

## **PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**January 31 – February 2, 2014**

**Delta Bessborough Hotel**

**Saskatoon, SK**

### **Present:**

Marianne Hladun, REVP Prairies

Satinder Bains, Southern Saskatchewan Representative

Shaun Brennand, Regina Area Council Representative

Dave Burchell, Persons with Disabilities Representative

Denni Ernst, Northern Saskatchewan Representative

Deborah Ferguson, Alternate REVP

Alec Goertzen, Calgary Area Council Representative (October 18 & 19)

Tim Hogan, Prince Albert Area Council Representative

Timothy Hunt, GLBT Representative

Nancy Johnson, RWC Representative

Glen Johnston, North West Manitoba Representative

Darlene Lewis, Edmonton Area Council Representative

Gus Mhardli, South East Manitoba Representative

Jackie Nettleton, Saskatoon Area Council Representative

David Pearson, Lethbridge Area Council Representative

Petrina Runns, DCL Representative

Matt Tijani, Winnipeg Area Council Representative

Lisa Garnier, Regional Coordinator - Prairies

Jeffrey Vallis, Regional Political Communications Officer - Prairies

Martha Johnson, Regional Office Admin, Saskatoon

### **Regrets:**

Imy Bhatti, Racially Visible Representative

Jerad Cooper, Northern Alberta Representative

David Fandrich, Southern Alberta Representative

Alex George, Aboriginal Representative

Chad Kemery, Separate Employer Representative

Susan Norman, Westman Area Council Representative

### **Guest:**

Yvan Thauvette, National President, Union of Veterans Affairs Employees

(Jan. 31/14 a.m. only)

### **1. Call to Order: January 31, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Sister Marianne Hladun at 10:37 a.m. Roundtable introductions and welcome to Brother Yvan Thauvette, UVAE National President. Brother Thauvette offered thanks for supporting the Veterans campaign and the press conference held prior to PRC convening.

## **2. Adoption of Agenda**

## **3. Hours of Session**

The hours of session were adopted. Friday – 10:30 to noon and 1:30 to 3:00. Tour of TCU Place at 3:30 pm (cabs will be arranged). Saturday – 9:00 to noon and 1:30 to 5:00 pm and Sunday 9:00 am until conclusion of business.

## **4. Opening Remarks**

Sister Hladun welcomed PRC and advised that Sister Alison Davis, EA to the REVP has been on leave since the first week of January with a back injury. Sister Davis was very distraught about missing her first ever PRC meeting and sends her regrets. She may be in the office some part days but will be dictated by her health. We are reviewing her incoming emails but would ask that anything usually sent to Alison also be sent to the REVP. Sister Hladun also recognized the assistance of RO staff who have stepped up to assist including Sister Martha Johnson who will be taking minutes for this PRC.

Sister Hladun thanked the PRC for accommodating a later start because of the Veterans press conference held first thing this morning. Brother Jeffrey Vallis is currently finishing media contact but it appeared that we will have good coverage. There is also an event taking place this afternoon in Brandon which Jeffrey is also coordinating.

Sister Hladun offered the floor to Brother Yvan Thauvette for any comments. Brother Thauvette explained that the problem with Veterans Affairs is that they made decisions without consultation. When our members told veterans about the closures, the veterans were unhappy and contacted us. This campaign is not a PSAC campaign, it's a Veterans campaign and we are supporting them 100%.

Minister Fantino's comments that PSAC is behind it all is not true. They have been misleading veterans and the public. The 650 Service Canada locations can't serve veterans because the members at Service Canada don't have the appropriate training and support. They don't have access to the files or know the programs and services we deliver.

Fantino has refused to meet with UVAE and he has refused to meet with veterans in those communities where the office was slated to close. His reaction this week, meeting with veterans for 8 minutes and leaving tell the whole story.

Sister Hladun thanked Brother Thauvette for attending. It was the first PSAC organized press conference in the region and went very well. Good media response ever since the advisory went out and looked like we had just about every media outlet in Saskatoon present today.

Brother Timothy Hunt asked who would be sending out the daily media scans in Alison's absence. Sister Hladun thanked the Brother for the question and will ask Jeffrey to send out the media scans daily until Alison's return.

Brother Hunt asked Brother Thauvette about how Veterans Affairs is dealing with staff from the closed offices. Brother Thauvette said UVAE has been working well with the department in that regard. Several alternations, a couple found other jobs and some retired.

Sister Hladun welcomed and administered the oath of office to Brother Gus Mardli, newly elected PRC Geographic Rep for Southeast Manitoba replacing Brother Clint Wirth.

Sister Hladun advised that there was also a call for nominations for a Young Worker representative to replace Brother Keith Gauthier. No nominations were received by the deadline and as per the by-laws, the position will be vacant until convention.

The following PRC send regrets for this meeting: Brother Alex George, Sister Susan Norman, Brother Imy Batty, Brother Jerad Cooper, Brother David Fandrich. Brother Chad Kemery was planning on attending but sends his regrets due to a death in the family.

Since sending regrets, Brother Jerad Cooper submitted his resignation to the PRC email list.

Brother David Pearson asked why there was a lack of interest from Young Workers. Sister Hladun advised it could be either locals not distributing the information to young workers in the local and also that potential candidates may not know who they can get to nominate or second them for the position. They may also not have a clear idea of what responsibilities would be for the PRC rep. Most likely there are other factors as well that should be explored once the position is filled at convention.

## **5. Council Reports**

Brother Goertzen asked for clarification on the difference between “no report” and “nil report”. Sister Hladun advised that a “no report” is when there has been no response and no report has been submitted. Reports submitted after the deadline are shown as late reports and as per past practice, PRC reps submitting late reports or no reports do not have an opportunity to provide a verbal update.

Sister Denni Ernst asked about why her report showed as no report when she indicated she had nothing to report. Sister Marianne indicated that in Sister Alison’s absence, the email may have been missed and if an email as such was received, the report page would be amended before circulation.

#### Additions to Reports:

##### Marianne Hladun:

- there was no PRC monthly update call for January as it was scheduled before the AEC and because its after the holiday period, there was not sufficient to report to warrant taking people’s evening time.
- NBOD Political Action Committee has developed a comprehensive strategy for moving forward to 2015. Will be presented for adoption at the February NBOD meeting.
- The strategy will identify our priorities moving forward to October 2015. As a region we will have to develop our own plan to meet our own unique needs in the region. Important elements are member engagement and education. Input will be sought from National Officers, Locals, Committees and Area Councils to put together a plan. Finances will be allocated to this work but we won’t know what that looks like until its passed by the NBOD.
- Veterans campaign has been successful in the region. We have ads running from Flin Flon, MB, Saskatoon, Regina, Lloydminster, North Battleford, Prince Albert and bus shelters in Saskatoon.

##### Timothy Hunt:

- National Equity conference. Enjoyed the workshops. Didn’t think the plenary with all 5 equity groups worked well. Lots of logistical problems. Steering committee were disappointed in things not being done or missing.
- Alberta government introduced Bills 45 & 46 which are a provincial version of national bills (C-4) to stop negotiations.
- National Human Rights Committee has not been pushed back to March 2014. Disappointed that convention is upon us and our terms are about to end and we have not been able to do the work that we started and set out to do.

##### Matt Tijani:

- elected as Winnipeg Area Council PRC rep for next term
- selected as a delegate to the National Bargaining conference.
- attended the Agriculture Union MB/NWT Regional Seminar

Brother Dave Pearson and Brother Glen Johnston have submitted written reports today and will be added to reports as a late report.

Upon request from Brother Dave Pearson, Young Worker report will be added to roundtable discussion.

Sister Nancy Johnson inquired about how to access reports from PRC reps after they resign their position. Sister Marianne will confer with Jeffrey about how to get all the reports posted.

Timothy Hunt:

- point of interest for PRC. Sochi Mayor reported there are no gay people in his city. Members from Pride Steering Committee consulted with Louise Casselman from the PSAC Social Justice Fund and she has secured \$2500 for Amnesty International who has people on the ground in Sochi to document the atrocities.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **Health and Safety Committee – Brother Alec Goertzen**

With Brother Clint Wirth's departure, only 2 members left on the committee. As the Regional H&S Rep, Clint has continued the work of the committee and implemented things regarding the education plan and about creating a network.

Sister Marianne advised that in the past, any alternates or PRC elected mid-term automatically took over any committee roles their predecessor had. This term, the decision was made that members volunteer for a committee versus be appointed but if Brother Gus is interested in participating in the committee, he is more than welcome to participate.

### **Education Committee – Brother Tim Hogan**

Committee has had a number of conference calls working on establishing Prairie Union School likely fall 2014. The theme will be activism and will centre around mobilization and union building up to the 2015 election. Location will be Saskatoon or Regina. Dates will prevent utilization of university facilities and will necessitate hotel accommodations. Committee is prepare budgets for a 3, 4 and 5 day event which will determine possible number of participants. We are hoping to access some Political Action funding because of the timing of the school. Call-out for organizing committee has been sent out

Sister Marianne advised that with the theme of political action and activism, if the NBOD passes the proposed strategy, additional funds may be available.

## **Communications Committee**

Committee will be presenting 3 sample logos for the Prairie Region to be voted on later in the agenda.

### **7. Agenda items 7(a) and (b)**

- back up documents being printed at the Saskatoon RO.
- Will come back to these items after lunch.

### **7. (c) Nominations Procedure**

Sister Lisa Garnier is responsible for the nominations procedure. Sister Lisa advised that the call-outs for REVP and A/REVP will be sent out via email. The callout will include the nomination form to be returned to her office. Both the nominator and seconder **must be delegates to convention** but the Nominee does not have to be a registered delegate. Nominations can be submitted via fax, scan or regular mail. Should be sent out late March. Upon request, declared nominees will receive 2 copies of delegate mailing labels.

Sister Nancy Johnson asked if a candidate may submit more than one nomination. Sister Lisa advised that nominations will be date and time stamped so we know when received. First completed nominations received will stand as official nomination. There would be no reason to submit more than one. Also, nomination forms are to be submitted by the candidate.

Sister Lisa advised that she will confirm receipt of nomination directly to the candidates. She also expanded that nomination can be received from the date of the call-out right up to and including on convention floor when the Chair of the Elections calls for nominations.

## **Other Convention Business**

Sister Marianne advised PRC to complete their online registration if they have not already done so. They should receive an email confirmation but they should check their junk folders if they have not received it yet. Matt requested confirmation of his registration.

Local subsidy deadline is Feb. 12th. Brother Alec asked how locals can protect their subsidy if local elections are scheduled for after that date. Sister Marianne advised that locals should register with a "tbd" for the names and indicate the date of their meeting.

Sister Marianne advised that we will be sending out a reminder notice to locals. Also, that committees and councils do not receive the subsidy so the Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> deadline is not as critical. Money for these delegates is being held in a reserve fund.

### **Adjourned for lunch 12:00pm – 1:30**

#### **7. Update meeting templates and regional office staff work with committees**

REO Judy Shannon submitted a memo to PRC for review and feedback. As part of the agenda for the March AF Skills Refresher course, in workshops the AF's will be tasked with developing and finalizing these templates. Judy is open to PRC feedback. PRC were advised to send their feedback directly to Sister Judy.

For the roles and responsibilities document, Sister Nancy ask if these were the ones previously discussed. Sister Lisa advised that no changes or additions were made except for typographical edits. Sister Marianne advised that all discussion from the October PRC meeting was incorporated into the draft document and it was then formatted and cleaned up for distribution.

Brother Alec asked if staff have been advised or the procedures so there won't be any confusion as to what staff are responsible for and that requests won't be refused. Sister Lisa again advised that staff had an opportunity to review the document.

For the templates, PRC will come back to this at a future meeting once the templates have been developed by the AF's.

#### **7. b) Deadlines for financial reporting**

Sister Marianne advised that we will use the same process as last year. The only addition this year is a request for bylaws or terms of reference. Revised version is being printed for PRC and will be discussed tomorrow.

Sister Nancy advised that one thing that didn't work well is that committees submitted data so late. It was suggested that deadlines should be added to committee handbooks. Sister Marianne advised that last year was the first time for this process but overall the documents worked well.

Sister Marianne also reminded PRC that it is the responsibility of PRC reps to collect and verify accuracy and completeness of reporting info for submission. Also stated that improvements to this process can be made, but the document works overall. Other Regions have adopted and built upon this model.

Brother Timothy suggested that highlights of actions since last meeting should be captured in meeting minutes so that Regional Reps can pull the required info

from these minutes in order to complete their NBOD/AEC Reports. Feels this could be added to the templates and this area of responsibility for the Regional Rep could be captured in template as a “must do”.

Sister Nancy asked how far in advance do you know when NBOD reports are due. Sister Marianne advised that reports are due at least 2 weeks before NBOD meeting to allow for formatting and translation. Discussion on whether info can be gathered from committee/council minutes versus an additional request to PRC for information. Sister Lisa offered that this is a great initiative but given timing of reporting and meetings, it may not meet the need for NBOD. Actions need to be reported in time frame required. It is helpful to have minutes include this information but Regional Reps may continue to contact committee chairs for synopsis of activities every 4 months.

Sister Nancy suggested that if it was on the bottom of the template this responsibility could fall to RO Admin to compile the data from each meeting for submission to NBOD. Sister Marianne that this could still be a problem if minutes are not submitted in a timely manner so the Regional Rep’s may have to follow up.

Sister Darlene asked if will there be a template provided for the treasurers report that is to be provided at each meeting and not just the year end. Sister Marianne advised that the year end reporting template is adaptable for quarterly meetings but will ask Sister Judy to incorporate this into the templates as it would be most efficient for the current and year end procedures to mirror each other.

Sister Deb asked about joining meetings via teleconference vs in person. Direction to limit use of conference call option may be a barrier to member participation and that conference call costs would be offset by food expenses for meetings.

Sister Marianne advised that while we try to accommodate as best we can, there is a cost factor even if you factor in food vs cost. Certain meetings such as elections are not conducive to conference call. Also, in these instances we have had examples of a significant increase in the number of participants. It can understandable in some scenarios where child care, etc. is a factor but sometimes this presents a scenario where members will not try to make a meeting in person as a matter of preference and not need which is problematic. For elections, in person meetings are preferred.

Brother Glen asked about what should be done if you are in an area where you don’t have RO access. Sister Marianne explained that if required, the PRC could invest in a speaker phone if there is an identified need.

The deadline for submission of comments on the templates is Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. Comments should be submitted directly to Sister Judy Shannon.



## **Other Business (not on agenda)**

Brother Timothy asked about events and insurance coverage. Some venues require proof of insurance so how do we ensure RO's have the information so we don't have a runaround each time. Who should be signing liability contracts on behalf of PSAC?

Sister Marianne agreed that this was a valid point and we need clarification. There is a national insurance policy (liability for when PSAC is hosting an event) and staff should be made aware of the limitations. If a committee is planning something, staff would be aware of caveats.

Sister Lisa advised that each event is unique may have different governing criteria. Each instance must be reviewed by HQ Finance so RO Staff cannot make any determination with regard to insurance issues.

Sister Marianne advised that it might be a good idea to ensure there is a section in the committee handbooks as a "Don't forget" section for when planning events and discussing insurance needs could be added.

## **7. (d) Ad-Hoc Structure Committee Report**

Ad-hoc committee was struck at the Oct. PRC to review some of the other regional structures and submit recommendations to the Bylaws Committee so they could draft resolutions for consideration at the this meeting.

Brother Shaun convened a conference call on Nov 27<sup>th</sup>. He compiled a spreadsheet comparing other regional council structures to ours. The committee then used that spreadsheet as basis for ideas for changes to our council. It was decided at that time to compile questions to get feedback from the geographic reps. The survey was not distributed prior to the meeting.

Sister Marianne advised that the resolutions put forward for consideration by PRC were drafted by members of the Bylaws Committee but as the committee did not get recommendations from the Structure Committee, a committee meeting was not possible within the timeframes. They are not being presented as on behalf of the committee, but rather a starting point for discussion of PRC and it is up to PRC to decide if they are submitted to convention.

Brother David Pearson asked if any PRC member can write a resolution here during the PRC meeting or does it have to go through the Bylaws committee. Sister Marianne advised that any PRC member can draft and present a resolution for PRC consideration and if passed, PRC would be the submitting body.

Sister Marianne advised that we will be working on resolutions on Day 2 and 3 so if the Structure committee would like to meet for discussion and review/change of the resolutions we can do that.

Motion to put back on agenda for Sat am for structure committee. m/s/c

## **8. Roundtable Discussion**

Sister Marianne provided info on the upcoming Treasury Board National Bargaining Conference that will be held Feb. 13-16<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa. This conference will be for all 5 bargaining units simultaneously.

All bargaining demands received from components will be included in the packages. Delegates at the conference will review the demands and provide guidance on priority issues. Elections of bargaining team members will happen on the final day of the conference.

There were two selection processes to get to the conference. Each component was allocated a specific number of seats based on the number of members they have in that bargaining unit. As per Regulation 15A, members self-identifying as equity members applied online and were selected by the AEC. All members attending must hold a union position.

Other bargaining updates, CRA, CFIA and Parks Canada are still in bargaining and not included in the conference.

Sister Denni advised that in discussion with members, they seem to be willing to cut back on sick leave but don't want to lose it. Sister Marianne advised that we don't know what TB will table but our messaging should be that we are not open to any concessions.

Brother Gus advised that we should coordinate our efforts with other unions (ie. PIPSC). Sister Marianne advised that we have tried to work with the other NJC unions in the past and have had some success. With a national solidarity pact signed between 16 of the 17 NJC unions, that work has already started.

Sister Petrina asked why the Casino Regina collective agreement ratified in August had not yet been signed – members are getting mixed messages – “some of what has been. Sister Marianne and Sister Lisa will investigate next week and advise.

Brother Tim Hogan asked about the last SV contract which contained agreement for government to do pay study analysis and now government has refused to do it.

Sister Marianne advised that Collective Bargaining Branch is aware and looking at all options. Also, TB agreed to implement a new classification system. Discussion was ongoing and but now TB seems to be walking away citing other priorities. Our staff have met face to face with TB over 30 times making progress on OGS and now TB is stating it won't be implemented until 2017 at the earliest. PSAC is looking at legal options.

Questions also raised on the issue of ESA's. Sister Marianne advised that with the changes in C-4, the process has drastically changed in favor of government. Collective Bargaining Branch is analysing the legislation and also looking at legal remedies. One case we are looking at is the SFL challenge on provincial essential services which is going to the Supreme Court. PSAC has applied for intervenor status as has TB.

PRC recessed to do a site visit of TCU Place.

## **PRC Meeting reconvened Sat. Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:05am**

Sister Marianne returned to the Communications Committee for a decision on a Prairie Region logo. Sister Deb distributed 3 versions of a logo for PRC approval. She advised that the committee reviewed previous discussion and provided guidance to the graphic designer company resulting in the three versions. Sister Marianne advised we would take a vote until we have a decision (option receiving the least votes would be dropped and another vote taken).

Sister Nancy asked what happened to all the other logos and Sister Deb advised that the Communications Committee was tasked with making a decision on logo. They did so based on cost and simplicity for broadest possible use of logo. In consideration of time at PRC, the committee narrowed the choices down to 3 options for PRC to vote on. Sister Marianne advised that if we don't select any of the new options, the current/old Prairie Region Logo would be re-used.

Sister Nancy asked about costs to change the logos. Sister Marianne advised that there was no cost. The national cogs with "PRAIRIES" underneath remains as the logo for use outside the region. The banner for convention needs to be changed anyway to reflect the new theme so there is no additional cost.

Following a voting process, PRC selected Logo option #2.

### **7. d) Ad-Hoc Structure Committee (return to agenda item from Friday)**

Brother Shaun stated that he sent an email to everyone for feedback. Attachment was included so the report was deferred to Sunday morning to allow the committee time to meet.

### **7. e) Regional Convention**

Registration – Sister Marianne advised that in Alison's absence, we haven't been able to confirm registration numbers as yet. Someone will be dedicated to that task and we will advise PRC of registrations.

Subsidies – Sister Marianne advised that the Feb 12th deadline is approaching and we may have to extend the deadline to the end of February. A reminder will be sent out next week. Brother Timothy advised he would like to be cc'd on notices of deadline extension. Sister Marianne advised that it will go to the RO's for distribution and they will cc their respective PRC members.

Brother Alec requested clarification on committee convention funding. Sister Marianne advised that PRC members are fully funded delegates of PRC and committee/area council delegates are funded by PSAC Prairie Region with the funds held for that specific purpose. PRC and committee/area council delegates

won't need additional subsidy as sufficient funds are already in reserve to cover their expenses

Sister Marianne advised that there we currently have 3 DCL's in the region who are entitled to delegate status but have no income yet as they have not yet signed a collective agreement. She canvassed other regions to see how they assist but only heard from one region who waives registration and another region has no DCL's so no process in place.

Sister Marianne advised that these 3 locals would receive subsidies to cover the costs of one delegate per local (their current delegate entitlement is technically a composite of 10 delegates). Sister Deb suggested we fund one and offer a loan for them to fund additional delegates if requested. Sister Nancy asked for the cost of 3 delegates. Sister Marianne advised that it hasn't been calculated yet but that they would be entitled to the same subsidy as other locals so the additional cost for the 3 delegates would be reduced by the final amount of subsidy all locals receive. As we've organized and certified them, its important to allow them to participate and not wait another 3 years. They are also entitled to participate in the DCL caucus and elections. Without them, only 1 of the 4 DCL's in the region would be allowed to vote for the PRC rep.

Brother Alec asked about the issue of being members in good standing if they're not paying dues. Sister Marianne advised that there are special provisions for locals not yet collecting dues. Ottawa has a formula for calculating the number of members. Prior to sending out the convention call, we got a list from membership services looking at the monthly #s for each local from Oct 2012 – Sep 2013. After taking out all RAND members for purposes of calculated delegate entitlement, they highlighted notes for locals not collecting dues yet. Any local can use their best month for purposes of delegate entitlement.

Brother David Pearson advised that he is in favour of fully funding these members. We have organized 3 groups into 'our family' and now we are arguing about funding them. It sends a message that we only want their money. I am strongly in favour of funding these members. It's a welcoming thing to do and cost of doing business He has no concerns if future subsidies are a little less as this is a cost of doing. Brother Alec advised that he recognizes the importance of DCL presence at convention but feels it sends the wrong message to fully fund any member when we don't do this for any others.

Sister Petrina stated that funding these delegates sets an example that they are welcome as soon as they are organized, not as soon as the money starts coming in. It's also important for them to be there as decisions will be made at this convention that will impact these members for the next 3 years and they deserve to have a say in that.

Convention Host Committee:

Sister Alison was scheduled to attend the Jan. Host Committee meeting to provide info on funding, etc. but due to medical reasons was not able to attend. Sister Nancy advised that the Regional Rep assigned to the committee stated no funds would be available and requested clarification. Sister Marianne advised that money would be available to the committee. Likely around \$3,000 but will be confirmed upon Sister Alison's return.

Sister Nancy advised that the Host Committee has had two meetings so far (Dec 4, Jan. 30). She requested assistance to draft two letters requesting donations for a silent auction. Proceeds will be for the Saskatoon Women's Shelter. One will be for businesses and one for components. Sister Marianne committed to getting a draft to the committee the following week. Sister Nancy also requested approval to have items sent to the Saskatoon RO prior to convention. Sister Lisa confirmed that was not a problem. Committee is also looking at entertainment options. Now that we have somewhat of a budget, we can plan.

Sister Marianne provided additional info on behalf of Sister Alison. We had consensus when selecting the city that we would not do a meet and greet on the first night. Was very expensive and not well attended. If we were to consider offsite venues, insurance requirements must be investigated so we will have to consult with the Host Committee. We have to do the Saturday banquet at TCU Place as part of our contract.

Sister Marianne also reminded that on-site child care is only provided during the day during convention times. There will be no transportation arranged from hotels to TCU except for members self-identifying with accessibility needs.

The registration covers the cost of the banquet and additional tickets for spouses or partners, etc. can be purchased. Not confirmed but usually around \$40 each.

Sister Marianne advised on hotel accommodations. PRC will be at the Delta, Committee/council members will be at the Radisson and staff will be at the Sheraton. Reservations have all been made so no need to call.

#### Convention Resolution Committees:

Sister Marianne advised that based on discussion at the Oct. PRC meeting, National Officers will be offered 2 seats on each committee, one being a Co-Chair. Some PRC may have to participate by phone in another province to balance out the numbers.

PRC should indicate to Marianne by the end of Feb. if they are interested in co-chairing and/or if they are interesting in working on the Manitoba committee. Sister Marianne confirmed the committees would be Alberta – General, Sask. – Finance/General and Manitoba – Bylaws.

#### Resolutions for PRC Debate:

Sister Marianne asked that everyone use the hard copy Bylaws provided as there were some edits from 2008 not included (upon advisement from Sister Robyn).

Resolutions before PRC were based on previous items from Robyn as well as past PRC discussions in Oct and each is completely up to the will of the group.

- As the resolutions are the property of PRC (not submitted by the Bylaws Committee), we can edit or amend as required. Sister Lisa will call for a recorded vote which will be official in the minutes.
- A recorded “no” vote will allow you to speak against the resolution on convention floor. If you do not vote as no during our debate, you cannot speak against a PRC resolution on convention floor. Similarly if you abstain, you may not speak to it on the convention floor.
- vote is basic majority (i.e. over 50%) even for Bylaws. On convention floor, changes to the Prairie Region Bylaws will require a 2/3 majority..

Summary of recorded votes will be appended to the minutes.

PRC Resolution #1 – addition of 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate REVP position  
Carried

PRC Resolution #2 – Elimination of Geographic Rep Positions  
Tabled until after Ad-Hoc Structure Committee report on Sunday.

PRC Resolution #3 – Amendments to PRC Young Worker responsibilities  
Carried

PRC Resolution #4 – Electronic Voting  
Tabled until Sunday to allow for re-wording.

PRC Resolution #5 – Delegates in RWC Caucus at Convention  
As PRC has the authority to enact regulations, the resolution was carried and will be added to the PRC Regulations prior to the Prairie Region Convention. Not submitted as a resolution to convention.

PRC Resolution #6 – Amendment to Section 12, Sub-section (2)  
Carried

PRC Resolution #7 – Amendment to Section 3  
Carried

Sister Marianne advised that she consulted Sister Benson. Similar to enacting or amending regulations, the Glossary section is under the purview of PRC

PRC Resolution #8 – Amendment to Section 3, Sub-section (6)

Carried as amended.

PRC Resolution #9 – Definition of quorum  
Tabled until Sunday to allow for re-wording.

PRC Resolution #10 – Minimum number of PRC meetings per year  
Defeated

PRC Resolution #11 – PRC Minutes  
Defeated

PRC Resolution #12 – Addition of Standing Committees  
Carried

PRC Resolution #13 – Amendment to Delegate Entitlement  
Carried

PRC Resolution #14 – Definition of membership  
Carried

Sister Marianne advised there was no Resolution #15 in the initial package. Based on discussion today, Brother Timothy and Brother Gus will be drafting a resolution on gender expression to present tomorrow and will number it #15.

Adjourned to 9:00am Sunday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

PRC Meeting re-convened Sunday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at 9:15am

## **6. Finance Committee –presented by Sister Denni**

Report includes revenue and expenses Jan-Sept. 2013, and updated committee funding and reporting procedures booklet and templates.

An update on the conversion to Simply Accounting: we now have a chart of accounts and projects set up. Ottawa will input 2012 data that we need and within a couple of weeks we'll know if they will be able to do our 2013 data.

Sister Denni reviewed amendments made to reflect current active committees and stats and updates to the reporting package. The committee added a requirement for committees to include current by-laws & terms of reference; reviewed procedures and changes to procedures (added requirement of committee chairs to submit reporting via PRC Rep and not directly to RO).



3 reps from the Winnipeg committees/council will be doing a financial review of the 2012 statements per decision of PRC. If the 2013 records are ready by then, we will get a review by the committee for 2013 as well.

Sister Nancy asked if we could add that PRC can ask the RO Admin to scan and send to the Revs office. Sister Marianne advised that while not all committees have immediate access to an RO, all the copiers in the Region now have a scan function now and they can ask the RO to scan and send to the REVP office.

Brother Glen identified that in the document, committee/council chairs are directed to submit reports to their respective PRC Rep but that's not currently enshrined in the by-laws that this falls within the duties of the PRC reps. He asked if this is something we are looking at putting into the By-laws. Sister Marianne advised that if it was consensus of PRC to include, it would be appropriate as a Regulation.

Brother Glen stated we don't have any Young Worker committees yet but to be consistent, they should be included in the package.

Brother Dave suggested the committee signature page be the first Appendix on the front before the PRC appendix (per where appendices are located in the report). Consensus and will be changed in the final version.

Brother Alec asked why we were only reviewing revenue and expenses to Sept. 2013. Sister Marianne advised that due to Sister Alison's unexpected medical leave, the last quarter for 2013 had not been completed. The statements will be circulated prior to the next meeting and we can do a conference call if requested.

Sister Denni also reminded PRC that expense claims need to be in by year end or shortly thereafter.

#### **7. d) Ad-Hoc Structure Committee**

Brother Shaun provided a verbal report from this morning's Structure Committee meeting. Recommendation from the Committee was to change the name of geographic reps to members at large, change the duties and reduce from 6 to 3 reps (1 per province). A new by-law would need to be adopted.

Sister Marianne advised that the deadline for resolutions is March 5<sup>th</sup> so we need to have the duties outlined and included in the resolution. Bylaws committee will meet at coffee break to discuss.

#### **Resolutions:**

PRC received a revised Resolution #4 and #9 and also a Resolution #15 from Brother Timothy.

PRC Resolution #2 – Elimination of Geographic Rep  
Brother Glen requested that PRC vote on the initial resolution before any further amendments made (as presented by the Structure Committee).  
Defeated.

Sister Marianne advised PRC to change the resolution regarding a name change to PRC Resolution 2A

PRC Resolution #2A  
Motion to table carried.

PRC Resolution #4 (re-worded)  
Carried

PRC Resolution #9 (re-worded)  
Carried

PRC Resolution #15 – Gender Expression in PRC Bylaws and PSAC  
Constitution  
Carried

As the resolutions debate was not concluded, Sister Marianne polled PRC for a date and time for an official conference call to conclude the business.

Next meeting will be Friday Feb 21<sup>st</sup>, 1pm MB/SK time. PRC should plan for minimum of 4 hours. This will be an official PRC meeting and loss of salary will be covered for those requiring it.

Meeting adjourned 12:15 pm