

DRAFT

Vancouver and District Area Council Meeting

September 24, 2025

In Person and via Zoom

In Attendance:

In Person: Alex Vital Stuit PSAC Regional Rep, Jen Horsely UPCE 20095 VDAC President, Raphael Simard CEIU 20944 VDAC Vice President, Damir Moric CEIU 20937 VDAC Treasurer, Denzil John Asche UTE 20027 VDAC Secretary

Virtually: Lauren Ashley-Vaughn CEIU 20937, Martha Flores-Velazquez UNE 20214, Scott Josephson UCTE 20223, Theresa Kelly AGR 20060

Regrets:

Meeting Called to Order at 6:45 PM

Agenda:

1. Land Acknowledgement
2. Welcome and rounds question/introductions
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Adoption of previous minutes (June 18, 2025)
5. Business Arising
 1. Election Activities Report back
 2. Report back from Annual Summer BBQ
 3. Report back from Labour Day event
6. Financial Report
7. Standing Updates
 1. RTO
 2. MVA
 3. Phoenix
8. Affiliate Reports – maximum 3 minutes – NOTE: please send written affiliate reports to Secretary, Denzil John Asche, at murduck@gmail.com either beforehand or within three days after the meeting to be included in the official minutes.
9. New Business
 1. Community Activities
 2. Pickle Ball Tournament
10. Motions - Expenses and Reimbursements
11. PSAC Staff Advisor Update
12. Round Table
13. PSAC Education and upcoming events
14. Next Meeting Date – September 24, 2025, 6:00 pm (in person for dinner) meeting starts at 6:30 pm

Land Acknowledgement:

As we are gathered for our meeting tonight, we remember that we are settlers on the uncle traditional territories of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and Squamish peoples, who have been the stewards of these lands since time immemorial. We make the commitment to continue along the path to reconciliation by respecting the land, the people and the animals, and by continuing to build respectful relationships with indigenous peoples. As we approach the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 and the National Day of Action For Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Gender Diverse People, on October 4, we should all reflect on what actions we can personally take not only on these recognized dates, but every day. Wearing an orange shirt and hanging a red dress are visible displays of solidarity, but we also need to think what else we can do.

Welcome - Introductions:

Members introduced themselves. Members mentioned what they were doing for National Truth and Reconciliation Day. The Movie Sugar Cane is now available on streaming on Disney Plus.

Adoption of the Agenda:

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Moved: Damir ; Seconded: Denzil ; Carried.

Approval of the Previous Minutes:

There were no additions or changes

Moved: Denzil; Seconded: Raphael; Carried.

Business Arising:

1. Election Activities Report Back

We did a texting session over two nights texting all members in Peter Julian's riding. There were technical errors the first night, however it was corrected for the second night. The platform we used could be a useful tool to reach out to members. There was less response than we had hoped for. There was a lot of fear motivating the election. This can easily be done by a small group of people.

2. Annual summer barbecue

There were 60 to 70 people. We provided burgers hot dogs. There were some guests from the passport group who had just been laid off. It was good to get perspective on what the cuts are doing. Jenn was able to revisit this experience with her MP. He seemed receptive.

3. Report back from Labour Day

We participated in the VDLC and NWDLC Labour Day event at Edmonds Park. We will definitely need to plan for more swag for such a large event in future. We also

need more material for talking points. The event was well-attended by members of the community and there was participation by many groups.

Financial Report:

Currently the balance is \$4309.80. There was a deposit \$2018.43, a yearly deposit from the REVP office. There was food for the barbecue. There was some interest earned. We had some funding for New Westminster Pride from the REVP office, but we had been given some funds for this. There was food for the last VDAC meeting. We need to reimburse Shane for ice for Labour Day and Jenn is owed ice money for the barbecue. We have spent nearly all of our member engagement budget of \$1500. We need political action items. We had talked about the zine-making workshop.

Moved: Damir ; Seconded: Denzil ; Carried.

Standing Updates:

Return to Office

Martha says they are required to work three days in the office but there is talk in the news and among members that they may make people go back five days a week. We (VDAC) cannot speak to that definitively, but it is best to speak to someone in her component. Some may be following Doug Ford who is mandating this for Ontario workers. Workplaces and components are all different. Martha says there are not enough desks for everyone to come back five days a week. Damir says it is a PSAC-wide problem, and the requirement is poorly thought-out and disruptive. He states that after people were settled with difficulty in an existing area that SFU took back several floors of the building, but there was construction, and some floors need to be built to accommodate workers. Damir was concerned the new office would be an open concept office where people were dealing with confidential information. Jenn said that this was a particular conundrum with government cutbacks and that there is a movement sell redundant buildings to combat cutbacks. Lauren said that moving back and forth was disruptive.

Metro Vancouver Alliance

Jen attended the strategy team meeting August 28 regarding the delegates assembly. Late in the day they found they could not use the planned location. They had it at the Unitarian Church at Oak and 49th. The launch of the Climate Action Team took place. You can contact Jenn if you want to meet with them. They hold their meeting daytime during the week, however. There was a welcome and land acknowledgments. There were two new member organizations. The housing update regarding co-ops found that work was still challenging with no willingness from the city to build new buildings on the land where co-ops have existed. We are probably looking at a new coop hopping campaign. It will start as a letter writing campaign to Christine Boyle, housing minister. Important upcoming dates are a

delegate assembly in May 2026, and a municipal election assembly on September 23, 2026.

Phoenix

Scott said that Phoenix is contacting people in a new round of overpayments more than six years old for 2016 and 2018. Damir said he had a few members reach out, but it was 2018 and 2019 overpayments together, so some were prior to six years. He has had members who said they did not receive letters and some who were out of the country and did not get letters, where Phoenix just started clawing back overpayments without having contacted members. It is disturbing that Phoenix is taking funds from pay if there is no acknowledgement of knowledge of overpayments from the member. Jenn will try to find out what PSAC is doing about this default position.

Bargaining Update

As the government moves ahead with plans to cut tens of thousands of public services, the Treasury Board tabled a proposal that would strip workers of the power to negotiate improvements to the workforce adjustment process. During negotiations with the PA, EB, TC, and SV groups from September 10 to 18, 2025, they proposed removing the WFA appendix from the collective agreements of over 155,000 members. If that happened members would only be covered by the National Joint Council (NJC) WFA directive. Unlike collective bargaining, the NJC process does not let members negotiate improvements directly or to vote on job security language.

Affiliate Reports:

Affiliate reports from Scot, Damir, and Jenn. No reports were submitted.

New Business

1. Community Activities

The VLDC is holding a rally from 2pm to 6pm on October 1, 2025, at UBC at the plaza outside The Nest. The rally will call for all levels of government to fund the SkyTrain extension to UBC. There is a petition to support a resolution to declare housing a human right in BC on the VLDC website. The petition is to be sent to the Union of BC Municipalities. The Canadian Labour Congress is holding a webinar on October 2, 2025, at 12:00 ET called "Protecting Labour and Human Rights Ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2026". Speakers will be Ambet E. Yuson, BWI (building and Wood Workers International Union; Todd Brogan ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation); Aline Nizigama, YWCA Canada; and Jennifer Li, Dignity 2026. See VLDC for more information. CoDev is going to be presenting an event entitled "From Honduras to Canada: Workers' Rights and Global Solidarity" at the Russian Hall on October 2, 2025, at 7:00pm. There will be another event entitled "Resisting the Blockade: Building Solidarity with the Workers of Cuba". This is a free even October 20, at the Aboriginal Friendship Centre on Hastings St. at 6:30pm.

2. Pickle Ball Tournament

We were looking at organizing this as a community building event. We looked at some indoor locations, one with nine courts and spaces to have food and catering. There are many things going on, however, and we think it would be better to promote it well ahead of time and to hold this in 2026. The space particularly wants the number of people, so we need people to sign up and be committed to attending.

Motions - Expenses and Reimbursements:

To reimburse Shane \$9.58 for ice purchased September 1, 2025.

Moved: Damir; Seconded: Denzil ; Carried.

To reimburse Jenn \$51.48 for ice for the barbecue purchased July 19, 2025.

Moved: Damir; Seconded: Denzil; Carried.

To reimburse Jenn for buns and treats for food for the meal tonight for \$14.12.

Moved: Damir ; Seconded: Martha; Carried.

Round Table

1. Jenn - The BCGEU is on strike. If you can, please visit the picket lines to join in solidarity. There are quite a number. If anyone wants to help out at a picket line, here is the list of current picket lines: https://www.bcgau.ca/picket_lines_and_job_action_listings . Blue Line taxis are on strike in Ottawa. The Coast Hotel in Victoria's also on strike. The Mainland Human Rights Committee is putting on a membership involvement Pumpkinfest on October 18, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm with pumpkins, a petting zoo, and hayrides. It will be at Aldor Acres Family Farm 24990 84th Ave. in Langley. There is free entry for a PSAC and family member with vouchers for a pumpkin and animal feed bag. The BRUSH Committee is presenting a Zoom webinar entitled The Toxic Truth; How Everyday Exposure Impacts Your Health on October 22 at 6:00pm. The Vancouver Regional Women's Committee is presenting a Zoom webinar entitled "Thriving Through Perimenopause and Menopause" on November 5 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Please visit the PSACBC website events page for more information.

2. There were no further speakers for roundtable.

PSAC Education and Upcoming Events : Staff Advisor update

October 17 meet and greet Oct 17 at Steamworks (also website)

There are equity conferences coming up. Please see the website for these as well as upcoming education, and workforce adjustment events.

There will be a meet and greet with the PSACBC Regional Council on October 17 from 4:00pm to 6:30pm, at Steamworks Brewpub at 375 Water St.

There will be a new steward educational series in the fall including Trauma Informed Advocacy sessions.

The Racialized Regional Conference will be held October 2 to 5 at the Hilton Metrotown.

The BC Triennial Convention will be in May 2026. Delegates need to be elected six months prior. Resolutions need to be submitted by February. Delegates need to be selected in meetings held November 22 to January 22 delegates need to be selected. VDAC is allowed one delegate.

Next Meeting

November 26 or November 27, 2025, 18:00 in person; 18:30 online

This will be to elect a delegate the PSAC National Convention and possibly discuss resolutions.

Adjournment

8:24 PM

Moved: Damir; Seconded: Denzil ; Carried.