

Winnipeg Regional Women's Committee (WRWC) Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2025 – Virtual Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

In attendance

- Teresa Tremblay – WRWC Chair -CEIU 50772 (V)
- Kristin Bowler – WRWC Co-chair- AGU 50071 (V)
- Samantha Therrien - WRWC Treasurer – UNE 50262 (V)
- Cristina Esposito- WRWC Secretary– UNDE 50705 (V)
- Sherry Hunt – Prairie Region Council RWC REP - UNE 50262 (non-voting delegate)
- Tracy Thor – PSAC RWC Representative (non-voting delegate)
- Sheri Parent - UNE 50767 (non-voting delegate)
- Iulian-Gina Dragomir – UNDE 50705 (V)
- Debbie Leaman – AGR 50073 (V)
- Helene Seradilla – UNE 50262 (V)
- Cindy Ataya – GSU 50057 (V)
- Dana Whitehill – UTE 50021 (V)
- Erin Glover – DCL 55600 (University of Winnipeg) (V)
- Kay Wetherill – UNE 50767(V)

* Members of the RWC executive have full voice and vote in addition to local or branch representatives In accordance with the PSAC Constitution, for voting purposes, only one member per local or branch will represent the local. (V) indicates voting delegate

1. Called to Order at 19:05
2. Land Acknowledgement read by Kristin Bowler.
3. Statement on Harassment read by Teresa Tremblay.
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve: Kristin Bowler
 - Seconded by: Erin Glover
 - All in favour.
5. Review and approval of September 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve: Kristin Bowler
 - Seconded by: Helene Seradilla
 - All in favour.
6. Treasurer's Report by Samantha Therrien.
 - Bank balance: \$1,022.58 (slight decrease).
 - Recent expenditures:
 - \$100.00 – Sock Drive
 - \$200.00 – Halloween treats for Mama Bear Clan
 - MFL Memorial Luncheon
 - All expenses were within the approved budget.
 - Motion to approve: Kristin Bowler
 - Seconded by: Cristina Esposito
 - All in favour.

7. Recap of Past Events

- PSAC Meet & Greet (September 17, 2025)
Members attended an informal event at the Old Spaghetti Factory, connecting with fellow union members and REVP Marianne Hladun. Very well received by those that attended
- “Building Solidarity with Indigenous Communities” Course (September 19–21, 2025) Attended by Teresa Tremblay and Cristina Esposito; feedback provided
 - Dana shared the Two-Eyed Seeing approach, which blends Indigenous and Western perspectives for a more holistic understanding. She reflected on her Indigenous ancestry, examined the historical impacts of the Indian Act and residential schools, and used the metaphor of “riding a bike in a car world” to illustrate privilege and colonial system
 - Teresa detailed the wide-reaching impacts of the Indian Act, including denial of status to women, establishment of residential schools, expropriation of Indigenous farmlands, and restrictions on language and governance. She encouraged supporting Indigenous-owned businesses and updating email signatures to reflect land acknowledgements.
 - Cristina noted the power of the sharing circle with the Elder and the meaningful experience of participating in a smudging ceremony, which deepened understanding and fostered community.
- WRWC Donated 180 pairs of socks to Main Street Project’s Socktober campaign.
- WRWC Donated treats to North Point Douglas Women’s Resource Centre; Teresa volunteered with the Mama Bear Clan on Halloween, distributing sandwiches and treats to 90+ community members.
- Teresa, Kristin, and Cristina attended the National Women’s Conference in Toronto (November 20–23, 2025, 236 attendees). The theme was “Women United: Breaking Barriers and Building Futures”. Teresa discussed feeling empowered among so many women, while Kristin highlighted breakout sessions on topics like the female reproductive system. Cristina noted UNDE had the largest group of delegates (22) and remarked on the value of the breakout sessions.

8. Learning

- PSAC Human Rights Mini Workshop, December 6–7, 2025. Although the registration deadline has passed, members may still register and notify Tracy for potential waitlist opportunities.
- Teresa Tremblay -presented Menopause Café as a possible learning activity to model The South Winnipeg Family Information Centre (a United Way–funded non-profit) offers drop-in programs, including a Menopause Café.
- Sheri Parent- highlighted the importance of addressing misogynoir (the intersection of anti-Black racism and misogyny). As a timely topic, she suggested developing relevant courses.
- Tracy Thor clarified that course ideas should be sent to Sherry Hunt (RWC Rep). PSAC staff are responsible for planning; members are encouraged to submit suggestions, including for evening sessions. Information should be shared with Sheri, Tracy, and appropriate contacts. Course offerings depend on available resources.
- Kay Wetherill shared a suggestion about a standing reservation for women’s committees at a spa, with individual expenses covered by participants.

9. Prairie Regional Triennial Convention (Calgary, June 5–7, 2026)

- Resolutions due by 18:00 CST, January 23, 2026.

- The women’s committee’s resolution was in concurrence but not submitted; it will be revisited in January meeting to bring forward resolution from the WRWC committee to triennial convention
- Nominations and Elections for Convention Delegate and Alternates:

Position	Nominee	Nominated By	Seconded By	Status
Delegate	Samantha Therrien	Kristin Bowler	Teresa Tremblay	Elected by acclamation
First Alternate	Iuliana-Gina Dragomir	Cristina Esposito	Kristin Bowler	Elected by acclamation
Second Alternate	Teresa Tremblay	Kristin Bowler	Samantha Therrien	Elected by acclamation

10. 2026 Budget Planning

- The Committee will begin preparing the 2026 budget. Members are encouraged to suggest activities or advocacy initiatives. Ideas discussed:
 - Support for organizations such as Willow Place and Morgan’s Warrior, paired with volunteer action.
 - Inclusion of costs for a Habitat for Humanity Women’s Build (information pending).
 - Hosting a watch party for the Commission on the Status of Women to recruit new participants.
 - Providing food for International Women’s Day events.
- Further ideas will be tabled at the January meeting to allow members time for consideration.

11. Upcoming Events

- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence: November 25–December 10, 2025. Mona Simcoe and Anju are posting daily on Facebook to raise awareness.
- Members are encouraged to participate in local volunteering, learning opportunities, and outreach activities in support of advocacy and hands-on involvement.

12. Round Table

- Samantha Therrien encouraged the following:
 - Joining the Women’s Committee WhatsApp Group to enhance engagement and communication. Members wishing to join should request a chat invitation from Samantha.
 - Union Savings Holiday Giveaway: Members are invited to visit Union Savings’ website to register and explore savings exclusive to union members and their families. For details, see union savings <https://unionsavings.ca/en>.

13. Next Meeting:

- For January meeting (TBD), contact Tina Matias Bouchard.
- AGM: February 9, 2026 (doors open at 17:30).

14. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 20:15.