

MEETING	PRAIRIE/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES REGIONAL EXECUTIVE ("PRE") MEETING			
HELD AT	Matrix Hotel, Edmonton	START TIME 9:00 AM	END TIME 5:00 PM	DATE January 30, 2016

PERSONS PRESENT

Nancy McCune, Regional Director
 Sharon Losinski, Regional Vice-Chair and Edmonton Branch Representative
 Stuart Kidd, Secretary-Treasurer
 Lars Christensen, Calgary Branch Representative
 Kieth Laing, Small Branch Representative
 Brent Maine, Winnipeg and Southern Manitoba Branch Representative
 Bobby Eiswirth, Regina Branch Representative
 Robert Trudeau, Saskatoon Branch Representative
 Dr. David Cartledge, Small Branch Representative
 Hugo Buttau, Edmonton Branch Observer

CALL TO ORDER

Nancy called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt amended agenda. Moved by David, seconded by Lars, carried

2. MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Minutes of the December 5, 2015 executive meeting approved. Moved by Kieth, seconded by Sharon, carried

2.2 Business arising from minutes

- i) Nancy McCune to provide a Board of Directors report from meetings in January (strategic planning session and regular meeting) January 21 to 23, 2016.

3. BOARD REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2015 - SUBMITTED BY BONNIE PRATT



Director's Report to the Prairie/NWT Regional Executive
 Matrix Hotel – Edmonton January 30, 2016

(Report on the one-day regular Board of Directors meeting December 11, 2015 at Tremblay Rd)

Mobilizing for Success: by building mobilizing capacity with a concentration on bargaining and
 Evidence-Based Representation: building research capacity, continue to support public interest bargaining, as well as our contracting out strategy
 Investment for Future Success: build recruiting capacity: via an IT modernization strategy, a Contracted Out Strategy, and Steward and Staff Development initiatives to Support those Objectives.

The following report covers agenda items that were not held in closed session.

Mobilizing for Success:

1. Bargaining update:
Solidarity Pact between bargaining agents for public servants still holds. Treasury Board does not expect to have a mandate to continue bargaining until early February.
2. Federal Election Post Mortem
This was scheduled for a Saturday session. 43 people were invited including our regional mobilizers who participated in activist events for the federal election; Kieth Laing and Jay Krishnan. Breakout rooms will be utilized for brainstorming and working groups to discuss elements of the federal election campaign. The next campaign at federal level not for four years; we need to discuss what elements and experience can we also apply to significant issues in bargaining etc.
3. Women's International Walk
Communications Plan for PIPSC members was not effective and needs work. We will support this initiative in future.
4. Strike Pay was discussed for the New Brunswick groups who recently joined PIPSC.

Evidence Based Representation:

President Daviau provided an update on Government Relations. Government seemed to be moving quickly. President is working on building a collegial relationship with MPs and Ministers. Even Conservative MPs are now more amenable to working with labour. Quebec PIPSC Director is meeting with Quebec MPs. Regional Directors have a role to play since they know their regions. Government relations will be a fundamental part of the upcoming planning session. MP kits to be provided to the board.

Investment for Future Success

There will be a 2016 Strategic planning Session: report provided by former NCR Director, Robert Bowie-Reed. Session topics, timing etc. are being considered: e.g. the latest polling numbers collected by pollsters; latest techniques and practices in light of the new government; consideration of guest speakers for the session especially someone from the Youth Committee. Other suggested topics include the role of part-time VPs, directors, and liberated stewards - expectations, time commitments and the support they can expect/arrangements they can make with the Institute and their employers. Consider a Blue Sky session. Extend session a day to include guest speakers without detracting from training and planning. Incorporate negotiators in the session given the number of contracts being negotiated.

Leadership Training will continue to be on the agenda

CLC "Rise Up Conference" - Shirley Friesen report

2015 AGM was discussed:

- Post Mortem
- Board Sponsored Resolutions
- Late Resolutions Deadline

Return to Work Policy under consideration

Administrative Matters

Directors were reminded that any information included in the legal reports to the Board is at least 'privileged' if not specifically disclosed as "in closed session" and is not for general distribution.

Legal update: Constitutional Challenge to Bill C-59 is scheduled to go to court in spring 2016. This is the legislation that is gutting the collective bargaining rights of federal public service workers. Bill C-59 gives the government the power to amend certain provisions in federal government collective agreements to remove sick leave and impose a short and long-term disability plan outside of collective agreements. The Bill will circumvent the Public Service Labour Relations Act as well as ongoing negotiations.

Security Screening challenge is still an issue for groups; the rigour of the screening process varies between different unions and different groups depending on the employer's view of the risks of security breaches associated with different jobs.

Harassment complaints? Should these be dealt with under the contract, via filing a grievance, or under the Canada Labour Code, via Sec 20 complaints? Joanne Harvey, Chief Labour Relations Services, is to work on an Institute wide strategy for dealing with harassment.

Schedule of Board of Directors' meetings was amended and handed out and the new Director has a copy.

**Prairie/Northwest Territories Region
Professional Office Staff
Staff Member Position**

Grace Chychul

Regional Representative

Edmonton Regional Office

Vance Coulas

Labour Relations Officer
Kristian Hawkins

Employment Relations Officer
Prashila Chand

Office Administrator, Edmonton

Winnipeg Regional Office

[Sean Kemball](#)

Employment Relations Officer
Jeffrey Ryder

Employment Relations Officer
Bailey Campbell

Office Administrator, Winnipeg

**Prairie/Northwest Territories Region
Better Together Volunteers**

Grace Chychul

Regional Mobilization Coordinator, Staff

Regional Mobilizers:

Kieth Laing

Saskatchewan Representative
Jay Krishnan

Manitoba Representative
Shirley Tso

Alberta Representative

3. BOARD REPORT FOR JANUARY 2016 - SUBMITTED BY NANCY MCCUNE



Directors Report to the Regional Executive for January 2016.

The Board of Directors met on January 21, 22, and 23 in Kingston Ontario.

A strategic planning session took place on January 21 and 22. Two of the priorities are: Building stronger relationships and access to key decision makers in government; Maintaining and building/member engagement/mobilization. The initial vision statement is; an influential and respected advocate for our members interests and for the public good. The strategic plan is still a work in progress and has yet to receive approval by the BOD.

Marlene Floyd of Earncliffe Strategy Group gave a presentation on building relationships with the current government. She was a senior member of the liberal campaign team. Her firm is going to be planning a lobby day for the BOD on February 23.

The BOD meeting took place on January 23.

The following agenda items were discussed in closed session:

- Eric Boucher and Chris Titus, New Brunswick Crown Council and Crown Prosecutors. An update on negotiations was given.
- Bargaining Update
- Evidence Based Representation
- PIPSC Reorganization
- 2015 Triennial review of the Chiefs
- Update on Government Relations

Conferences

The Broadbent Institute will be having a Progress Summit on March 31 to April 2. Given the short notice the director has reached out to a couple of women to see if they would be interested in attending. (Since the regional executive meeting, Lou Prieto (NEB) was approved by the president to attend the summit.)

The CLC will be having a "Rise Up, Human Rights Conference" on October 20 to 23. Unknown how many spots each region will have.

AGM Resolution Deadline

There was some discussion about changing the deadlines for resolutions to the PIPSC AGM. It was suggested that the deadline for resolutions be changed to the end of June and that late resolutions must be submitted one week prior to the AGM.

Disposition of 2015 AGM Resolutions

The following AGM resolutions referred to the BOD will be assigned to individual BOD members:

P4 – regional funding

P13 – updated policy on constituent body funding

L2 – PIPSC northern advisory committee

L8 – Registration process for PIPSC meetings.

Fredericton Office

Final details are being worked out.

Selection of 2016 Committee Members (regional representatives on the committees were recorded in the regional executive minutes).

4. SELECTION OF 2016 PRAIRIE & NWT NATIONAL COMMITTEE members

A telephone conference call was held on January 14, 2016. All executive members were in attendance except for Brent Maine. Selections were made from applications received for the following committees of the board: The Board of Directors approved members for the following committees.

By-Laws and Policies Committee – Robert Trudeau with Darlene McKay as friend

Elections Committee – Robert Hunter

Elections Appeals Committee – Robert Scott and Barry Wickware

Finance Committee – Ira Hill with Sharon Losinski as a friend

Human Rights in the Workplace Committee – Bonnie Manz with Lars Christensen as friend

Information Technology Services and Projects Committee – Mark Nicholson with Todd McKay and Ian Parkinson as friends

Member Services Committee – Kieth Laing

Professional Recognition and Qualifications Committee – Hugo Buttau

Science Advisory Committee – Jay Krishnan

Discussion took place regarding a one page report from Committee members to PRE. Also next year applications to national boards should answer questions related to applicant's experience, what applicant intends to accomplish while on national committee, etc.

A motion was presented. The Regional Director will request a report from each national committee member prior to each PRE meeting. Moved by Brent, seconded by Kieth, carried.

5. PRAIRIE & NWT FINANCIAL REPORT

Stuart presented a financial report for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. The report detailed revenues of \$30,248 and expenses of \$19,982. The beginning bank balance of January 1, 2015 was \$8,694 with a bank balance of \$19,166 at December 31, 2015. The budget for 2016 will be presented at next PRE meeting. Stuart brought up expenses of Pattison billboards of \$9,200 plus costs for two observers at PIPSC AGM. Sharon presented an invoice for \$26.24 which was for a gift to Prashila Chand. Kieth mentioned Bob Dewar had called him twice about Pattison invoices. The cost of two observers in 2014 was \$3,200. Also gifts to members for voting participation are estimated at \$900. (An invoice of \$4,518.88 was received from National PIPSC for two AGM observers, after January 30, 2016 meeting). Also the previous director was reimbursed the voting gifts by PIPSC and thus no \$900 liability exists for region).

Motion to accept financial report by Stuart, seconded by Kieth, carried

6. PRAIRIE & NWT REGIONAL COUNCIL PLUS 2016 STEWARD COUNCIL

Prairie & NWT Regional Council will be held at Clarion Hotel in Winnipeg on June 3 & 4, 2016. The afternoon will consist of a Better Together presentation and a motivational speaker arranged by Winnipeg and Southern Manitoba Branch. The region business will be discussed on June 4, 2016. Regional Council delegates will be expected to attend the entire event. A hospitality suite will be provided by the Winnipeg and Southern Manitoba Branch on the evening of June 3 after the dinner and entertainment. The banquet contract is signed with mandatory meals and no per diem allowance for non-attendance. The chair will be the Winnipeg and Southern Manitoba president with the parliamentarian to be selected.

A Branch President's meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon, June 2 and continue the morning of June 3 if necessary.

Steward Council will be held at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg on September 23 & 24, 2016. A human Rights speaker will be invited and a movie on the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike will be shown. A tour of the Winnipeg Human Rights Museum will occur at 5:00 PM. Saturday events will include a mock arbitration hearing plus a discussion of the National Joint Council.

Discussion of guest speakers for Regional Council and Steward Council included Vice-President Shannon Bittman to discuss bargaining, Steve Hindle to discuss consultation and Stephanie Aubry to discuss mobilization or contracting out. The Manitoba Labour Council could be asked for a speaker as both events are in Winnipeg.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2016 Prairie & NWT Labour School will be held at Matrix Hotel in Edmonton on April 21, 22 & 23 2016. Nancy presented outline of course and activities during labour school. The hotel wine and cheese from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM will replace the hospitality suite. Information on Edmonton activities will be available to labour school attendees.

Basic Steward training may be scheduled for September 2016. We need a minimum of 15 new stewards to participate. The course would include a mandatory on line session that each new steward would need to complete and pass before training. Kieth to organize Better Together meeting to be arranged in March or April. We need to identify or renew mobilizers for the next year.

8. TRAINING COMMITTEE

A discussion of what PIPSC does for members and training course needs took place. Also what is Better Together about could be a training course suggestion.

New terms of reference prepared for signature of Prairie & NWT Executive members. Motion to accept as amended made by Kieth. Carried.

9. THANK GOODNESS (UNIONS) FOR FRIDAY SHIRTS

The inventory of T-Shirts at the Edmonton PIPSC office should be distributed to any Prairie & NWT stewards who do not have one. Any steward who did not attend the 2015 Steward Council in Edmonton would be eligible for at-shirt. Stuart to provide branch president's with a list of stewards who have already received t-shirts. Branch presidents should then contact stewards from their branch that did not receive a t-shirt to ask for their size. T-shirts would then be distributed to the presidents to then give to their respective stewards.

10. PRAIRIE & NWT REGION COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

Sharon discussed Finance Committee issues with PIPSC pension plan. The National Member Services meeting to be held. The national BLPC committee will also schedule a meeting.

11. ROUND TABLE

Branch representatives provided verbal recaps of recent events and planned activities. Winnipeg branch is planning a Christmas meal in January 2016. New elections were held at Winnipeg 2016 AGM with emphasis on recruitment of new stewards. Calgary branch 2016 AGM was held with Nancy McCune and Steve Hindle as guest speakers. Calgary branch will continue commitment to engage members in social events as well as community involvement. Prince Albert branch AGM held in January 2016. Saskatoon branch will continue review of point selection system for national AGM attendees. Regina branch will have 2016 AGM in March. Nancy was invited to speak. Bobby raised issue of a new CS sub-group in Regina. Red Deer & Lacombe branch now has 3 stewards and appreciates new funding structure. Red Deer will hold a food bank event. Edmonton branch will also hold a food bank event in 2016. Nancy will attend the Edmonton branch AGM in March. A tree planting event plus a member barbeque are planned for Edmonton branch.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

The Retired Members Guild was discussed. The question rose about benefits of the guild as opposed to national association of federal retirees. The dues for the guild are 8% of regular dues (around \$60 per year). Retired and regular members should be interested in a retirement/estate lunch & learn event. Sharon will follow up.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in April 2016 at the Hotel in Edmonton, Alberta. Nancy will determine a date. (Later determined to be April 8)

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM moved by Robert, seconded by David.