

Okanagan Area Council

April 21, 2026

Attended:

Jeanne Olineck - Chair (CEIU 20914), Ajay Athwal (UTE 20026), Kelly Megyesi (CEIU 20972), Ashley-Rae Snape (UTE 20026), Tamara Vess (CEIU 20914), Kamila Ogonowski (UTE 20026). Alex (Vital) Stuit (Staff) **Regrets:** Brigitte Willman (USJE 20069), Nadia Sokal (AGR 20043)

Agenda: Treasurer report moved to the end. **m/AA s/AS** all in favour

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement – Jeanne Olineck gave the land acknowledgement
Jeanne welcomed everyone and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

Previous minutes - February 17, 2026, minutes accepted with one name correction.
m/AA s/AS – all in favour

Chair

Ajay assumed the chair as Jeanne was having some sound difficulties.

Events / Political Action

The council had an open discussion about 2026 event(s). Outcome was a fall PSAC training to be held in Penticton or Osoyoos in **October**. Hoping for a two-day training. Friday Domestic Violence and Saturday Local Officer Training. The Area Council will plan for a **Meet and Greet** on the Friday evening. Possibility of having some speakers. Kelly will follow-up with Varinder.

Discussion on ‘**Day in Black**’ action, **April 29th**, 2026

Convention contribution. Last meeting a motion was passed to contribute a basket to the BC PSAC Convention in **May**. Kelly passed along Nadia’s message of helping with this. Group agreed that we would do local Summerland type of products. Ajay will take lead and work with Nadia to complete. Thank you Nadia & Ajay.

Education

Alex gave an overview of a lot of the education happening: Introduction to Duty to Accommodate, Local Officer Training, Grievance Handling, Domestic Violence Awareness Training, On-line Talking Union Basics, Anti-oppression training, equity training, workforce adjustment training, Why Fascism, Tyranny & Authoritarianism are Union Issues, ABCs of Union Management Consultations Bargaining from Strength, Health and Safety Activism. Also - the opportunity for shared training for locals.

Roundtable

Jeanne – Attended the Activism/Mobilization Summit in Lower Mainland this past weekend. Jeanne talked about a Day in Black action to signify the state of negotiations

Tamara - Also attended the summit and found it very informative and a great way to learn. She felt the information/material given gave her a new perspective on activism

Kelly – Reported that Jeanne and herself as the Regional Coordinators have been extremely busy but have been working well together to make sure that we are representing the Southern Interior

Ajay – Was really pleased that Jacob had joined the area council meeting. They met at the PSAC BC racialized conference and hit it off. Just so good to have him join us.

Alex – Gave us some staffing updates and talked about Education (as above), Day of Mourning, Health & Safety, He encouraged our council to let Varinder know about are education requests as soon as possible. (Kelly added in that Kelowna would be having a Day of Mourning event at the Rise Memorial on April 28th. The North Okanagan Area Council were instrumental in building this site that honours the Crane Workers and both our area council and PSAC BC contributed). He encouraged us to participate in the bargaining teams '**Day in Black**' action to signify the state of negotiations and use this as an opportunity to organize members.

Treasurers Report – K Megyesi

Balance as of March 31, 2026, \$2594.65. The only activity has been service charges of \$2 per month which will be reversed at the end of the year. **m/KM s/K** – all in favour

Last meeting Kelly withdrew a motion and agreed to research how other councils compensate auditors. Each council was different and included leave, lunch, etc. but most agreed that a thank you would be a good idea. Motion to send thank you cards and a box of chocolates to each of the two auditors. **m/KM s/TV** - all in favour.

Next Meeting

September 22, 2026, 7pm via zoom.

Motion to Adjourn

-all in favour
