

## ### North Vancouver Island Area Council Meeting Minutes

**\*\*Date:\*\*** June 5, 2024

**\*\*Time:\*\*** 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

**\*\*Location:\*\*** Zoom Meeting

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### #### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson Richard May. Although the meeting started late, a quorum was established with three executive members and one member at large.

### #### 2. Land Acknowledgment

Richard May acknowledged hosting the meeting from the traditional lands of the Name Mix First Nation, expressing gratitude for their long-term stewardship.

### #### 3. Roll Call

**\*\*Present:\*\***

- Richard May, Chairperson
- Bert Farwell, Member
- Janet Kirk, Member
- Jackie Robertson, Member
- Kaj Stirler, Member
- Christine Walker (left meeting early)
- Kahla Litchi

**\*\*Absent:\*\***

#### #### 4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on May 5 2024 were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented.

#### #### 5. Agenda Overview

- Update on the recent convention in Ottawa.
- Pride events in Parksville, Ladysmith, and upcoming Nanaimo Pride.
- Rock-climbing event in Cowichan.

#### #### 6. Convention Update

**\*\*Richard May:\*\***

- Budget passed quickly, which was surprising as it usually takes longer.
- Constitution committee's priorities were well-received, with all recommendations passing.
- 30-31 resolutions were passed, including an emergency resolution regarding Palestine.
- Significant resolutions on equity membership and lighthouse keepers.
- Noted the productive nature of the convention compared to previous years.

**\*\*Christine Walker:\*\***

- Encountered technical issues joining the meeting, which were resolved by Kai.

#### #### 7. Resolutions and Discussions

**\*\*Janet Kirk:\*\***

- Expressed gratitude for support received and spoke on the lighthouse keepers' resolution.

- Highlighted the challenges faced by lighthouse keepers and the overwhelming support from the convention.
- Positive first convention experience, noting the organization and support from peers.

**\*\*Bert Farwell:\*\***

- Emphasized the significance of passing important resolutions, including an increase in the strike fund.
- Mentioned a dues increase necessary for the union's financial health.
- Discussed the balance between necessary spending and frugality at the convention.

**\*\*Jackie Robertson and Kaj Stirler:\*\***

- Shared excitement about passing the lighthouse keepers resolution after 25 years.
- Kaj submitted 53 questions to candidates during debates, earning praise for his efficiency.
- James Newman's eloquent speaking style impressed many.

## #### 8. Upcoming Events

**\*\*Pride Events:\*\***

- Richard May and Kai attended the inaugural Pride Parade in Ladysmith, handing out beads.
- Bert received a televised kiss at the event.
- Richard May suggested improving visibility and engagement for PSAC BC events through quality swag and advertising.
- Discussion on providing more shirts and swag for general membership for days of action.

**\*\*Rock Climbing Event:\*\***

- Scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup>, right after the parade.

**\*\*Cricket Party:\*\***

- Kaj Stirler suggested a cricket-themed event to engage members and young workers, including a hybrid Zoom/in-person meeting in August or September.
- Proposal to hold a joint barbecue with Ladysmith and Victoria.

**\*\*PSAC BC Pride Events and Swag:\*\***

- Discussion on using union-made products for swag purchases to support local workers.
- Christine Walker suggested approaching Jamie about T-shirts for council members.

**#### 9. Advertising and Event Planning for PSAC Events**

- Kaj Stirler suggested using a higher-quality Union-made T-shirt for personalization and hosting an event for members to make them.
- Discussion on utilizing an Excel tool for keeping staff and committees up-to-date on events and its potential for multi-platform advertising.
- Clarification that PSAC can advertise events they are participating in, but not host events on the PSAC website.

**#### 10. Supporting Local Union Strike Action and Remote Participation in Meetings**

- Discussion on potential support for CBSA workers at Front Street in Nanaimo, BC.
- Agreement to disrupt management and show solidarity with workers.
- Richard May suggested creating a dunk tank for future events.
- Discussion on improving remote participation for attendees.

**#### 11. Payment and Budget for a Rental Property**

- Kahla expressed frustration with privacy invasion and moving out of a rental property.
- Discussion on credit card issues and potential solutions.

#### #### 12. Using AI Tool “Otter” for Meeting Minutes and Motion to Fund It

- Discussion on funding for an AI tool called “Otter” to help capture meeting minutes.
- Kaj Stirler made a motion to fund the Otter tool, with an annual cost of \$150, which was supported by Richard May.
- Christine Walker secured a donation of Jelly Belly jelly beans for a children’s play area.

#### #### 13. Open Floor

- \*\*Kai:\*\* No additional comments.
- \*\*Jackie:\*\* No additional comments.

#### #### 14. Action Items

- \*\*Kai:\*\* Send Christine the passcode and joining code for the Zoom meeting.
- \*\*Richard May:\*\* Follow up on the details discussed and prepare for the next meeting.

#### #### 15. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the North Vancouver Island Area Council is scheduled for July 5, 2024. Details will be communicated to all members in advance.

#### #### 16. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM by Chairperson Richard May.

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These minutes are a comprehensive formal record of the discussions and decisions made during the North Vancouver Island Area Council meeting on June 5, 2024. If any corrections or additions are needed, please make them before approving the minutes at the next meeting.