

WINNIPEG AREA COUNCIL (WAC)
Annual General Meeting Minutes
13 February 2024

Attendance:

Seth Baker - AGR

Karine Drobko CEIU – Treasurer

Craig Adolphe CEIU

Christian Bouley CEIU

George Meldnum - UHEW

Mona Simcoe UNDE – Secretary

Samantha Therrien - UNE

Nestor Galarnyk USJE – Chair

Kyle Berry UTE – Vice Chair

Jennie Santos

PSAC Geographical Rep - Gus Mardli AGR

PSAC Rep/Technical Advisor for the WAC Tracy Thor

Call to Order – 6:00

Land Acknowledgment –read by Kyle Berry

In this region we work and live on Treaty 1 land, in the traditional territory of Annishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

We are dedicated to ensuring that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 1 is honoured and respected. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

PSAC Statement on Harassment - read by Kyle Berry

If you experience harassment at this event contact Tracy Thor PSAC Rep for WAC

Roundtable introductions

Adoption of Agenda

Motion Nestor Galarnyk /Kyle Berry

Approval of Minutes

06 Nov 23 Minutes circulated and posted on PSAC Web page

Change date on minutes from 10 Nov to 06 Nov 23

Motion Mona Simcoe/Nestor Galarnyk

Audited Treasurer’s Report – Karine Drobko

Bank balance \$1,122.35 for end of Jan 2023

Transaction Log and Financial Statement printed for the year showing Revenue and Expenses

Revenue \$500 Expenses \$1,148.96

Ending Bank balance \$801.49 Outstanding cheques 209/210 \$328.10

Available Funds for 2024 is \$473.39

Annual Report/Budget need to be prepared before March 15 deadline

Motion Karine Drobko/Gus Mardli

Reports

Prairie Regional Council (PRC) Report- Gus Mardli

The PRC had an official in-person/virtual meeting 2-4 February 2024.

The following items were discussed during the meeting:

Action Items from previous PRC meeting:

Attending NBOD/AEC meetings - Is there a process for members in good standing wanting to attend NBOD or AEC meetings. REVP is waiting on a response from the AEC about the logistics of attending such meetings.

WAC Question Asked – At meetings of leadership there are often open and frank discussions that happen that may not be able to happen if the room has observers. Was this discussed.

Answer – It is more about the option of attending, as those in the NCR can attend in person but how do other members from the prairies for example attend if they so choose.

WTF campaign was discussed in camera but keep your eyes open. Members will receive more info and action plans on this next phase soon.

WAC Question asked – Some members have expressed that this campaign name is unprofessional and not appropriate.

Answer – This was also mentioned at the PRC and the company felt this name gives the shock factor for people to pay attention to it.

WAC Question Asked – Why did this have to be discussed in camera?

Answer – It is a Prairies owned media campaign and we don't want any other region or group to copy the campaign. The money for this campaign came from the deferred funds. The PRC decided to use this money to do an updated digital campaign. The second phase is costly and the figures can be found in the PRC financials.

WAC Question asked - For the WAC meetings, members are coming straight from work and some do not get home till after 9. The WAC executive committee would like you to discuss an increase to the meeting allotment of \$90. WAC struggles to keep it under the \$90 budget especially with food restrictions and special dietary requests. Greater clarity is needed in the amount when our attendance numbers are struggling to supply a meal for \$5 per person.

Canada Life issues still being reported mostly with plan spousal coordination and dispensing fees. There was also a recent security breach as quoted in the press. 'MSH International Canada, which offers insurance to members of the Public Service Health Care Plan during overseas postings or travels, recently discovered a "cybersecurity incident" affecting its systems. The company, which is a sub-contractor of Canada Life, reported that the incident was identified on Feb. 9. The company has informed law enforcement and immediately started an investigation into the issue, which is currently in progress. In the meantime, the insurance provider has halted its services.' PSAC is aware of this and the members concerns. There is currently a "Take Action" link on the PSAC web page for members to use.

2023 Prairie Region Convention was discussed on lessons learned to improve for 2026.

Tentatively schedule for June 4-7 in Calgary.

The Phoenix Working Group that was struck by members of PRC and included area council executive members is planning an in-person action across the prairies on February 28th. So far there is an action planned in Calgary at the Harry Hays building. Food, posters, aerial photos.

This will stress the amount of 1 Billion spent on phoenix could have been spent on a national school food program. Area councils are asked to donate \$500 to a local food bank.

Reporting packages are due March 15. The PRC Finance Committee delivered training on that to Regional Committee/Council executive as well as to all PRC members.

PRC meetings can be observed in person by any member in good standing. The REVP officer needs prior notice if anyone wants to attend the next one in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg & Area Human Rights Committee Update – Kyle Berry

There has been some difficulty in setting a meeting date. The next meeting will be in March. The committee will not make the March 15 deadline for reports.

Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee (WRWC) Update – Mona Simcoe

Please check the Calendar of Events for our committee. It show what is planned for the year and what has been accomplished to date. The WRWC has a Facebook page to stay connected to members and post anything relevant or of interest to women. March 09 for International Womens Day the committee has planned a self care workshop with activities and a lobbying session. All women or those who identify as women are welcome. April 20 there will be a Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Workshop.

Young Workers Committee (YWC) Update – Craig Adolphe

The YWC has lost its chair so they are resetting their committee and hoping to get back on track. Please inform YW in your departments to contact regional office to get involved.

PSAC Regional Rep Update – Tracy Thor

Liz Walker has been hired as a new regional rep and will be taking over the Winnipeg Area Council and Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee.

CFIA will have their Retro Pay before year end of March 31. Which falls within the 180 day timeframe.

Phoenix Pay System 8th Anniversary Feb 28 – Nestor Galarnyk

It is being encouraged for members to call it the Phoenix PAY SYSTEM so that everyone understands it is our pay system that is affected. Calling it the Billion Dollar blunder. We will be donating \$500 to Manitoba Harvest on Feb 28. Nestor will deliver cheque and take photo of event. There is a Webinar planned for Feb 22 to inform members of phoenix pay system history and the way forward.

Update WAC Bylaws – Mona Simcoe

The Bylaws were updated following advice from REVP and the WAC Executive. The changes were presented on screen where Sections 1 to 14 were passed individual by 2/3s majority vote. Copy has been sent to the Regional Office for review and posting on the WAC web page.

Election of Winnipeg Area Council Executive Chair

Kyle Berry nominated by Karine Drobko/Nestor Galarnyk

Nestor Galarnyk nominated by Gus Mardli/Kyle Berry

Nestor Galarnyk declined **Kyle Berry by acclimation elected Chair**

Vice Chair

Nestor Galarnyk nominated by Gus Mardli/Karine Drobko

Nestor Galarnyk by acclimation elected Vice-Chair

Treasurer

Karine Drobko nominated by Craig Adolphe/Christian Bouley

Karine Drobko by acclimation elected Treasurer

Secretary

Christian Bouley nominated by Karin Drobko/Gus Mardli

Jennie Santos nominated by Mona Simcoe/Christian Bouley

Christian declined **Jennie Santos by acclimation elected Secretary**

Signing Authorities

The signing authorities for the bank account at Assiniboine Credit Union will be any two of the three executive members (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer) consisting of the Chair-Kyle Berry, Vice Chair-Nestor Galarnyk, and Treasurer-Karine Drobko.

WAC New Business

Annual Report 2023 is almost completed and due 15 Mar 24

Budget Approval meeting will be held on Feb 21 virtually.

Ideas include Habitat for Humanity Team building Program-Apprentice Builder 10 people \$3500, Labour Day Picnic \$250.00, and Remembrance Day Wreath from Royal Canadian Legion \$150. Please come with items for discussion and cost attached for the meeting.

Reminders/Notes/Activities/Updates

Feb 13 – WAC AGM meeting

Feb 21 – WAC Budget Planning and Approval meeting

Feb 22 – Phoenix Pay System Webinar (Billion Dollar Blunder)

Feb 28 – Phoenix Pay Day Anniversary – Donation to Manitoba Harvest Budget \$500

May 07 – WAC meeting

Jun 02 – Pride Parade support WHRC

Sep 02 – Labour Day tent – Budget \$250

Sep 17 – WAC meeting

Nov 11 – Wreath presentation – Budget \$150

Nov 19 – WAC meeting - Budget for 2025

Oath of Office

Given by PSAC Rep Tracy Thor to Kyle Berry, Nestor Galarnyk, Karine Drobko, Jennie Santos

Next meeting date

Feb 21 – Budget Approval meeting

Adjournment

Kyle Berry

