

Recommendations from finance committee to PRC January 2017

1- Judy Shannon Scholarship

While the finance committee understands the desire to recognize the long time commitment of Sister Judy Shannon to education in the prairie region we do not feel that the PRC is the right body to establish and administer such a scholarship.

It is the recommendation of the finance committee that:

- (I) Should the staff union wish to create such a scholarship that PRC would be willing to provide a donation to support its establishment fund and
- (II) That such a scholarship to be administered by the staff union or the body that establishes the scholarship.

2- Prairie Region Convention 2017

Recommendation A

While the committee recognizes DCLs who are not yet paying dues are members in good standing it is the recommendation of finance committee that they will be treated like all other members in good standing and receive the same subsidy as dues paying members attending 2017 PSAC Prairie Regional Convention

Recommendation B

The finance committee recommends that the registration fee for all delegates registered by the posted deadline for the Prairie Regional Convention be paid out of the unallocated surplus for a total of \$22,400

Recommendation C

That funds to support live camera feed (including camera's, camera work and screens) at the 2017 Prairie Region Convention be funded in the amount of \$18,000 from the unallocated surplus.

3-Budget allocation process – regional committees

Members of the PRC finance committee attend the Winnipeg Regional Office for two days to review and make recommendations to the REVP on budget submissions from all prairie region committees. Estimated cost is \$9,000 to be allocated from the unallocated surplus.

4- Budget package 2018-2020 cycle

The PRC finance committee respectfully submits the proposed budget for the 2018-2020 budget cycle. Document provided

Prairie Regional Council Budget
Prairie Region Convention 2018-2020

Revenue	Budget Year 2018	Budget Year 2019	Budget Year 2020
AEC Transfer	191,636.25	191,636.25	191,636.25
Interest	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Revenue	<u>191,736.25</u>	<u>191,736.25</u>	<u>191,736.25</u>
 Expenses:			
PRC Meetings	115,000.00	115,000.00	115,000.00
Audit	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Conference Calls	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Council Members	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Donations	500.00	500.00	500.00
Area Council Assistance	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Comm/Council Networking	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
MB Federation of Labour	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
SK Federation of Labour	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
AB Federation of Labour	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Young Workers Outreach	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
RWC Special Events	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Convention	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Membership	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Communications	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00
Total Expenses	<u>191,600.00</u>	<u>191,600.00</u>	<u>191,600.00</u>
 Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	 136.25	 136.25	 136.25

Budget Assumptions:

This budget is designed to reflect the realities of where PSAC is at this moment in time

Assumptions:

- 1- The fund allocation from previous three- year budget will not be increased given the financial realities PSAC is working under;
- 2- There is no indication membership will see a significant increase in the coming cycle thus increasing available funds;
- 3- The PRC membership will remain the same in the coming three year cycle with meetings in compliance with PRC bylaws; and
- 4- The budget amounts for these expenditures will be available for use by the PRC at any time over the three year period.

As we look ahead into the next budget cycle this budget document is presented to continue regional support for PSAC priorities as we know them to be:

- Increase membership participation in all aspects of union activity, and help locals/branches to function at the highest level;
- Negotiate real wage increases and improve our collective agreements;
- Become more effective, efficient and forceful in representing members, and in mobilizing for workplaces that are healthier, safer, and respectful of workers' equality and human rights;
- Get better organized to advance the interests of our members as workers and citizens in the political and legislative arenas, federally as well as in each province and territory;
- Campaign for positive changes to the federal public service, and to federal programs, to better meet the needs of Canadians and to address the growing economic and social inequalities in our country; and
- Strengthen our internal governance systems to become an even more democratic and responsive union.

While this is a budget that some might consider austere it is the belief of the finance committee that it provides the required resources for members who wish to participate in union activities to do so. Changes in technology allow us to communicate more effectively with our members in a number of ways. This budget is about providing resources that supports Prairie Regional Council members as they undertake leadership in their constituencies. It is about working collectively as a team, sharing resources and skills across our broader community to build on the momentum that has been established and continues to flourish. This budget is about opportunities and how we make the most of them.

Given that we recognize funds within the coming cycle may not be as we hope for, expenses will be monitored and if there are underutilized line items we will actively seek reallocation such that the work we need to do gets done.

Meetings:

The PRC holds a minimum of two face to face meetings annually. The budget line item in support of these meetings has been increased to \$115,000 annually reflecting the actual costs of these meetings. This budget line item covers cost of LWOP, travel, accommodation and meeting room costs. Committee work should also be covered by this line item.

Audit:

In keeping with the motion passed at the November 2016 PRC meeting a line item of \$4500 annually has been added to the budget to cover the cost of a professional audit of financial statements. This item has been added to each year of the budget and is expenditure in the 2018-2020 budget cycle and will have to be factored into budgets going forward.

Conference Calls:

This line item has been reduced to \$1000 per year in the 2018-2020 budget cycle to reflect the actual costs associated with conference calls. New technologies have allowed us to significantly reduce the cost of calls to small amounts. The funds provided here we believe will be sufficient to support any conference calls required by council and its committees

Council Members:

The line item for council members has been reduced in this budget to \$5,000 per year. With technology employed as much as possible we believe these funds will be sufficient to support council member's work including attendance of council representatives at their respective conferences – health and safety, racially visible and women.

Donations:

This line item has been reduced from \$5,000 to \$500 in this budget cycle. While we recognize the need to support brothers and sisters across the house of labour that have been on extended strikes, advocacy groups and charities for this cycle such donations will have to be considered with exceptional care and all sources of revenue available examined when requests are forthcoming.

Committee/Council Networking:

This line item has been reduced slightly from \$2500 to \$2000 annually. This was a new item in the last budget cycle and there was minimal uptake. However, as we seek more ways to engage with our members we believe these funds should be maintained, at least for this cycle, in the hopes that utilization of technology for things like webinars will allow us to enhance mobilization of members.

Young Worker Outreach:

The young worker outreach line item has been reduced from \$3000 to \$1600 annually reflecting what was actually spent in the past year. We believe the suggested funding level will allow support to young workers to attend Federation of Labour Young Worker conferences. We also believe if there is one group among us who can and will use technology to its maximum advantage it will be our young workers.

RWC Special Events:

This line item has been reduced from \$10,000 to \$3,000 and is a reflection of the fact these funds have not been consistently utilized in recent years. There are six active RWCs at this time but it has been increasingly difficult for RWCs to engage large numbers of members for one-day seminars although both Edmonton and Winnipeg have tried during the past cycle. Additionally there are other pots of money RWCs can access if they wish to plan events around the major PSAC priority of child care. It needs to be recognized that our sisters are very good at cooperative events within their communities and can stretch funds significantly.

Convention:

The Prairie Regional Convention is not fully funded irrespective of the money allocated in the PSAC budget. As such, we continue to believe it is prudent to maintain this line item. It has been our practice to use all monies received from the PSAC budget on subsidies for our members and any surplus from the Council and registration fees on the costs of doing business at Convention. This line item will ensure that, at least in part, these costs would be covered should there be an occasion where there is no surplus to draw from.

Membership:

In the last cycle this line item was introduced to cover the annual membership costs to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Public Interest Alberta. Both organizations provide valuable research and educational resources on issues of both provincial and federal in nature. They are non-profit organizations and as a member PSAC often receives discounts when attending their events.

Communications:

Communications is a broad budget category that has been expanded to include all swag purchased for use in the prairie region at PSAC events. As such this line item has been increased from \$13,000 to \$24,000 to reflect the continued and rising cost of doing business and promoting what we do. In addition to the purchase and upgrading of promotional materials and equipment, these funds can be used to invest in new technologies that may come with license fees and a limited amount of media advertising.