

BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

FEBRUARY 18, 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

CHAIR: GLEN JOHNSTON

MICHELLE LANG

SATINDER BAINS

JACKIE NETTLETON

SAM AKINSANYA

The Bylaws Committee met on February 18, 2016. The following was discussed:

AREA COUNCILS:

- Do we need to formalize retired member's involvement with Area Councils?
- Can we have former members volunteer with voice?
- Does a resolution have to be made to make this possible?
- Does the election of delegates to convention have to be done at an AGM?

FINANCE:

- Section 13, Subsection 2 (page 18) States: **Membership fees levied by the PRC shall be established by the Prairie Region Triennial Convention.** Where did this section originate from and has it ever been used and is this actually something we can do?
- Section 13, Subsection 3 (page 18) States: **The fiscal year of the PRC shall be from January 1 to December 31. A committee of three shall be appointed by the PRC to preform an annual review of the PRC'S finances and expenditures. The report of the review committee with its recommendations shall be presented to the first PRC meeting of the year. A financial report shall be presented at the Prairie Regional Triennial Convention.** Needs to be reviewed not for the fiscal year but for audit purposes and how it falls in line with the financial handbook.
- Reference to financial handbook in the finance section of Bylaws. (Regulations or Section 13 of the Bylaws)
- Section 13 Subsection 5 (page 19) States: **The Prairie Regional Council budget as passed by Convention, shall be posted on the Prairies website.** Where is the budget posted on the website?

Objectives:

- Section 3, Subsection 6 (Page 4) States: **Strive to promote the organization, operation and sustainability of Area Councils, Regional Women's, Human Rights, Aboriginal People's, Pride, Young Workers and Access Committees within the Prairie Region.** Is Access supposed to be Person's with a Disability?

From here until the next PRC meeting this committee plans to look at the Financial Handbook and also the Representative's roles and responsibility Handbook. We also are going to be looking at and discussing possible resolutions. This Committee plans to do this through minimum one conference call or webinar in May or June and add more if needed.

Report of the PRC Communications Committee February 2016

Conference call Tuesday January 26, 2016 (brother Pruden was excused)

Brother Vallis introduced us to the new communications officer brother Matthew Brett.

Convention theme suggestions from our committee (see below)

- **Our rights are human rights**
- **Our union fights for human rights**
- **Celebrating our history, inspiring our future**

General Resolution # 4 – Sister Deb Kosteniuk sent out email to PRC with a template of her newsletter to encourage compliance of General Resolution # 4.

Jeffrey said RO's were working on making list available on website of items members can use, such as flags, banners, etc. This lists were unavailable at the time of the conference call.

Tents will be ordered by end of February. There was an issue with Colorado colours (red was too orange). Swatches were provided by the company were not the right colour. Delivery is expected before the end of May 2016.

Updating of the PSAC website to the new platform to be completed by end of February.

PRC communications committee to meet Thursday afternoon February 18th prior to PRC meeting.

We will need to do a verbal update at the PRC with what we discussed.

In solidarity,

Timothy Hunt, Chair of the Communications Committee

Communications Committee:

- Matt Tijani
- Deb Kosteniuk
- Murray Pruden
- Deanna Getz

Staff assigned to our committee: Regional Communications Officer (Matthew Brett).

*Education Committee Report
(November – February 2016)*

- Two new members have recently been appointed to the Prairie Region Education Committee: Sister Shannon Blum and Brother Mike Weisegerber. The committee is excited to welcome these new faces and is grateful to have such great activists coming on board.
- The committee is now comprised of four members; Brother Nate Angus-Jackman (PRC Young Worker Rep, UTE member from Winnipeg), Sister Janette Husak (Aboriginal Members Representative from UNE in Prince Albert), as well as our two new members mentioned above.
- Regional Education Plan development meetings have continued across the region. The following is some information regarding dates, times and participants:
 - Nov 5 in Winnipeg (7 participants including Nate from the PRC)
 - Nov 24 in Regina (8 participants including Michelle Lang from the PRC)
 - Dec 1 in Saskatoon (14 participants including Janette and Shannon from the PRC)
 - Dec 7 in Calgary (11 participants including Deb K, Tim and Alex from the PRC)
 - Dec 8 in Lethbridge (10 participants including Greg K from the PRC)
 - Dec 9 in Medicine Hat (9 participants)
 - Jan 13 in Edmonton (5 participants including Ben from the PRC)
- The agenda was the same for each meeting and included a large group discussion on the following questions:
 1. What education topics would help you gain the skills, abilities and/or knowledge you need to do your union work?
 2. In your personal experience of PSAC education courses, what's good about them?
What needs improvement?

3. Have you completed any of the PSAC on-line learning courses? Have your members completed any? Were you aware that there is an on-line learning program?
4. What would help you promote the PSAC's education program and encourage the members you work with to participate in it?
5. What positive feedback have your members given you about the PSAC education courses they've been on? What has the negative feedback been?
6. If you had the resources to set up a 30-minute lunch & learn for your membership, what should the topic of the lunch & learn be?
7. If you were going to ask your members to attend a 2-3 hour face-to-face union education workshop (i.e. in the evening or on the weekend) what should the topic of the workshop be?
8. If you could change one thing (add, modify or remove) one thing about the PSAC's education program, what would it be?

- The committee will be striving to complete a draft Regional Education Plan in late March, and is hoping to have a final version of the plan approved in late April