

Winnipeg Regional Woman's Committee (WRWC) Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2026

In person – 5:30pm (for light meal)

Virtual start – 6:00pm

In Attendance:

In Person

*Kristin Bowler WRWC Chair, AGR 50071
Cristina Esposito Co-Chair - UNDE 50705
Debbie Leaman, Secretary - AGR 50073
Dana Whitehill, Treasurer - UTE 20021
Francis Bitney – UNE 50040
Wanda Dufty – UTE 50031
Vanessa Erickson – UTE 50031
Samanta Pinero – UNE 50262
PSAC RWC Representative*

Virtual

*Iuliana-Gina Dragmir - UNDE 50705
Angelique Parajas - AGR 50071
Kay Wetherill - CEIU 50767
Sheri Parent - UNE 50262
Rita Thompson – UNE 50040
Erin Glover – DCL 5560 (U of W)
Cheryl Dubree – UNE 50235*

1. Call to Order - Kristin, at 6:02 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement – Read by Cristina Esposito

3. Statement of Harassment – Read by Debbie Leaman; PSAC Rep was the Anti-Harassment representative; they provided their personal cell number in the Zoom chat.

4. Introductions (Name and Local) - Skipped

5. Approval of the Agenda – Motion to approve by Wanda Dufty. Seconded by Frances. All in favour.

6. Approval of the Minutes of February 9, 2026 meeting – Kristin asked the floor if anyone had any questions about the minutes; there were none. She also stated that in order to motion approval of the minutes, you had be present on Feb 9th. Motion to approve by Wanda Dufty. Seconded by Rita Thompson. All in favour.

7. Treasurer Report – Dana stated that as of today, the account balance was \$761.31.

There were two requests totally \$289.87; (Pre-approved in budget) International Day Women's Pancake Breakfast on March 9th \$240 (8 tickets at \$30 each), \$49 for Kristin for tonight's food purchase, and \$8.97 for Cristina's food purchase for tonight's meal – this is actually 3 items. Payment will be issued shortly. Kristin commented that the pancake breakfast was good and well attended. They announced free menstrual products will be provided in provincial spaces in Manitoba.

Frances motioned to pass the Treasurer's report; Samantha seconded; all were in favour.

8. May 5th - 6th Annual National MMIWG2S Walk

Kristin - We've been trying to organize a walk; come into a bit of a snag; the Equity conference is also doing something; need to figure out logistics (i.e. parade marshals), so it's been more difficult than we expected.

PSAC Rep - Provided update; there's an email going out about participating the walk; equity conference in Winnipeg will let delegates know about the walk; question is are we organizing; equity conference isn't formally organizing per se; since we will not know how many folks will be able to attend, we should just keep our plan loose saying we'll be there with our PSAC flag so if you'd like to walk with us just join; it's an informal option for participants. Kristin read out the email, as follows:

Winnipeg Regional Woman's Committee is participating in 6th Annual National MMIWG2S+ Walk for Justice and Healing on May 5th 5:30pm Oodeena Celebration Circle at the Forks.

We would like to invite you and your family and friends to join us on the walk and events.

Please dress for the weather

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Kristin Bowler at kbowler721@gmail.com

Event details from the event organizers:

Aahniin, Boozhoo, Tansi, Hello all our beautiful Relations,

May 5th is federally recognized as National Red Dress Day, a day of Awareness and Action for MMIWG2S+ across Canada.

This year, for the 6th Annual National MMIWG2S+ Walk for Justice and Healing in our community, we invite and encourage all of our Relatives, Allies and Newcomers, no matter your background or beliefs, to attend this gathering and walk in support of the ongoing MMIWG2S+ Crisis across Turtle Island.

I am pleased to announce that my Co-Hosts for this year's event are Cedar and Susie of Change maker 231 Inc. We are in the early planning stages and will be providing updates as we progress.

This gathering and walk is an All Inclusive and Family-friendly event.

Each year this gathering brings people from all over the World and this year will be no different. We welcome those relatives traveling from afar to be with us on this important day to learn and witness our community commitment to the implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice.

What to Expect:

DATE: May 5th, 2026 LOCATION: Oodeena Celebration Circle, The Forks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

CURRENT ITINERARY:

5:30 pm - Sacred Fire is lit

5:45 pm - Opening Drum Songs by: Binesi Ikwéwag Singers. Prayer by: Community Knowledge Sharer Gayle Pruden who will start the gathering in a good way and with good intentions.

6 pm - Opening remarks and speeches

7 pm - Walk starts from Oodeena Celebration Circle to Memorial Provincial Park

8 pm (or when everyone arrives at the park) - Round Dance, drumming and singing and spending time with each other

With much Love and Respect,

Travis Barsy - Standing Elk

Lorraine Clements - Cedar

Susie Krivak. MMIWG2S+ Takes Back Canada/Change Maker 231 Inc.

This email invitation will be going out this week, or next; it's open to everyone, pass it on to workplace for everyone, but it's best to sign up so we know the numbers.

PSAC Rep - Asked if people are responding to Kristin she didn't know. PSAC Rep present at meeting will speak with another PSAC Rep (who's covering for them while they are away) to give them heads up.

Kristin - Everyone is welcome. Trying to do some local/community events this year. Asked for questions from the floor and online. Thanked everyone for attending our short meeting. Suggested to ask any questions on our WhatsApp. Let everyone know to look for our PSAC flag to find us.

Wanda - Asked about handing out snacks. Committee had \$50 budgeted. Wanda said her local will match the \$50. She didn't have the funds on her but will get them to the committee.

Cristina - Said her local UNDE will contribute \$50 as well for snacks and will see if members of her local can come out.

Kristin - Reminded that the snacks will be for everyone. She said we could use a wagon – Cristina has one. We will use one flag and take turns holding it. The notice will go out soon to everyone and will include her email address.

Debbie - Suggested we wear PSAC attire, including red.

9. Round Table

Kristin asked for anyone to discuss stuff in the community regarding women

Cristina - Attended a West End Cultural Centre and attended a discussion regarding Homelessness for Women; speaker was from Finland; they make sure that construction took place for side by sides, communal; they provide housing first and then they worry about the supports rather than trying to clean someone up first; it was very interesting; they also had indigenous input – person in their 70's who's still fighting for the indigenous homelessness. She was glad to hear that Winnipeg is interested in adopting in their policies and initiatives. Minister of Housing was present. Kristin said she recently read that the unhoused population went up this past year due to rising costs and job lost; it's very sad.

Sam - Asked if our committee could meet before the PSAC Regional Convention to go over our resolutions that will be voted on. Kristin said the one our committee put through made the top 10 of the General Committee but isn't sure where exactly it sits. Kristin agreed; we can do it virtually to make it a bit easier for timing. PSAC Rep said there was an update going out later today. Debbie suggested sometime in May. Kristin asked committee members for best dates that work for them. Monday to Thursday; no other meetings scheduled. Kristin suggested we do it May 19-21. PSAC Rep said May 20th is Mobilization Summit.

Angelique – She’s been talking to Kristin about emailing MLA’s to voice opinions; maybe Area Council can participate; wants to know if Women’s want to join. She also shared that the YW are doing tie dye t-shirts for the Pride Parade. Kristin invited Angelique to put info on this topic in our WhatsApp.

Sheri – Dates for reviewing resolutions between May 19 – 21, 20th is out, PSAC Rep checked PSAC RO schedule; Virtual/Zoom May 21st at 7 PM was decided amongst everyone present.

PSAC Rep – Call went out for National Young Workers Conference in Ottawa Nov 7-9; call for resolutions with deadline of Jun 19th. Kristin has been spreading the word at her work.

Debbie – Asked Angelique about the t-shirts, if she talked about it at last night’s Area Council (Debbie missed the first half of the meeting). Angelique completely forgot to mention it. Debbie asked if she’s sending out an email to all of the PSAC committees to invite them to participate. She has only sent one to the HR committee. Bring your own t-shirt. It’s not just for those under 35 years old.

PSAC Rep on behalf of Rita who had to leave – Just for women’s supports, another reminder of the women’s health clinics dragonfly program: free miscarriage/stillbirth/born to spirit counselling for men, women and non-binary folks who need support for loss. Group support in person and online. Also, on e on one available and free to all Manitobans.

<https://womenshealthclinic.org/services/dragonfly-pregnancy-and-infant-loss-support>

Frances – PSAC Human Rights Committee AGM is April 22nd and is virtual.

10. Set Next Meeting – May 21st at 7 PM, Virtual (See item #9 above.)

11. Adjournment – 6:37 PM