Okanagan Area Council meeting November 17, 2026, via Zoom

Attended: Jeanne Olineck – Chair (CEIU 20914), Brigitte Willman (USJE 20069), Kelly Megyesi (CEIU 20972), April Roberts (AGR 20043), Ashley-Rae Snape (UTE 20026), Blair Rundell (CEIU 20972), Jody Hauseman (CEIU 20972), Kerri Ford (USJE 20153), Myra Sweeney (USJE 2A086), Daphne Nicolson (USJE 2A086), Sophie De Pauw (CEIU 20918), Varinder Johal - PSAC BC Regional, Zoe Johnston USJE RVP

Regrets Ajay Anwal VP Chair (UTE 20026)

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement – Jeanne

2. Approval of Agenda
   Approved as submitted m/Brigitte, s/April. Motion carried.

3. Introductions
   Attendees were invited to introduce themselves.

4. Approval of previous minutes
   Approved as submitted m/Brigitte, s/Kelly. Motion carried.

5. Treasurer report – Kelly
   Opening Balance on September 15, 2026, $4336.75

   Expenses:
   - Labour Day Event: $215.83
   - Cranbrook Meet & Greet and Tour: $367.50
   - Kamloops Meet & Greet: $365.69
   - Service Charge: $4.97
     Total Expenses: $953.99

   Closing Balance (November 15, 2026): $3,352.76

   Treasurer's report m/Kelly, s/Ashley Rae. Motion carried.

The Council approved adjustments to previously approved budget items:

Activity	**Approved Budget**	**Actual Expense**
Labour Day Event	Up to $500	$250.83
Cranbrook Meet & Greet/Tour	Up to $500	$367.50
Kamloops Meet & Greet	Up to $500	$365.69

The following previously approved projects were cancelled or withdrawn and incurred no expenses:

- Penticton "Building Communities" Project
- Member CLC Facilitation Training

All motions approved unanimously.

Donations

Motion to donate $100 to Workers Museum. m/Kelly, s/Brigitte. Motion carried.

Motion to donate $100 to Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF). m/Kelly, s/Brigitte. Motion carried.

Kelly indicated that unspent donation funds may be incorporated into the 2027 budget pending further discussion by the executive.

6. Delegate Election – PSAC National Triennial Convention 2027

1st delegate:
Kelly nominated by Brigitte and s/Jeannie.
Jeannie nominated by Ashley Rae and s/April.

Both candidates accepted the nominations and votes held with Kelly being elected as the 1st delegate for convention.

1st alternate delegate: Jeannie
2nd alternate delegate: Brigitte
3rd alternate delegate: Daphne

7. Projects/Events

Brief discussion was had on part projects and events in relation to ideas for future projects and events. Nothing concrete was discussed or agreed upon. The suggestion was made for participants to come up with ideas of what they might like to see in future to present at the next meeting.

8. New Business – Donation of remaining $150 in the donations budget before year-end.
    - A suggestion was made to donate $25 to food banks in five communities where the Council has representation: Nelson, Kamloops, Vernon, Penticton, and Kelowna.
    - Kelly raised concerns regarding administrative deadlines, reimbursement requirements, and ensuring funds could be processed before year-end.
    - Members discussed alternative approaches, including supporting community meals and local food banks through Council-sponsored donations.

- Brigitte emphasized the importance of utilizing the current year's donation budget rather than rolling funds into the following year and recommended better planning for future donations.

A motion was made by Kelly to provide three $50 donations to food banks in the following communities: Vernon, Kelowna, and Nelson. Donations would be made on behalf of the Southern Interior/Okanagan Area Council and reimbursement requests would be submitted before year-end. Motion s/Daphne. Motion carried.

- Kerri to coordinate the Kelowna donation.
- Blair to coordinate the Vernon donation.
- Sophie to coordinate the Nelson donation.
- Receipts to be submitted for reimbursement before year end.

9. Round table

Brigitte requested information/explanation of the role and purpose of this Area Council be shared with newer members.

- Kelly referenced a promotional flyer that had previously been used at the Kamloops Meet and Greet. Flyer included with these minutes.

April provided an update on the ongoing strike involving Bank of Canada security guards.

Key points:

- Strike had reached approximately 150 days.
- Scheduling flexibility remained the primary unresolved bargaining issue.
- Members were becoming increasingly frustrated due to limited employer movement and delays in bargaining.
- Members were encouraged to support the workers by sending letters to MPs and sharing strike information.

Zoe shared that:

- USJE has donated $20,000 in support of the striking workers.
- Labour organizations continue to provide food, support, and solidarity activities for affected members.
- Members were encouraged to continue showing support and offering messages of solidarity.
- End Violence Against Women December 6th keep an eye out for PSAC postings with community events

Varinder provided several updates:

Upcoming Awareness Events

- Transgender Day of Remembrance events scheduled for November 20.
- Educational panel discussion hosted by the PSAC BC 2SLGBTQIA+ Coordinator on November 19.

Training Opportunities

Members were encouraged to participate in:

- Basic Strike Training
- Workforce Adjustment (WFA) Training
- Internal Organizing Training (upcoming)
- Various educational opportunities expected to be announced for Spring 2027

AGM Support

- PSAC BC staff remain available to attend local AGMs and provide updates on bargaining, campaigns, and regional initiatives.

Communications

Members were encouraged to:

- Download and use the PSAC membership app.
- Subscribe to PSAC BC communications and mailing lists.
- Monitor the PSAC BC website for updates and training opportunities.
- Bargaining > PA/EV/TB back to table. FB still in negotiation. Asking members to send a pre-drafted letter to the government for not offering a fair contract.

Participants shared Concerns Regarding Virtual Information Sessions

Members raised concerns about the availability of virtual bargaining information sessions.

- Members outside major urban centres feel disadvantaged by delays in virtual sessions.
- Some members are unable to attend in-person sessions due to geography and scheduling constraints.
- Virtual sessions should be available earlier in the process rather than delayed until after in-person sessions.
- Several locals reported hearing similar concerns from their memberships.

Varinder acknowledged the concerns and committed to forwarding the feedback through appropriate channels to PSAC leadership.

Several links were shared:

TUBS course available Talking Union Basics (TUB) (2 Days, in person) – Kamloops – PSAC British Columbia

https://psacbc.com/workforce-adjustment-training/

AGM is tentatively scheduled for January 19 https://psacbc.com/event/page/2/

https://psacbc.com/workforce-adjustment-training/

https://psacunion.ca/treasury-board-invite-bargaining-team-member-your

https://psacbc.com/basic-strike-training-for-treasury-board-members/

https://psacbc.com/events/trans-day-of-remembrance-panel-discussion/

https://psacbc.com/transgender-day-of-remembrance/

www.Bankofcanadastrike.ca

https://psacbc.com/courses/organizing-skills-training-for-psac-bc-members/

Next meeting **AGM is tentatively scheduled for January 19**

https://psacbc.com/event/page/2/

Motion to adjourn m/Jeanne s/Jody > All in favour 8:53pm