



BOX 789, KELOWNA, B.C. V1Y 7P4

CHARTERED BY THE CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS

**MINUTES
NORTH OKANAGAN LABOUR COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1996, 7:30 PM
BCGEU OFFICE, KELOWNA, BC**

AFFILIATES PRESENT:

Judy Filion	BCGEU #707	Dona Frayn	BCGEU #1207
June Scott	CUPE #3523	Peter Collins	IWA #1-423
Betty Reid	BCGEU #507	Tony Heisterkamp	UBCJ #1346
Bert Mitchell	OTEU #15	Simo Korpisto	CUPE #626
Steve Malerby	TWU #6	Loreen Lamberton	HEU
John Broughton	HEU	David Doran	UBCJ #1346
Liz Fletcher	TWU #16	Bill Dingman	CUPE #338
Ken Robinson	HEU	Louise Turner	HEU
Tracie Connor	HEU	Randy Lang	CUPE #523
Ron Tralnberg	HEU	Gary Blanke	IAM #2710
Maria Tokarchuk	HSA	Pat Munro	HSA
Kevin Swetlishoff	HEU	Sandra Solski	HEU
Malcolm Broxham	UBCJ #1346	Alix Broxham	BBSU

GUESTS:

Art Larocque, CLC Representative
Michael Pierce

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Fox at 7:30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M/S/C to adopt the agenda of October 9, 1996.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

M/S/C to adopt the September minutes as set out and circulated.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Pine Acres/Westbank First Nationals - negotiations will continue in the next couple of weeks with new Westbank Band Chief Brian Eli.

CREDENTIAL REPORT:

M/S/C: 27 present, with 25 delegates and 2 guests at 7:45 p.m.



OBLIGATION OF NEW DELEGATES:

Sandra Solski - HEU Kelowna Local
Tracie Connor - HEU Vernon Local

FINANCIAL REPORT:

M/S/C as circulated. (Copy attached.)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Copy attached.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

(a) Northern Area Delegate Executive Member:

Nominated: Tony Heisterkamp - declined
Tracie Connor - accepted

Tracie Connor new Northern Area Delegate.

(b) B.C. Fed Delegate:

Nominated: Gary Blanke - accepted
Jeff Fox - declined

Gary Blanke, B.C. Fed Delegate.

(c) CLC Pacific Region Labour Council Conference, October 26 & 27:

Nominated: Sandi Solski - accept
Ken Robinson - decline
Betty Reid - decline
Jeff Fox - accept

Jeff Fox and Sandi Solski to attend the Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE:

List of correspondence attached.

REPORTS OF LOCAL UNIONS AND APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

OTEU #15 - Bert Mitchell:

Contract with Vernon Business Services Ltd. renewed for 3 years with wage increases and increased benefits; also new seniority clause. 1st year - 6%; 2nd year - 2%; 3rd year - 3%.

Contract with Kelowna Cabs (1981) Ltd. now complete - with full benefit package including dental, eye glasses, etc., in addition to 1 day per month sick leave.

CUPE #626 - Simo Korpisto:

The City of Vernon has attacked time spent by union members on union business, including schools and conferences. The City claims that:

- (1) Engaging in Union business is not pensionable earnings under the Superannuation Act;
- (2) The contract stipulates that the time taken from work for union business is without pay;
- (3) In prior years the amount of time taken by employees under these clauses was not material; however, this time has become more significant.

The City is unable to explain how the past practice has caused a problem. By threatening our pensionable time the City has effectively harassed union members from engaging in union business.

HSA:

- (1) Canada Pension Plan Campaign: write Andrew Petter, Minister of Finance; Hon. Paul Martin, Fed. Minister of Finance; Linda Reid, MLA - Richmond East; Hon. Raymond Chan, MP - Richmond. Reason: to express concern about future of CPP. Proposed changes by federal government have potential to substantially reduce the retirement income of the majority of Canadian seniors, especially women.
- (2) Use unionized hospitalized services - e.g., labs, physio and x-ray. Disregard your doctor's prescription form encouraging private services (approx. 50% of income from private services goes to profit) because one can use union services (and should!).

CUPE #523 - Randy Lang:

School District Amalgamation - effect on CUPE Local 523: Loss of Kettle Valley to Grand Forks - 50 members; loss of Princeton to Merritt - 56 members. Effect on this Labour Council - loss of Armstrong (90 members) to Shuswap Columbia Labour Council.

Other changes: Keremeos and Southern Okanagan form a district, as does Penticton and Summerland. Other changes in Local - loss of Beaver Lodge and Shuswap Association for Community Living to a new provincial Local 3999 (Social Service Sector).

CUPE #338/Civic Employees Council of Unions - Bill Dingman:

Following 16 bargaining meetings which include 3 mediation meetings, the parties agreed to withdraw all issues from the table except wages. The Union's last proposal at mediation was 6% over four years. The Employers' Association offered 1% over the same four years. Their offer amounted to an insult; therefore, we left the meeting. The above highlights affect 9 municipalities from Revelstoke to Princeton and negotiations affect 800 employees. There have not been any further meetings scheduled.

TWU:

Backfilling from the down-sizing initiatives generated 100 grievances, some of which are going to expedited arbitration. Rally in support of ongoing bargaining at Swanguard Stadium on Monday evening, October 21.

TWU is intervening in CRTC hearings on price caps - lower grade of service; cost cuts which means job loss.

Posters put out by Penny Priddy's office on Keeping Safe - women at work - at the door.

Member, Board of Referees for Unemployment Insurance - Faye Saxon:

Written report attached.

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Municipal Elections

Dave Doran - running for Spallumcheen;
Mike Pierce - running for Vernon City Council.

M/S/C - \$300.00 to be donated to both candidates to help in their campaigns.

M/S/C - Executive to look at endorsing any candidates who may come forward before October 11 nomination deadline.

(b) BC Federation of Labour Resolutions

(1) M/S/C:

Whereas the BC New Democratic Party and Premier Clark campaigned in this spring's election on a platform of protecting jobs and vital community resources;

Whereas Finance Minister Andrew Petter has now announced expenditure reductions of up to 1 billion dollars which if carried out will result in job losses and program cuts of a magnitude not seen since the 1980's;

Whereas British Columbia already has the leanest public service in Canada today already stretched thinly to provide vital community services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Okanagan Labour Council and the BC Federation of Labour call on Premier Clark to adopt a plan for long-term fiscal stability which is not achieved at the expense of good, family supporting jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Premier Clark adopt a cooperative approach to finding lasting cost savings by fundamentally restructuring government through eliminating unnecessary layers of management and improved worksite practices.

(2) M/S/C:

Whereas affiliate members that are delegates to Regional Labour Councils are there to represent their respective Union, and

Whereas once delegates accept an executive position for their Labour Council, they take on an additional responsibility of representing their own Union and the Labour Council itself and,

Whereas elected representatives from Labour Councils to the BC Federation Executive Council are in fact elected to represent the Labour Councils from their Region and not their affiliated Union and,

cont'd.....

Whereas such elected representatives that are called upon to attend Executive Council meetings at the Federation, should not incur expenses or lost wages while attending on behalf of the Labour Councils in their Region, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that when Labour Council representatives are required to attend BC Federation Executive Council meetings, the BC Federation shall reimburse said representatives for travel, accommodation, per diem and for Lost wages (where applicable). This provision shall be pre-authorized and approved by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation.

(3) M/S/C:

Whereas Labour Councils in all Regions of the Province have the responsibility of coordinating Community programs of action and,

Whereas Regional Labour Councils coordinate action for the BC Fed, the CLC and on occasion for affiliates and,

Whereas several provinces across Canada have full Regional Representation and have had for some time;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article X, Section 8 be amended to read:

- a) Representatives of Labour Councils shall elect four (4) Executive Council Members, one (1) from each of the following regions:
 - 1) Vancouver Island
 - 2) Vancouver/New Westminster (Alternating Seat)
 - 3) Southern Interior/Kootenays
 - 4) Northern Interior
- b) Each Region shall be responsible for nominating a representative from their area.
- c) Labour Council nominees must receive endorsement from the Labour Council Caucus prior to going to Convention for election.

(c) NOLC Marketing/Promotional Proposal - look at implementing 3 strategies to showcase Labour's views:

- (1) Working TV - support in getting it shown on local TV.
- (2) Advertising on Shaw Cable Channel 2 - 13 week campaign.
- (3) Promotional Contest on Radio for youth with a prize of the Silver Lake Camp being put forward.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

KEN ROBINSON,
Recording Secretary
KR:DMG*opeiu 491
Attach. - 4

(See overleaf for next meeting date/location.)

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1996,
AT 7:30 PM AT THE VILLAGE GREEN, VERNON, BC**