

VICTORIA AREA COUNCIL MEETING: SEPT 15/26

Attendees:

Monica Racz, VP Victoria Area Council; Chair and scribe
Ian Wiggs, Treasurer Victoria Area Council
Darcy Gasena, UNDE 21008
James McAllister, UNDE 21008
Tai Bezeau, CEIU
Teresa Whitcroft, CEIU
Virginia Vaillancourt, UVAE
Jessica Degasso, PSAC BC Regional Representative

Meeting called to order at 603pm.

Motions to accept the agenda: James and Ian; carried

Motions to accept the previous minutes of May 19, 2026: James, Virginia; carried.

Financial report: Was sent in previous email. Update that \$495.82 was spent at the Saanich Fair. New bank account total: \$3484.56.

Motions by Ian and Virginia; carried

Two resolutions were submitted to the Victoria Area Council:

- 1) Regarding changing PSAC Constitution Section 13(5) Regional triennial conventions from current 3 day (friday to sunday) model to 4 day (thursday to sunday). Discussion: more time can be spent on union business, more time for people to campaign for elections, to add more debate for candidates, and to debate more resolutions. Discussed how it might also help reduce the scramble of new Regional Council for their first meeting, without having such a cost burden on PSAC BC to rearrange flights/hotels etc.
 - Motion to send resolution as written: Darcy, Seconded by James; carried
- 2) Regarding education, and eliminating a requirement by numbers to attend in person education. Discussion: members raising concerns about courses being cancelled with less than 20 participants. Members discouraged as plans were put in place (childcare, family, work/travel etc) to have it suddenly cancelled. Members would have to wait until next time course offered, or if it is offered again. Regardless of participants, education is important and the course should be put on. Ideas came up about digitizing vs facilitating, and what other resources can be done to make education more accessible. Suggestions about digital course with support of facilitator for questions or test. Deliver virtual or ad hoc courses would be cost effective, and training on own time would make it more accessible. Agreed in person training is best, as you can talk to other locals and gain

valuable experience from others. If people can go online and finish at their own pace, it would give more people chances to attend.

- Jessica offered clarification that the 20 person is not a rule, but what the facilitator is comfortable with teaching. Remote communities are harder to access education, and concessions are made for those participants. Online self-paced training on PSAC website will return as changes to the website via IT have delayed things.
- Monica offered to write in her Regional Coordinator report, a suggestion to the Education committee about what was discussed today
- Motion to send resolution as written: Virginia, Seconded by Tai; carried.

2026 Events:

- Discussed a solidarity saturday. Date TBD. Monica offered to host one, Teresa also wanted to host one with Trish. The three of them will talk to find a date
- Ship and Shore Tradeshow October 6th: Yearly Trade show at CFB Esquimalt which draws members to the event. Booth would be free. Monica to look into logistics, and see who is able to volunteer at event. UNDE 21008 has their GM that day 12-1pm. Monica raised a motion to construct a raffle basket of local foods and Indigenous goods, purchased by the Victoria Area Council up to \$150. James seconded; carried

Affiliate updates/Round table:

- Tai and Teresa (same local): nothing to report. Both Teresa and Tai interested in becoming strike/picket captains if needed
- Virginia: VIRWC next meeting on Sept 22nd; looking for more attendees
- James: UNDE 21008 AGM November 5th at Gorge Vale Golf Course
- Darcy: Mobilization committee had a meeting over the weekend, many points discussed. Getting ready to show locals how to map membership. PSAC website will be updated to allow members to update their information, this will also be used for strike.
- James: has put his name forward for School District 61 Trustee elections
- Monica: endorsed Josh Peterson for View Royal City Councillor
- Jessica: reminded us to wear black for solidarity tomorrow, and mentioned that this will be a continued event. Carolyn Sampson reached out to Regional Office and wanted to make the October Solidarity date an action by having a rally. More to follow. Jessica also listed off the many courses and education opportunities upcoming until end of November. She will be away for the whole month of October for a deserved holiday.

Next meeting: October 20th, for delegate selection for PSAC Triennial Convention

Meeting adjourned: 656pm