

**Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee
Regular Meeting
January 18 2023, 6:00 PM Mountain Time via Zoom**

Attendees: Sherry Hunt, Krysty Thomas, Stephanie Erb, Michelle Larmour, Danielle Poissant, Valentina Ibarra Galvis, Jacqueline Maurice (PSAC Staff)

Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** 6:04PM
2. **Introductions/Welcome**
3. **Minutes from December 22**
 - Motion: M. Larmour/D. Poissant - carried
4. **Treasurer's Report**

For the period of December 22, 2022 - January 18, 2023					
					debits
Opening Balance December 22, 2022					\$ 349.76
Bank fee			30-Dec-22	\$ 5.00	
Statement Print Fee			30-Dec-22	\$ 2.00	
closing bank balance - Jan 18, 2022					\$ 342.76
book balance available - Jan 18, 2022					\$ 342.76

Motion: S. Erb/K. Thomas – carried

5. **RWC Representative to the PRC Report**
 - Nothing new to report since last meeting, PRC set to meet in person in February in Edmonton.
 - Prairie wide Women's Committee Call took place Tuesday January 17th. Committees are struggling with attendance, looking to new ways to recruit folks to take part in women's committee. Financial packages are due March 15th. Sherry to review all packages from women's committees
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Saamis Tipi light up (Invoice for \$105)**
 - Motion to pay this invoice D. Poissant/ Second: M. Larmour/carried
 - Still outstanding, will pay this month.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. Delegate election to Prairies Regional Triennial (June 9-11 Regina, SK)
 - Krysty Thomas nominated Stephanie Erb as **delegate from the committee**; seconded by Danielle Poissant – elected as delegate
 - Krysty Thomas nominated **Valentina Ibarra Galvis** for **1st Alternate**; seconded by Danielle Poissant - elected
 - b. Resolutions to Prairies Regional Convention Due January 24th
 1. Debated and discussed the following resolutions:

FOSTERING INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY

WHEREAS intergenerational solidarity refers to the degree of closeness and support between different generations;

WHEREAS intergenerational solidarity has many benefits, including improved mental and physical health, increased life satisfaction, and stronger social bonds;

WHEREAS intergenerational solidarity can help address some of our time's most pressing issues, such as climate change, poverty, and social exclusion. It can also help to build stronger communities and create a more just and equitable world.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC researches the benefits of intergenerational solidarity in the labour movement and publishes a white paper establishing best practices for fostering good intergenerational solidarity within the union.

INCREASE EI PROVISIONS FOR PARENTAL LEAVE

WHEREAS Currently, parents can choose to receive EI benefits over 35 weeks at 55% of their insurable earnings or can opt to receive EI benefits over a 61 week period at 33% of their insurable earnings.

WHEREAS many parents cannot afford to live on only 33% of their income.

WHEREAS 61 weeks at 33% of income for parents is also not a substitute for a high quality, universally accessible child care system.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC lobby the federal government to increase EI benefits from 55% to 75% for parents who choose to receive benefits over 35 weeks, and from 33% to 55% for parents who choose to receive benefits over 61 weeks.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL TRIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE PSAC

WHEREAS Section 19 Sub-Section (7) states "*The Indigenous Peoples, Racially Visible Persons, Pride, Access and Women equity groups shall each be entitled to send two (2) delegates to any National Triennial Convention of the PSAC who shall be accorded all rights and privileges of accredited delegates. These delegates shall be elected at their respective PSAC National Triennial Conference*"

WHEREAS delegates elected at National Equity Conventions are far removed from equity members within their regions and members do not have the opportunity to discuss with elected delegates about issues that are important to them.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT one (1) delegate for Indigenous Peoples, Racially Visible Persons, Pride, Access and Women be elected at each Regional Triennial Convention to represent equity members in their region at the Triennial Convention of the PSAC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Section 19 Sub-Section (7) be changed to remove "*The Indigenous Peoples, Racially Visible Persons, Pride, Access and Women equity groups shall each be entitled to send two (2) delegates to any National Triennial Convention of the PSAC who shall be accorded all rights and privileges of accredited delegates. These delegates shall be elected at their respective PSAC National Triennial Conference*"

UNDERSTANDING PSAC ROLE IN COLONIAL OPPRESSION

WHEREAS The legacy of colonization has affected the daily lives of millions of Canadians across many generations

WHEREAS the last residential school in Canada closed in 1996

WHEREAS PSAC has been representing public service workers since 1967

BE IT RESOLVED PSAC undertakes an in depth investigation to understand the true role PSAC may have had in the residential school system, the sixties scoops, and other acts of colonial oppression of indigenous people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED PSAC publish a report on these findings

UNDERSTANDING THE VALUE OF CARE WORK

WHEREAS care work is undervalued and underpaid across all economic and social spheres and this work disproportionately falls on women in their homes and workplaces.

WHEREAS COVID-19 has revealed the societal structural inequalities that force women to take on a disproportionate amount of care work

WHEREAS care work can also be precarious, forcing workers in these roles to take multiple jobs, potentially putting themselves, their families and people they care for at risk

BE IT RESOLVED PSAC advocates for those in care work positions to be properly valued, respected and compensated to better reflect their important work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED PSAC lobbies the federal government to form a Care Economy Commission to study, design and implement a comprehensive Canadian care strategy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED PSAC lobbies the federal government to ratify the International Labour Organization's Convention 189 to ensure decent work and protections for domestic workers

FAMILY CARE

WHEREAS The PSAC Family Care Policy states "*The objective of this policy is to remove one of the barriers which prevent members from participating in union activities*"

WHEREAS members continue to experience barriers to participation related to family care.

WHEREAS licensed family care is rarely available for non-standard work hours or weekends, and it is difficult to provide suitable quality family care at all PSAC events.

WHEREAS many members are forced to rely on family care provided by a relative living in the same home, or a former spouse/partner with custody in order to participate in PSAC activities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC remove the limitation that "*The family care policy shall not cover cost for care provided by a spouse/partner, former spouse/partner with custody rights or a relative residing in the household.*" from the PSAC family care policy, along with all references to it.

Motion to submitted the above resolutions to PSAC Prairies Regional Triennial – Krysty Thomas, seconded by Michelle Larmour – carried.

Resolutions to be forwarded to committee by email for the record.

c. Reschedule Night with Belinda Crowson

- Sherry to follow up on this, reach out to Belinda to confirm, then we can book venue.

8. 2023 planning

- Table until next meeting, everyone come with one idea for our 2023 budget planning meeting.

9. AGM/Next meeting date/time?

- Tentative Feb 21, 2023 @ 6PM VIA ZOOM - AGM

10. Roundtable

- none

11. Adjourn: 7:02PM