

PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 2 - 3, 2018
Winnipeg Regional Office, Winnipeg MB

Present:

Marianne Hladun, Regional Executive Vice-President (REVP) Prairies
Sandra Ahenakew, Aboriginal Peoples Rep
Satinder Bains, Regina Area Council Rep
Shannon Blum, Persons with Disabilities Rep
Mackenzie Campbell, Young Workers Rep
Phillip Chan, Racially Visible Persons Rep
Alec Goertzen, Calgary Area Council Rep
Sheilagh Hanson, Winnipeg Area Council Rep
Tim Hubick, Southern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep
Valerie Illingworth, Northern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep
Evelyn Jackson, Saskatoon Area Council Rep
Frank Janz, Alternate REVP Prairies
Glen Johnston, Westman Area Council Rep
Deb Kosteniuk, Regional Women's Committees (RWC) 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
Wanda Quennell, Separate Employers Locals Rep
Dragana Ristivojevic, Edmonton 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

Observers:

Nestor Galarnyk, USJE Local 50026
Jackie Oswald, USJE RVP SK/MB
Rita Gordon, UNE Local 50040

Regrets:

Michelle Lang, Directly Chartered Locals (DCL) Rep
Kristy Slattery, Southern Alberta Geographical Rep

Housekeeping:

PRC meeting will be recorded for minute purposes but not distributed.

Administration of Oath of Office for Sheilagh Hanson, Dragana Ristivojevic, Wanda Quennell.

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.

Action: Sr. Davis will bring in rubber tub for toiletries.

Sr. Sandra Ahenakew welcomed the Council to Treaty 1 land.

Orders of the Day:

Friday, November 2, 2018 12:00 p.m. – Rally

Friday, November 2, 2018 4:00 p.m. – Brianne Goertzen, Provincial Director
Manitoba Health Coalition provided an overview of the work of the MHC.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting called to order by Sr. Marianne Hladun on November 2, 2018 at 9:13 a.m.

Action: Confirm with HQ if the PRC titles will change for the PRC Aboriginal and GLBT Reps with resolutions passed at PSAC National Convention.

2. Adoption of Agenda

m/s Stasi L'Hirondelle Mackenzie Campbell

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

3. Hours of Session

m/s Glen Johnston Krysty Munns

Motion to adopt hours of session: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for Friday and Saturday.

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 Christopher Little-Gagne

Additions:

- Attended both the AEC retreat and NBoD retreat
- A lot of concerning developments with bargaining
- Prairie Region will be holding Leadership Political Action Courses and it is being funded with additional money beyond our regular education budget. Many thanks to Prairies staff for pulling it together so quickly
- Is assigned PA and Common Issues bargaining tables. During the last couple of rounds, we have questioned if they have a mandate. Government is clearly stalling. We can't declare impasse until all demands are tabled. PSAC has no intention of stalling and will be moving to impasse as soon as possible if no tentative agreement is reached.
- Train finally pulled into Churchill again on October 31st

Questions:

- How many times have Teams met? Table specific have met three times and one time to caucus. Common Issues has met twice.
- What is the wage proposal? 3.75% per year for 4 years.
- Who will be invited to the PAC training? All PRC, all AC Exec members, 1 rep per each other committee, all National Bargaining team members from 5 tables and CFIA, Parks, CRA. It is a higher level leadership training. If Locals are looking for political action training, they should reach out to the Reps. The training is designed to be done by province but if leaders are not available, they will be allowed to go to another province. No alternates will be allowed.

MOTION CARRIED.

Sr. Marianne Hladun resumes the Chair.

Satinder Bains

m/s Satinder Bains Frank Janz

MOTION CARRIED.

Shannon Blum

m/s Shannon Blum

Deb Kosteniuk

MOTION CARRIED.

Mackenzie Campbell

m/s Mackenzie Campbell

Christopher Little-Gagne

MOTION CARRIED.

Tim Hubick

m/s Tim Hubick

Sandra Ahenakew

MOTION CARRIED.

Frank Jank

m/s Frank Janz

Gus Mardli

MOTION CARRIED.

Glen Johnston

m/s Glen Johnston

Tim Hubick

MOTION CARRIED.

Christopher Little-Gagne

m/s Christopher Little-Gagne

Gus Mardli

MOTION CARRIED.

Krysty Munns

m/s Krysty Munns Mackenzie Campbell

MOTION CARRIED.

Kristy Slattery

m/s Deb Kosteniuk Mackenzie Campbell

MOTION CARRIED.

Michael Weisgerber

m/s Michael Weisgerber Glen Johnston

MOTION CARRIED.

Rep reports are found at Appendix A.

6. Committee Reports and Business

By-Laws Committee:

m/s Michael Weisgerber Stasi L'Hirondelle

To accept the By-Laws Committee report as presented (see Appendix C).

MOTION CARRIED.

m/s Michael Weisgerber Stasi L'Hirondelle

To accept the updated PRC Handbook with the addition of page numbers and the Lethbridge Labour Council.

MOTION CARRIED.

Action: By-laws Committee will look at drafting guidelines for the posting of committee and area council minutes. The process is unclear and there needs to be consistency.

By-laws Committee will begin review a committee bylaws and/or terms of reference. Please forward any suggested changes in word format to Br. Weisgerber and cc Sr. Davis by the end of February. By-laws Committee will send this out in writing.

Constitution changes at National Convention limit the number of Council members to 20 excluding the REVP. The PRC is made up of 23 (plus the REVP) so that means currently, we would be three seats short.

Action: Sr. Hladun will see if there needs to be two separate elections for the Area Council elections. Possible that incoming PRC may not go to Convention.

Action: Confirm if one day PRC meeting the day before Convention will be covered.

Action: Confirm if there is a minimum number of meetings that Area Council Reps must attend to be elected.

m/s Michael Weisgerber Pennie Young

To approve a By-laws review.

MOTION CARRIED.

m/s Michael Weisgerber Gus Mardli

The By-laws Committee will work in concert with the Communications Committee to create a survey to send to the membership to look at the structure and makeup of the Prairie Region Council.

MOTION CARRIED.

Communications Committee:

Committee met and discussed doing a contest to update member contact info. The prize will be a \$500 gift card in each province. Sr. Hladun will find the funds from her office. Br. Linner is working on the mailer.

m/s Deb Kosteniuk Mackenzie Campbell

To accept the verbal Communications Committee report.

MOTION CARRIED

Will send a written report.

Action: Br. Linner will touch base with Ottawa to see if there is a possibility of a swag boutique on the national website.

Action: Br. Linner will check to see if balloons are biodegradable.

Education Committee:

Currently ongoing education consultations in the region. After consultation they will look at feedback and create guidelines.

m/s Phil Chan Christopher Little-Gagne

To accept the verbal Education Committee report.

MOTION CARRIED.

Will send a written report.

Finance Committee:

Action: update agenda to show Quarter 2 & Quarter 3 Financials as there is a typo.

In last year's committee packages, the food and miscellaneous requests were quite varied. One committee should take the lead in a joint request. Finance Committee will be reviewing the finance reporting package in the new year and sending changes to Br. Linner to update.

m/s Alec Goertzen Glen Johnston

To accept the Quarter 2 Financial Statement.

MOTION CARRIED.

m/s Alec Goertzen Glen Johnston

To accept the Quarter 3 Financial Statement.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Committee recommends non-concurrence on both resolutions submitted by Br. Christopher Little-Gagne (See Appendix F). Finance Committee felt that Resolution #1 wouldn't be consistent and that Resolution #2 would be too costly. The costing provided for Resolution #2 was \$11,990.37 for a weekday and \$5,250 less if done on a Sunday.

m/s Alec Goertzen Glen Johnston

Recommendation of non-concurrence of Resolution #1.

MOTION CARRIED.

m/s Alec Goertzen Glen Johnston

Recommendation of non-concurrence of Resolution #2.

MOTION CARRIED.

Recorded votes can be found at Appendix B.

Action: Send United Way Labour Reps contact info to the PRC.

Action: Communications Committee to test out a Skype call.

Info: There was a request from the previous PRC meeting to have Sr. Hladun check on the timeframe for the retention of committee/council documents. Sr. Hladun advises that the answer from IT and HQ is they do not know but are working on a policy.

m/s Alec Goertzen Glen Johnston

To accept the Finance Committee report as a whole.

MOTION CARRIED.

m/s Shannon Blum Phil Chan

That every member of current PRC send to the Chair of the Education Committee their top five choices of education required for PRC duties. Due by January 15, 2019.

MOTION CARRIED.

Health & Safety Committee:

Finalized agenda for the Prairies Regional H&S conference. Br. Wirth will be sending emails to those selected to choose their workshops. There will be a conference call on Tuesday with the H & S Committee for input. There were 110 applicants and will be 50 participants. The 50/50 proceeds will be given to BACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse) and there will be a meet and greet on the Friday evening.

m/s Gus Mardli Val Illingworth

To accept the verbal Health & Safety Committee report.

MOTION CARRIED

Will send a written report.

7. Agenda Items

(a) Resolutions (Appendix F) – submitted by Christopher Little-Gagne

Dealt with under Finance Committee. PRC votes on non-concurrence found at Appendix B.

(b) Mentoring/shadowing – submitted by Shannon Blum

While at the Women at Work course Sr. Blum and Sr. Kosteniuk were asked by participants to bring this forward to the PRC. Would like to see a mentoring program such as shadowing a leader for a week. Not sure of coding and where the funds should come from at this point.

m/s Shannon Blum Deb Kosteniuk

To do the research on and bring back the information to the PRC.

MOTION CARRIED.

(c) Truth and Reconciliation – submitted by Sandra Ahenakew

Sr. Ahenakew advises that her call to action was to purchase TRC booklets with the 94 calls to action and share them with others. She provided one to each PRC member and additional ones to be sent back to each RO specifically to the HRC's where present.

We need to lobby provincial governments to change school curriculums. Copies of the Kairos petition for all three provinces provided.

Action: send out to the PRC the list of Treaty areas that Sr. Ahenakew sent to the REVP office.

(d) PSAC Education and Outreach – submitted by Michael Weisgerber

Br. Weisgerber says that he does outreach with his members to get them to a course and then it gets cancelled or postponed and then we lose them. He knows that the education review is underway but his members are frustrated.

Sr. Hladun advises that as Chair of the National Education Committee, regional education is part of the discussion at the national level. If PRC has any ideas, please send them to Br. Chan and cc Sr. Davis

Br. Little-Gagne says that the Education Committee will be looking at this and will send ideas to Br. Chan. They will discuss with the REO and bring back to the PRC.

Action: Sr. Garnier will make sure potential dates for the Kairos Blanket exercise for members 100 kms outside RO's are scheduled and listed

(e) Opioid Crisis Book Launch – submitted by Krysty Munns

Sr. Munns thanks Sr. Hladun for supporting this book launch. She attended the June 30th book launch and funds from the event sent to the Sweetgrass Youth Alliance. She has brought a copy of the book for each RO.

(f) Here for Canada and Phoenix Update – submitted by Marianne Hladun

TV ads were strategically aired during national news and online social media. The video featuring Sr. Shannon Blum has popped up on people's newsfeed 5 million times and 1.5-2 million have watched all or a portion of it. Staff have been asked to show videos to members. Will continue to build on the campaign.

Escalating priority cases but they are getting bottlenecked. There is a 20 million deficit and discussions continue around damages. We need to mobilize members to shift from anger and frustration with the union to the employer. PRC were sent the lobbying kit and would like to see more actions from Area Councils in particular as funding is available. Please send in a plan and budget. Media is being handled through the REVP office and if you know anyone who would like to share a personal story let the office know.

(g) Membership Dues Change File – submitted Marianne Hladun

Br. Thomas Linner provided a presentation on the membership dues file change. PRC feels that there should be a wording change on the National website 'to equal to the value' to make it more clear.

Action: confirm if the Power Point used by Br. Linner can be shared.

(h) Approval October 10, 2018 conference call minutes – submitted by Marianne Hladun

Minutes were approved as presented. Recorded vote found at Appendix B.

(i) 1919 Winnipeg General Strike Centennial events – submitted by Marianne Hladun

Deal with under agenda item 7 (j).

(j) Dates for 2019 PRC meetings and conference calls – submitted by Marianne Hladun

The PRC discussed the timing of the next PRC meeting to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the 1919 Strike in Winnipeg. The May meeting would be a three-day meeting so that the PRC can attend the parade and other events on the Saturday.

m/s Sandra Ahenakew Glen Johnston

That the next two face to face PRC meetings be held May 24-26, 2019 in Winnipeg and November 1-2, 2019 in Regina.

MOTION CARRIED.

The next PRC conference calls are scheduled for February 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. CST and September 19, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. CST.

m/s Michael Weisgerber Alec Goertzen

Motion to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.