called for nominations for Treasurer.

Laura nominated Laura Thind.

Seconded by Julie.

No other nominations were received.

Laura accepted the nomination.

### **PSAC Education/Staff Advisor Update**

Alex spoke about February being Black History month and that it is a time to celebrate, reflect on and honour the contributions of Canadians of Black, Caribbean, or African descent.

There is a 2SLGBTQIA+ Summit from May 3-5 in Vancouver. The theme is “Queer Solidarity in the Dace of Adversity” Participants will hear from speakers and take part in action-oriented workshops. Deadline to apply is March 15<sup>th</sup>. You can read more on the BC PSAC website.

Observer Registration is open for the 2024 PSAC National Triennial Convention taking place May 26- 31 in Ottawa. Observers do not have the right to voice or vote during the resolutions debate or elections. Registration deadline is March 1, 2024 and the fee is \$300.00. Reminder that observers are responsible for all costs associated with their attendance.

The Vancouver Regional Women’s Committee is hosting and International Women’s Day dinner under the theme “Inspiration and Inclusion in our Union, Workplaces & Communities”. The dinner will take place on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Taverna Greka in New Westminster. Tickets are \$20 and include dinner and an appetizer, taxes & gratuity included. Read more on the BC PSAC website.

The Winter/Spring 2024 PSAC BC Union Education schedule is now posted on the BC PSAC website. Encourage your members to sign up. A trained membership helps build a strong union. The courses being offered in the lower mainland are as follows:

Virtual Grievance Handling | Feb 23-25

Grievance Handling, Metro | March 9-10

Stewards Series 1: Some Things Stewards Should Know About Duty to Accommodate & Mental Health Matters, Abbotsford | March 23

If you are a member of an equity deserving group: indigenous, racially visible, 2SLGBTQIA+. Access(Person with Disabilities), young worker or identify as a woman you are invited to self – identify through PSAC’s online form. You will find more information on the BC PSAC website.

### **Roundtable**

Gareth would like to propose that PSAC advocate for compassionate care leave for staff members who are dealing with a dying spouse, partner, or child. Several members gave advice on how he can bring this forward and options that the member may be able to utilize now.

Kendy discussed the contract negotiations with her component have reached an impasse and they expect to be going to the PIC in April. As they don't anticipate that this will result in a resolution, they are looking at going on strike perhaps as early as May. As they are essential services, they are going to need the support of other unions to come out for them.

Kirsty thanked Antony for his service and welcomed Julie to her new role.

Laura thanked Heidi for her time on the Area Council.

Antony talked about being on the EFVAC for over 10 years and how much this council has grown in the last few years.

Julie brought up possible future activities including the Chilliwack Pride Event on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, a BBQ and paint event, Labour Day Picnic, hygiene bags, a booth at the Women's Expo and participation in the Truth and Reconciliation community events.

### **Oath of Office**

All 3 new council members were sworn in by Kirsty and she welcomed them all to their new roles.

### **Next Meeting Dates**

Dates for our upcoming meetings are:

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 6:00 Virtual Special AGM

April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30 Hybrid Meeting @ White Spot Whatcom Road Abbotsford

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30 Hybrid Meeting @ White Spot Whatcom Road Abbotsford

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30 Hybrid Meeting @ White Spot Whatcom Road Abbotsford

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30 Hybrid Meeting @ White Spot Whatcom Road Abbotsford

Pippa motioned for the meeting to be adjourned.

Seconded by Julie.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46.