

PSAC North Regional Council meeting minutes
March 7, 2018, 5:30pm MST



In attendance:

Regional Council members

Jack Bourassa, Regional Executive Vice President, PSAC North
Todd Parsons, President, Union of Northern Workers
Bill Fennell, President, Nunavut Employees' Union
Geoff Ryan, Nunavut Territorial Director
Linda Moen, President, Yukon Area Council
Samantha Moynes, President, Northwest Territories Area Council
Gerard Tremblay, Chair, Yukon Access Committee
Bruce Gudeit, Chair, Northwest Territories Access Committee
Teresa Acheson, Chair, Whitehorse Women's Committee
Geraldine Penney, Chair, Northwest Territories Women's Committee
Marie Buchanan, Chair, Northwest Territories Health & Safety Committee

Regrets:

Susan Avery, Chair, Nunavut Women's Committee
Dianne Williams, Chair, Yukon Health and Safety Committee
Hoa Do, Chair, Northwest Territories Racially Visible Committee
Holmann Richard, PSAC North Regional Coordinator

Staff:

Theresa Baird, Assistant to the REVP North

1. **Call to order** at 5:37pm.
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Adoption of agenda** – approved as presented
4. **Adoption of previous meeting minutes - Deferred**
 - January 16, 2018
 - February 6, 2018
5. **Topics Update – Team Lead**
 - I. **Economic Insecurity** – Teresa
I do not have a report, have not connected further with the people in the group yet.
 - II. **Building Capacity** – Jack
We had some issues finding time for a meeting via teleconference, so we instead initiated an email meeting, with a couple ideas:
 1. Putting together a member orientation pamphlet that is geared specifically for members in the North and relating to PSAC North. Because of cost, it would be difficult to include specifics about the components but we certainly have links provided to them in the pamphlets and general info the components might like to see included.
 2. Having a contest where our members are asked a question about our website (www.pnacnorth.com) like: When does the Nunavut Women's committee meet next or who are the regional rep's for Yukon. A winner will be drawn from those correctly

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answering the question and a small prize will be awarded... with honourable mention on the site. This will, hopefully, engage more members.

3. Inviting a like-minded person to meetings to try to build capacity and interest.

4. Having a Regional Council (RC) or PSAC North Newsletter available on the website. We have fixed the newsletter link and are drafting a current newsletter. Is RC interested in a RC newsletter?

Linda – add Volunteer Recognition to that. Jack – will talk about this when we get together.

III. **Healthy Workplaces** – Derek – Deferred

IV. **Job Security and Stability** – Bruce

Bruce received an email from Gerard, that was also sent to Hoa, did not receive a response from Hoa yet. Teresa set Gerard up with a computer, and the pad was received but has not been set up yet. Working on getting the communication going.

V. **Childcare** – Samantha

National campaign begins in June; I have been talking to ECE about capacity haven't heard a reply yet.

Geraldine – at the trade show in May we'll have a table with information on the campaign, we are just waiting for more committees to be involved to help out.

VI. **Bargaining** – Todd

GNWT - we are engaged with strike votes in the NWT and are half way through, we should be done by the end of march. NTPC has a 91% strike mandate and the departments will work together and serve a mediation requirement; we hope for a 71% strike mandate for GNWT.

Jack – City of Whitehorse are also in negotiations, there are issues with the Essential Services Agreement (ESA) with the city. In order for us to have an effective strike we need the employer in a hard place. Within the next 6 weeks we can have both units on strike at the same time; just after march break.

- Teresa – it's comforting to know we're not alone and we're not the only ones in this position. Strike votes have been taking place this week, the members understand because the message is getting out there, we'll need the support of the PSAC staff, that is really great to have.

Jack – in Arctic Bay Nunavut they are also still without a Collective Agreement (CA). Their certificate has casuals who are excluded, and there are as many casuals as there are members, so there is no advantage to a strike; we need community support there for the members.

Bill – talks also broke down in Baker Lake Nunavut, Lawyers for Employers are worried that they are going to lose and it's one of the bigger housing authorities.

- Bill will be going back to Arctic Bay to get a petition going, and back to Baker Lake to give them support.

Bruce – how many CA's in the north are currently being negotiated?

- Jack – currently there are 20 in bargaining now across the north. We have buttons and stickers available that say 'I support my bargaining team' Bruce would like some of these items.

VII. **Food Insecurity** – Carrie - Deferred

VIII. **Reducing Services** – Geoff - No update

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6. **Vision Committee Update** – Teresa – I’m hoping everyone had a chance to read over the vision statements, I’ll maybe put it out again for feedback. Quorum is needed at a Regional Council meeting in order to approve the Vision Statement.
 - Jack will send an email to remind council to send any suggestions to Teresa.
 - Jack will send an email to remind council to meet with their topic groups.

7. **Upcoming Meeting Dates**
 - April 18, 2018 @ 5:30pm MDT
 - May 29, 2018 @5:30pm MDT (General Meeting)
 - September 18, 2018 @ 5:30pm MDT

8. **Additional Information** – Access Materials – buttons and pamphlets for the Access Committees are being created, these can be handed out at the Arctic Winter Games; if there are extras these can be displayed at the Yellowknife Trade Show on the PSAC North table that Geraldine is organizing.

9. **Adjournment** – 6:10pm