Minutes of the Saskatoon Regional Women's Committee November 23, 2023

Attendance: Tasha Felix, Lisa Leuty, Jodie Schafer, Jacqueline Maurice, Deb Hamp, Kelsey Dreaver, Ariel Alvarenga, Dawn Montgrant, Laura Westman, Gloria Pfeifer

Meeting held by Zoom

For meeting information contact Jacqueline Maurice 3062927037 mauricj@psac.com

- Land Acknowledgment and Harassment Statement
  - Acknowledged
- Review Agenda
- Minutes will be emailed to the attendees following the meeting
- Minutes of last meeting were reviewed via email following last meeting and were accepted
- Presentation Saskatoon Food Bank – Deb Hemp
  Robust volunteer program, with 50 employees. They currently serve 23K people a month; 41% are children.
  Some programs include – Garden patch; Cooking/meal planning programs; workplace experience programs. "Amazing what people can accomplish when they come together".
  Funded by the community.
  Working on a new building that will hopefully serve as a model for food banks across Canada.
  Donations – food versus money? Both are equally important.
  Christmas campaign begins November 28th and more information will be sent out with the minutes.
- Financial Update – Tasha
  Not much of a change. Contributed $200 to the Moon Time Sisters packing party on November 4th.
  New balance is $633.14
  Will repurpose $100 for MMIWG to Prairie Harm Reduction

- Minutes of last meeting were reviewed via email following last meeting and were accepted
- Other business
  If you didn't get a meeting notice, please contact Jacqueline Maurice to make sure you are on the email mailing list. The next meeting will be the AGM in February, 2024.
  - Laura – is there a place where some members could get together to have a knitting activity? Possible to have it at the PSAC office. Could send out some possible dates, probably for an early January get together, and will also cross check with the PSAC office on availability.
  - Meeting in January to review the financials prior to the AGM. Thursday, January 25th, 2024 at 5:00pm
    - AGM date will be decided at the January meeting, but will be sometime in February.
    - November 30th is the Day of Action for early learning and child care. We have been asked to share the information. https://childcarenow.ca/news/

- Next Meeting - Thursday, January 25th, 2024 at 5:00pm. This will be a hybrid meeting (in person for those who can attend as well as virtual).

- Meeting Adjourned at 5:24 pm

Why Regional Women's Committees?

- **to inform and educate women** on the political, social, economic, and workplace issues that affect them;
- **to speak for women** with a strong, common voice and advocate policies that promote all women's rights;
- **to mobilize women** to participate in the union and take action on the issues;
- **to empower women** with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to exercise effective leadership;
- **to support women** through a network that links them to each other, to the union, and to the community; and
- **to work side by side with racialized & Aboriginal women, lesbians, bisexual & transgender women and women with disabilities** to advance **real equality** and make the PSAC an inclusive union.

- Regional Women's Committees make things happen. Some typical **projects and activities** might include:
    - conducting special education seminars and skills building workshops;
    - developing and distributing information leaflets sponsoring guest speakers;
    - publishing a Regional Women's Committee newsletter;
    - working with other community groups to hold conferences and issue forums;
    - sponsoring or participating in demonstrations, rallies, marches and other activities designed to focus public attention on important issues;

conducting strategy sessions to plan and coordinate support for collective bargaining demands and for convention resolutions;