

**PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 9 – 11, 2018**  
**Chateau Lacombe Hotel, Edmonton AB**

**Present:**

Marianne Hladun, Regional Executive Vice-President (REVP) Prairies  
Sandra Ahenakew, Aboriginal Peoples Rep  
Satinder Bains, Regina Area Council Rep  
Chris Beaton, Edmonton Area Council Rep  
Shannon Blum, Persons with Disabilities Rep  
Mackenzie Campbell, Young Workers Rep  
Alec Goertzen, Calgary Area Council Rep  
Valerie Illingworth, Northern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep  
Evelyn Jackson, Saskatoon Area Council Rep  
Frank Janz, Alternate REVP Prairies  
Glen Johnston, Westman Area Council Rep  
Michelle Lang, Directly Chartered Locals (DCL) Rep  
Stasi L'Hirondelle, Northern Alberta Geographical Rep  
Christopher Little-Gagne, GLBT Rep  
Gus Mardli, South-East Manitoba Geographical Rep  
Krysty Munns, Lethbridge & District Area Council Rep  
Kristy Slattery, Southern Alberta Geographical Rep  
Lorelei Topnik, Winnipeg Area Council Rep  
Michael Weisgerber, North-West Manitoba Geographical Rep  
Pennie Young, Prince Albert Area Council Rep  
Lisa Garnier, Regional Coordinator - Prairies  
Thomas Linner, Political Communications Officer - Prairies  
Alison Davis, Assistant to REVP - Prairies

**Regrets:**

Shaun Atilano, Separate Employers Locals Rep  
Phillip Chan, Racially Visible Persons Rep  
Deb Kosteniuk, Regional Women's Committees (RWC) Rep  
Tim Hubick, Southern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep

**Guest:**

Chris Aylward, PSAC National Executive Vice-President

**Housekeeping:**

PRC meeting will be recorded for minute purposes but not distributed.  
Administration of Oath of Office for Sr. Lorelei Topnik.  
PSAC Statement on Harassment is in effect. The Anti-Harassment Coordinator for the meeting will be Sr. Lisa Garnier.

PSAC Scent Statement is in effect. Any issues should be brought to the attention of Sr. Alison Davis.

Sr. Sandra Ahenakew welcomed the Council to Treaty 6 Land.

**Orders of the Day:**

Friday, February 9, 2018 12:00 p.m. – Rally at Canada Place

Friday, February 9, 2018 1:30 p.m. – Media Training

Saturday, February 10, 2018 9:00 a.m. – PSAC Convention Budget Presentation by Br. Chris Aylward

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting called to order by Sr. Marianne Hladun on February 9, 2018 at 9:10 a.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

m/s Sandra Ahenakew Chris Beaton

That the agenda be adopted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**3. Hours of Session**

m/s Michelle Lang Christopher Little-Gagne

Motion to adopt hours of session: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for Friday and Saturday. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Sunday. Strategy Session all day with National Officers. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Opening Remarks**

No opening remarks.

**5. Approval of Council Reports**

There is a requirement in the PRC By-Laws for all Representatives to submit a report. The reports are attached as they are received. The reports submitted can be found on the Prairies website

Br. Frank Janz assumes the Chair.

Reports:

Marianne Hladun

m/s Marianne Hladun Sandra Ahenakew

Additions:

- Was away for a period of time.
- CLC Lobby in Ottawa- four members from the Prairies attended.

Questions:

Br. Goertzen asks if Sr. Hladun will be holding more AC President calls, per the 2012 resolution, as the Chair of the Political Action Committee? Sr. Hladun advises that there will be a call annually and thinks it could happen more often.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Sr. Marianne Hladun resumes the Chair.

Sandra Ahenakew

m/s Sandra Ahenakew Christopher Little-Gagne

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Shaun Atilano

m/s Frank Janz Lorelei Topnik

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Satinder Bains

m/s Satinder Bains Glen Johnston

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Chris Beaton

m/s Chris Beaton Stasi L'Hirondelle

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Shannon Blum

m/s Shannon Blum Glen Johnston

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Mackenzie Campbell

m/s Mackenzie Campbell Sandra Ahenakew

Additions:

- There have been two Young Worker Committee meetings. She asks that the Council encourage their members to attend. Plans are underway for the Young Workers Conference and the call out has gone out.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Alec Goertzen

m/s Alec Goertzen Lorelei Topnik

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Tim Hubick

m/s Michelle Lang Sandra Ahenakew

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Valerie Illingworth

m/s Valerie Illingworth Evelyn Jackson

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Evelyn Jackson

m/s Evelyn Jackson Alec Goertzen

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Frank Jank

m/s Frank Janz Satinder Bains

Addition:

- Attended CLC Lobby Day

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Glen Johnston

m/s Glen Johnston Michael Weisgerber

Deb Kosteniuk

m/s Chris Beaton Shannon Blum

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Michelle Lang

m/s Michelle Lang Valerie Illingworth

Additions:

- Bargaining is still ongoing at the Casino
- Brandon University ratified their collective agreement

Action: Provide University of Brandon contact information to Westman Area Council

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Stasi L'Hirondelle

m/s Stasi L'Hirondelle Chris Beaton

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Christopher Little-Gagne

m/s Christopher Little-Gagne Sandra Ahenakew

Addition:

- Attended CLC Lobby Day and saw Scott Brison at the reception and spoke to him regarding the Positive Space Initiative

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Gus Mardli

m/s Gus Mardli Mackenzie Campbell

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Krysty Munns

m/s Krysty Munns

Chris Beaton

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Kristy Slattery

m/s Kristy Slattery

Mackenzie Campbell

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Michael Weisgerber

m/s Michael Weisgerber

Lorelei Topnik

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Pennie Young

m/s Pennie Young

Lorelei Topnik

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Phillip Chan

m/s Alec Goertzen

Satinder Bains

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep reports are found at Appendix A.

## **6. Committee Reports and Business**

### **By-Laws Committee:**

No report submitted.

### **Communications Committee:**

m/s Pennie Young

Mackenzie Campbell

To accept the Communications Committee report as presented (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Education Committee:**

m/s Shannon Blum Christopher Little-Gagne

To accept the Education Committee Terms of Reference as presented (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Sr. Shannon Blum withdraws her motion from the Education report.

m/s Shannon Blum Christopher Little-Gagne

To accept the Education Committee report as a whole (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Finance Committee:**

m/s Alec Goertzen Lorelei Topnik

To accept the Finance Committee report as presented (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

m/s Alec Goertzen Lorelei Topnik

To accept the Finance Committee Terms of Reference as presented (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The following motions were voted on:

m/s Alec Goertzen Evelyn Jackson

Because Prairie Region Council budget now provides for a budget line costing for audit expenses over the 2018 2019 and 2020 financial cycle, and because the bylaws now require a financial audit to be completed annually

The Finance Committee recommends that for the financial cycle of 2018 2019 and 2020 the Prairie Region Council authorizes Exchange Group Chartered Professional Accountants to perform yearly audits on PRC financial documents.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

m/s Alec Goertzen

Evelyn Jackson

Budget allocation process – Regional Committees The budget allocation review was performed by the finance committee with the REVP during the last fiscal year 2015 to 2017. The review by the Finance Committee was found to be successful and important step for the recommendations made to the REVP. With new members to finance committee it is important that they become acquainted with this process.

Motion: 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.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

The quarterly financial statements will be brought to a conference call before the audit (March 19<sup>th</sup>) happens to be voted on so that they can be reviewed for typos one last time. Any questions on the documents brought to the PRC can be directed to Br. Goertzen.

**Health & Safety Committee:**

m/s Gus Mardli

Valerie Illingworth

To accept the Health & Safety Committee report as presented (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

m/s Gus Mardli

Valerie Illingworth

To accept the Health and Safety Committee Terms of Reference with friendly amendment – 8<sup>th</sup> bullet change word from shall to may (see Appendix C).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Recorded votes found at Appendix B.

**7. Agenda Items**

- (a) Motion to appoint auditor for 2017 Fiscal Year– submitted by Br. Alec Goertzen



Dealt with under Finance Committee.

- (b)** All Committee Year End Financials deadline March 15 (reminder only) – submitted by Br. Alec Goertzen

A reminder that the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline is coming up for Area Councils, Committees and RAPC to submit their financials.

- (c)** Retention time of Committee Financial in RO's– submitted by Br. Alec Goertzen

Br. Goertzen would like to know how long do Area Councils/Committees need to keep a copy of their financials? Sr. Hladun says that her office does not receive the originals as they are often scanned. PSAC National keeps original financial documents for ten years. As some of the funds for our committees come from Ottawa that may need to be the practice. There is a need for a consistent practice across the region. A discussion will be had with the Chair of the Finance Committee, Br. Alec Goertzen, Sr. Lisa Garnier and Sr. Hladun to come up with a process. Sr. Hladun will also check with our auditor. A documented process can be created and added to the reporting package.

Action: Check with auditor to find out what the standard is for retaining documents.

Action: Sr. Garnier will check with the RO's to see what each office has been doing.

- (d)** PRC Bylaws Sec.13(6) require variance report on website quarterly – submitted by Br. Alec Goertzen

The PRC Bylaws state that the variance report is to be posted on the website quarterly and can't find them on the website. Sr. Hladun advises that they are posted on the website and Br. Linner will send out the link to the PRC.

- (e)** Broadbent Institute Progress Summit 2018 – submitted by Br. Chris Little-Gagne

Upcoming dates in Saskatoon, Edmonton and Winnipeg. Sr. Hladun will look at some different funding scenarios and will send it out to the PRC.

- (f)** PSAC Training during the day – Pilot Project continuance from past PRC – submitted by Sr. Shannon Blum

Agenda item 7(f) withdrawn by Sr. Shannon Blum.

- (g)** Using a contest to get up to date information from members – submitted by Sr. Deb Kosteniuk

Sr. Kosteniuk not present at meeting so this agenda item will be brought to the November meeting.

**(h)** What is the PRC's plan for the next three years? – submitted by Br. Frank Janz

Br. Janz is wondering about long term plans past the six-month strategy plan especially with upcoming elections. Perhaps the focus can be on updating phone numbers.

Sr. Hladun suggests that the document that comes out of the strategy session which looks six months ahead can be used as a living document. She suggested perhaps the PRC could look at setting up an ad hoc committee but will need to be careful not to step on component toes.

**(i)** Mobilization in the region, should we as the Regional Council take on the task – submitted by Br. Frank Janz

Br. Janz is not sure what PRC can do regarding mobilization without stepping on Component toes.

Sr. Hladun says that expanding committees and area councils needs to happen and there needs to be a focus on recruitment. If we can build that base, mobilization will be faster.

Sr. Campbell suggests more image based posters which are more noticeable on a union board. She uses a website called canva.com.

**(j)** Phoenix Update – submitted by Sr. Marianne Hladun

The impact of the Phoenix fiasco has been huge. Sr. Hladun would like to recognize the work of all the Area Councils, Committees and members. PSAC messaging is that we want the Comp Advisors back. This is the Government's responsibility to fix. PSAC has launched legal challenges etc but we want this fixed for the members. There is a National UMC set up for Phoenix and Robyn sits at that table. We are a year out from an election and this government needs to be accountable as this is a political issue. If you know anyone who has been impacted and would be willing to speak to media, please let Br. Linner know.

Phoenix advocate training happening in the region at all the RO's.

February 28<sup>th</sup> will be a National Day of Action but we are not advertising it in the media until that day or late the day prior.

**(k)** Prairies 2020 Convention Update – submitted by Sr. Marianne Hladun

Update provided by Sr. Davis. The deadline to receive requests for proposals has passed and she has done a preliminary review of the proposals. The cities of Edmonton and Calgary cannot provide enough unionized space to meet our needs and the only dates that TCU Place, in Saskatoon, has available in April, May or June is the May long weekend. Will be looking at the costs in both cities and will be travelling to Regina in the next two weeks to do a site visit of the Delta. A conference call will need to be held to vote on the location so Sr. Davis can enter into contract negotiations.

Action: Look into Banff as a possible location

Action: Double check that there is not another unionized hotel in Edmonton as Br. Beaton believes that there may be a Ramada or a Radisson that may be recently unionized.

**(I)** Dates for next PRC and conference calls – submitted by Sr. Marianne Hladun

A reminder that the next meeting will be held November 2 - 3, 2018 in Winnipeg. The next official conference call is scheduled for May 9, 2018 at 3 p.m. (CST).

m/s Chris Beaton Alec Goertzen

Motion to adjourn at 12:00 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED.**