East Fraser Valley Area Council
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 14th January 2026

In Attendance:

Julie Kelly	President - CIU 20045
Tabitha Swanson	Vice-President - USJE 20040
Pippa Mann	Secretary - USJE 20130
Karen Thind	Treasurer - CEIU 20903
Kendy Michaloski	Alt. East Fraser Valley Regional Coordinator - CIU 20045
Alan Ostrosina	PSAC BC Indigenous Peoples Coordinator – USJE 20141
Krista Tebbutt	ACCESS Regional Coordinator – USJE 20130
Susanne Dier	Alt. Access Coordinator - CEIU 20903
Celine Ahodekon	PSAC BC Racially Visible Coordinator
Tracy Zylyk	USJE 20011
Lena Stern	USJE 20015
Kirsty Havard	Alt REVP – RVP USJE 20091
Anne D'Cruz	CEIU 20903
Nielene Chand	PSAC Staff Rep

Guests:

Jamey Mills	REVP – PSAC BC

Regrets:

Laura Wildly	East Fraser Valley Regional Coordinator - USJE 20017
Paula Gillis	USJE 20017

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm by Julie.

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territories:

Nixon provided the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement. Julie introduced this months Reconciliation challenge. This month it is to learn an Indigenous word or phase.

Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory
- Introductions
- Accept Agenda
- Approval of Previous Minutes – 10th September 2025

- Presidents Report
- Finance Report
- Budget
- Election of President and Treasurer & Oath of Office
- Terms Of Reference Updates
- Events for 2026
- PSAC Staff Advisor Update
- New Business/Roundtable
- Next Meeting dates
- Adjournment

Accept the Agenda:

Project AIM were unable to attend but will attend a future meeting, to talk about who they are and how the Area Council can involve them in a member engagement event.

Previous AGM minutes 29th January 2025

Minor adjustments to amend some typos and dates.

Presidents Report:

Julie provided the Presidents Report. Spoke to the PSAC 10th year anniversary of Phoenix campaign and introduced little groundhogs that members can take photos with and asked that people tagged the Area Council in the posts. The RO also created postcards for member to send to their MPs.

Presidents Report 2025.pdf

Finance Report:

The 2025 Financial report was presented by Karen.

All in all we had an excellent fiscal year - through fundraising and careful budgeting we were able to support 9 different member engagements and support 3 funded meetings where meals were covered.

Thank you to our 2 auditors Alan and Laura without our auditors nothing gets moved forward. So please join me and giving them a big thank you. I will pause here and ask if there are any questions about the numbers.

Looking Forward: 2026

2026 is again going to be another year of fiscal austerity. We have been advised by the REVP's office that we have to keep our budget ask at 2,000 or under. This means if we'd like to plan another pumpkin fest and pottery event we will have to fundraise.

Pumpkin Fest has enthusiastic partners in the young workers and we will again approached mainland human rights. We've projected costs at 2,000 but we will be able to better plan once we know for certain our budget ask from the REVPs office is granted.

Along with this the pottery event cost is projected at 1,500 - we again had a good turn out and already have ppl asking of we will putting on again for Mother's Day. For this event we partnered with locals and asked for donations as well as donations from coordinators. Again, we can start approaching locals with details as soon as our budget is approved by the REVPs office.

Jamey commended the Area Council for their hard work and dedication.

Financial Report (M/S/Carried) Karen/Alan/Carried.

Election of President and Treasurer

Both the President and Treasurer positions are a 2 year term.

Jamey conducted the Elections

President

Alan nominated Julie Kelly. Seconded by Kendy. Julie accepted the nomination.

No other nominations received.

Julie Kelly acclaimed President.

Treasurer

Julie nominated Karen Thind. Seconded by Tracy. Karen accepted the nomination.

No other nominations received.

Karen Thind acclaimed Treasurer.

Terms of Reference Updates

Section I: Name

Amendment to remove Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge from the area of jurisdiction

(M/S/Carried) Julie/Alan/Carried

Section III, Subsection 1

Amendment to remove Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge from the area of jurisdiction

(M/S/Carried) Julie/Tracy/Carried

Section V, Subsection 2

Amend the number of officers needed for quorum from majority to half.

(M/S/Carried) Julie/Tabitha/Carried

Events 2026

Project Aim – Member Engagement event.

Karen has been in touch with Project AIM who will be coming to a meeting to do a presentation for us. The area a local grassroots organisation that provide period products and incontinence products to anyone in the Fraser Valley area. We are going to organise an event were members can donate products, help time to pack and deliver products. More details coming.

More information on Project AIM can be found - Project AIM

Coldest Night of the Year

This is a walk that is held across the Country which raises funds for charities in the local area. Both Nixon and Julie will be doing the walk in Chilliwack. There is information on the PSACBC website. Julie sent out the information to the other Area Councils and West Fraser Valley and Prince George Area Councils are also interested in the event. This is an excellent way to met other Union members and talk and walk while raising funds for the local Charity. For Chilliwack the charity is the Ann Davis Transition Society, which is an organisation we have talked about getting involved with.

Coldest Night of the Year Walk – PSAC British Columbia

Mothers Day Pottery Event

This will be the 3rd year of this popular event held at Clay Cottage in Abbotsford. Susanne agreed to take the lead on this event again. We will be looking to raise money from components and other sources in the PSAC. We will need $950 from other sources. Mothers Day is 10th May so we will look to have the event 2 weeks before that date.

National Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21 & Truth & Reconciliation Day – September 30

We will again be attending the event run by Wilmas Transition Society at Sardis Park in Chilliwack. Kendy made orange feathers which can be used as a give aways, examples were passed around. All agreed that this was a great idea and we will make more to use at these events.

Chilliwack Pride – (Tentative date 25th July) & Fraser Valley Pride (Mission) August

We attended these events last year and they were successful events. Once the dates are confirmed, more details will be provided.

Labour Day Event – Mill Lake, Abbotsford – September 30

This event is put on by the Fraser Valley Labour Council and we have a booth there.

River Clean-up Community Engagement Event

Karen spoke to this new event. It is normally held at the end of camping season – on a weekend at the end of August beginning of September. Volunteers help clean up the garbage left from campers and fishermen. Lunch is normally provided. It is a great way to help in a community project. More details to come.

Pumpkinfest – Sunday 18th October

This will be our second year running this event. It is going to be held on a Sunday to catch members who have family sporting activities on Saturdays. Kirsty suggested to mention it is a covered event as the rain last year put members off from attending. We had 140 register and 70 attend. One suggestion is to have a scavenger hunt, were members have to find a member of the Regional Council and collect a stamp. When they collect all of them, they can get a prize. We will need to fundraise $1450 for this event. Julie has been asked to speak at the Young Workers AGM to garnish support.

Women's Vigil – Chilliwack – Ann Davis Transition Society – December 6th

Last year the Ann Davis Transition Society had a vigil at 10am on the Saturday. We spoke about contacting them and seeing how we can support them with this event this year. Kirsty volunteered to make contact with them and will report back.

Chilliwack Christmas Parade

Tabitha suggested that we take part in this event held in December. She will find out more details.

Nielene is wanting to organise a meet and greet in our area. This will include information on WFA. Clearbrook Library was suggested (32320 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford) there is a room which you can rent for $25. Karen to investigate.

Staff Updates

Jamey gave the updates.

WFA Training is available.

Virtual grievance handling course Feb27-Mar 1

Convention Procedures course – April 11

Introduction for Local Officers Training course – April 12

For information and to register visit Course Listings – PSAC British Columbia

Nielene is the rep in charge of WFA and is able to set up information sessions for components.

CLC convention 2026 – Selection process for PSAC equity delegate is open The dates are May 10 – 15th in Winnipeg. (link CLC convention 2026: selection of PSAC equity delegates application for consideration | Public Service Alliance of Canada)

10th anniversary of Phoenix is approaching, there is a budget for members to hold events, please contact the RO office for more information. Also lobbying is an option.

Karen said that MP Gill in Abbotsford is very welcoming and willing to met. Alan said he had a meeting that went really well with MP Brad Vis – his father was a correctional officer.

Application is open for the PSAC BC 2SLGBTQIA+ Summit being held March 27-29 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Vancouver.

Resolutions (See Appendix A)

Discussion and amendments made.

Resolution 1 – (M/S/C) Alan/Kendy/Carried

Resolution 2 – (M//S/C) Krista/Kirsty/Carried

Resolution 3 – (M/S/C) Susanne/Alan/Carried

Resolution 4 – (M/S/C) Julie/Alan/Carried

Resolution 5 – (M/S/C) Julie/Alan/Carried

Resolution 6 – (M/S/C) Kirsty/Kendy/Motion

Resolution 6 – (M/S/C) Julie/Tracy/Carried

Roundtable

Jamey suggested that the Area Council submit a resolution through the Regional Council to increase funding for the Area Councils, the budget has not been increased in around 10 years. Alan stated he would submit it to the Council.

Jamey stated how much he appreciated the hard work of this Area Council, we are one of the more active Councils in the Region. Alan echoed this sentiment, adding that before this Executive, they were struggling to get quorum and it is fantastic to see.

Motion to pay for meeting expenses $292.97 (M/S/C) Julie/Lena/Carried

2026 Meeting Dates @ White Spot – 6:30pm

8th April

10th June

23 September

Meeting completed at 8:25pm.

RESOLUTION #1

TITLE: CALL FOR A REALIZED ACT OF RECONCILIATION

ORIGINATOR: EAST FRASER VALLEY AREA COUNCIL

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: ENGLISH

WHEREAS: On October 1st 2009, the PSAC Statement of Principles on Indigenous Peoples Rights state in part "... It is incumbent on us an union to develop the capacity of our full membership to engage in the kind of awareness-raising, leadership and political action that draw attention and action to the struggles faced by Indigenous Peoples"

WHEREAS: in order to effectively challenge the inequality that exists for Indigenous Peoples, we demand for the creation for a 'Member at Large' seat on the Alliance Executive Committee (or Equivalent) to further represent the interests of the PSAC Indigenous membership, with full voice and vote. "Nothing about us without us"

BE IT RESOLVED that section 12 (2)(a) of the PSAC constitution, the composition of the AEC be amended to include a permanent At-Large Indigenous Representative with full voting rights.

Word Count: 138

RESOLUTION #2

Resolution Title: Timely Appeals for Denied Disability Insurance Claims

ORIGINATOR: EAST FRASER VALLEY AREA COUNCIL

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: ENGLISH

Whereas members are frequently denied Long-Term Disability (LTD) claims by Sun Life and left without income, creating serious financial hardship; and

Whereas some members return to work before they are medically ready, or unsuccessfully seek medical retirement, with only limited supports such as 26 weeks of EI-Sickness available; and

Whereas appeals to the Disability Insurance Program Board of Management (DIPBOM) face delays of 12–18 months due to record volumes and insufficient government resourcing; and

Whereas growing recognition of mental health conditions as legitimate disabilities means high appeal volumes will continue;

Be it resolved that the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) lobby the federal government to properly fund and staff the DIPBOM so that appeals are reviewed and decided within a maximum of three (3) months.

Word Count: 127

RESOLUTION #3

TITLE: Access to a Mental Health First Aid Attendant while attending PSAC National and Regional Conventions, Conferences, Trainings, Meetings, and Rallies
ORIGINATOR: East Fraser Valley Area Council
LANGUAGE: English

WHEREAS PSAC members living with mental health issues do not have access to an emergency contact with mental health first aid during PSAC events.

WHEREAS there are resources outside of PSAC events that are available by telephone across the country that may help if the Mental Health First Aid attendant is not available.

WHEREAS PSAC Members with Mental Health issues must have the support that they need while in crisis.

BE IT RESOLVED PSAC ensure Mental Health First Aid attendants be available to members in case of mental health emergencies at PSAC National and Regional Conventions, Conferences, Trainings, Meetings, and Rallies.

BE IT RESOLVED PSAC National and Regional Chairs list contact information for the Mental Health First Aid attendant and provide a list of mental health crisis lines in the geographic area at the beginning of every PSAC National and Regional Conventions, Conferences, Trainings, Meetings, and Rallies.

Word Count 148

RESOLUTION #4

TITLE: Support for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Businesses
ORIGINATOR: East Fraser Valley Area Council
LANGUAGE: English

WHEREAS the PSAC has committed to advancing Reconciliation;

WHEREAS First Nations, Inuit, and Métis businesses have historically not received equitable levels of support compared to other businesses;

BE IT RESOLVED that, as an act of Reconciliation, the PSAC adopt an internal supply and support policy that prioritizes and supports First Nations, Métis, and Inuit businesses.

Word Count 55

RESOLUTION #5

TITLE: *National Indigenous Peoples Circle to be Recognized as a Submitting Body for Resolutions*
ORIGINATOR: East Fraser Valley Area Council
LANGUAGE: English

WHEREAS the National Indigenous Peoples Circle (NIPC) is currently an advisory circle to the National Board of Directors and, as such, does not have the authority to submit resolutions;

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Indigenous Peoples Circle be constitutionally recognized as a submitting body for resolutions to all National Conferences and to the National Triennial Convention.

Word Count 57

RESOLUTION #6

TITLE: Access to Support for WorkSafeBC/WCB Claims

ORIGINATOR: EAST FRASER VALLEY AREA COUNCIL

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: ENGLISH

Whereas union members pursuing Workers Compensation claims often face complex processes and barriers to timely recognition of workplace injuries;

Whereas early guidance can significantly improve claim outcomes, particularly during the review or appeal stages;

Whereas the Worker's Advisers Office in British Columbia provides free, independent assistance to workers navigating reviews and appeals;

Be it resolved that the Public Service Alliance of Canada develop and deliver an education campaign to inform members about available resources and supports for Workers compensation claims, including but not limited to the Worker's Advisers Office;

Be it further resolved that PSAC provide clear guidance to Components, Locals, and Health and Safety Committees on how members can access these supports prior to and during the review or appeal stages;

Be it further resolved that these materials be made accessible online and promoted through regular union communication channels.

Word Count: 140

RESOLUTION #7

TITLE: ENFORCED POLICY – ENFORCED REST PERIOD FOLLOWING TRAVEL DELAYS

ORIGINATOR: EAST FRASER VALLEY AREA COUNCIL

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: ENGLISH

WHEREAS travel delays have become increasingly common; and

WHEREAS airlines are increasingly limiting direct routes, often requiring connecting flights that increase likelihood of delays; and

WHEREAS travel undertaken for PSAC business constitutes work; and Canadian Labour standards recognize the necessity of adequate rest periods between work assignments to ensure worker health, safety, and effectiveness;

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 2.12 of the PSAC Travel Policy be amended by adding the following subsections:

2.12.2

If a traveller is delayed through no fault of their own on their return trip from a PSAC event, resulting in less than a minimum ten (10) hour rest period prior to reporting to work, the traveller shall be covered by union leave until they have received a full ten (10) consecutive hours of rest, after which they shall report to work as scheduled.

Word Count: 137