



VANCOUVER and DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018

1. **LOCATION:** Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street, Vancouver, BC

The VDLC acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and other First Nations people.

2. **CHAIRPERSON:** Graham O'Neill, 2nd Vice President

3. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

MSC that the minutes of the October 16, 2018 meeting be adopted.

4. **CREDENTIALS:**

The following credentials were received since the last VDLC meeting:

(* = recredentialled, A = alternate)

BCGEU Local 503

Keith Stone *

HEU St. Paul's Hospital Local

Jason Sullivan

BCTF – VESTA

Donna Brack

Greg Canning

Allison Jambor *

Vanessa Lefevre

Jean-Michel Oblette (A)

Jody Polukoshko *

Leslie Roosa *

Les Rowe *

IAFF Local 18

Bryden Pelletier

MoveUp

Caitlin Davidson-King

MSC to obligate/seat the delegate(s).

5. **GUEST SPEAKERS:**

- a) Lisa Kreut, Trans Day of Remembrance

The November 20, Transgender Day of Remembrance was founded in 1999 to memorialize the murder of Rita Hester who was killed in 1998 in Massachusetts. It has since evolved into an international day of recognition. In Vancouver, transgender people and their allies gathered at Main and Hastings and marched to SFU Harbour Centre for a vigil. In the last 10 years, the Trans Murder Monitoring project has recorded 2982 murders of transgender and gender diverse people worldwide and each year the number is growing. The prejudice around trans people keeps them vulnerable. The intersectionality of the problem, calls for an intersectional solution. Please take the time to reflect on the 369 people who lost their lives this year and the countless others who weren't reported and think about how as leaders we can fight transphobia, honour those killed, and fight for the living.

A moment of silence was held in recognition of those who have lost their lives.

- b) Karen McVeigh, HEU
Karen introduced Barb Nederpel to the VDLC, HEU's newly elected president and first woman elected to the position.

- c) Lorene Oikawa, CLiFF
November is CLiFF month, this year the Canadian Labour International Film Festival is celebrating 10 years. CLiFF gathers film from many sources, student and independent films to large production films, about labour and is permitted to show them. It's a wonderful way of sharing labour's story and message. A short animated film was shown.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Stephen von Sychowski reported on VDLC activities since the October meeting.

Political Action

The municipal election took place on October 20. The city of Vancouver elected Kennedy Stewart, its first independent mayor in decades and kept the city on a progressive path. Four of our endorsed candidates for City Council were elected: Adriane Carr, Pete Fry, Jean Swanson, and Christine Boyle, as was non-endorsed Green candidate Michael Wiebe.

On Park Board, five of our seven endorsed candidates (Stuart Mackinnon, Dave Demers, Camil Dumont, Gwen Giesbrecht, and John Irwin) were elected. Similarly, on Vancouver School Board we elected five of our endorsed candidates (Janet Fraser, Estrelllita Gonzalez, Jennifer Reddy, Barb Parrott, and Allan Wong) and one non-endorsed Green candidate (Lois Chan-Pedley).

In the City of North Vancouver our endorsed mayoral candidate, Linda Buchanan, was elected and one of our two endorsed City Council candidates, Angela Girard; Mack McCorkindale, came very close.

There were a number of close outcomes in this election and it is fair to say that the VDLC's efforts made an important impact.

Our approach to this election was substantively different from other municipal elections in recent history.

Our approach changed in two fundamental ways:

- i) The first was to take a more active role in working with the progressive municipal parties to encourage cooperation and reduce vote-splitting. This was informed by the main lesson of the 2017 Vancouver City Council by-election when 4 progressive candidates split the vote, allowing the right-wing NPA to win a city council seat with only 43% of the vote.

Early in 2018 we began meeting with representatives of the progressive political organizations in the city: Coalition of Progressive Electors, Green Party of Vancouver, Jean Swanson for Council (later merged with COPE), OneCity, and Vision Vancouver. We encouraged cooperation and dialogue between progressive parties and established our position with each of the groups that no party should seek a majority, and that we would not endorse a majority for any party. We also established our view that an independent mayoral candidate would have the best hopes of success, and of building progressive cooperation around them.

The situation at the time was one wherein there were five progressive political organizations indicating an intent to field candidates, and a desire to have our endorsement. Our ideal goal was to have the same number of candidates running from amongst the parties as there were seats available.

We held the Crossroads Conference in early May, bringing together a diverse array of participants to talk about the issues facing our city in a non-partisan forum. Our message was that our city is at a crossroads, either shifting to the right and losing the progressive gains of the past decade, or moving in a bold progressive direction and tackling the crises that face us: affordability and housing, transportation, the overdose crisis; and so forth.

- ii) The second was to move to a grassroots mobilization-based strategy for supporting our endorsed candidates, rather than direct support to the parties or candidates themselves.

This change came as a reaction to the new election advertising rules implemented by the provincial government.

A new approach had to be found, and the one that was selected was one of member-to-member outreach combined with grassroots mobilization to promote labour endorsed candidates and get out the vote.

This strategy has the dual benefit of assisting endorsed candidates while also helping to build the labour council's profile, capacity, and relationships.

We were able to mobilize a significant campaign. During the pre-campaign period this included a major social media campaign, a postal walk of 100,000 households, door-to-door canvassing, and substantial member-to-member outreach at meetings and events and by phone.

As we entered the campaign period we registered as a third party advertiser and began to switch gears. Our election organizers were on board and were laying the groundwork for our get out the vote campaign. We mobilized volunteers and were able to distribute over 50,000 poll cards. During this time we continued our social media efforts, primarily through free social media but also with a Facebook boost immediately prior to the election.

What we were able to achieve is certainly something we can all be proud of.

We are now left with a complex political situation in Vancouver. Many NPA representatives were elected on October 20, yet progressive majorities exist at all levels and we have a progressive independent mayor. Four different progressive parties won seats, including the Vancouver Green Party who surged, Vision Vancouver who lost all of their seats but for Allan Wong on School Board, COPE who have made a successful return to the political scene by electing many of their candidates, and OneCity who continue to progress as a relatively new but growing party. The political scene has shifted and we have a role to play in encouraging cooperation between progressives so that our city can move in a progressive direction and tackle the problems it faces.

To this end, the Executive is bringing forward a recommendation that we establish a committee focused on municipal matters.

VDLC Labour Education

Our Human Rights for Shop Stewards & Union Activists course with Conni Kilfoil took place on November 7, 8, & 9 and was attended by over 20 participants. Once again feedback was positive. Participants were provided with the most up-to-date information on human rights laws as they apply to the workplace, and left feeling confident in their ability to stand up for those rights in their roles as union activists.

Upcoming courses:

- Investigations and Interrogations: Representing Members in Employer Interviews
November 24

- Effective Grievances
December 1

We are currently working on the 2019 program, which will be released next month.

Metro Vancouver Alliance

The MVA held a webinar on Proportional Representation on October 30.

On November 8, the first MVA labour caucus meeting was held, wherein representatives of the labour organizations which are MVA members met to discuss how to deepen the MVA within their organizations.

Young Workers Committee

Unfortunately Young Workers Committee Chair Alex Braidek has had to resign. I am working with the committee to chart the path forward.

Queen Alexandra Fundraiser

Our Queen Alexandra Fundraiser event is scheduled for January 17, 6 to 9 pm, at the Rio Theatre. We will be showing the film *The Road Forward*, about First Nations activism in Canada. We also hope to have the director, Marie Clements joining us.

Pharmacare Lobby

We have been working to schedule meetings with Liberal MP's regarding the CLC campaign for a national pharmacare program. To date we have met with Dr. Hedy Fry (Vancouver Centre) and Joe Peschisolido (Steveston Richmond East). Meetings are scheduled for later this year with Terry Beach (Burnaby North-Seymour) and Jonathan Wilkinson (North Vancouver). A meeting with Pam Goldsmith-Jones (West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast – Sea to Sky Country) was cancelled last minute by the MP's office due to unforeseen circumstances and is being rescheduled. We are also still trying to get confirmed dates with Jody Wilson-Raybould (Vancouver Granville), Joyce Murray (Vancouver Quadra), and Harjit Sajjan (Vancouver South).

Events Attended

October 14 - Stand Up for SOGI Rally
October 16 – United Way “Let’s Build Community Together” event
October 16 – Meeting with PNE re: Labour Day 2019
October 17 – Interview with “Union Made” Co-Op Radio show
October 23 – BCFED Political Action Committee meeting
October 25 – Battle of Ballantyne the Musical preview event
October 26 – United Way Labour Appreciation Dinner video filming
October 26 – BCFED Pro-Rep Sub-Committee meeting
November 1 – BCFED Community Social Action Committee meeting
November 2 – MoveUP Convention & Dinner
November 2 – Meeting with Executive Board of Canadian Media Guild CBC Radio Local
November 5 – Hospital Employees Union Convention
November 5 – MVA Coordinating Committee meeting
November 6 – BCFED Constitution and By-Laws Committee meeting
November 6 – United Way Labour Caucus meeting
November 7 to 9 – Human Rights for Shop Stewards & Union Activists course
November 8 – MVA Labour Caucus meeting
November 9 – Pharmacare Lobby with MP Joe Peschisolido (Steveston – Richmond East)
November 14 – United Way of the Lower Mainland Campaign Cabinet meeting
November 14 – Pharmacare Lobby with MP Hedy Fry (Vancouver Centre)
November 14 – BCFED Convention Video Filming

November 15 – Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Gala
November 15 – VDLC Executive Board
November 17 – Migrant Workers Centre AGM
November 20 – VDLC Regular Meeting

7. CORRESPONDENCE: *Circulated at meeting.*

8. EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

a) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Spending Authorizations

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL authorize the following expenditures:

- United Way of the Lower Mainland Labour Appreciation Dinner: Table of 10 - At a cost of \$700.00.
- Get well card and gift for former VDLC Treasurer Tim Cheung: Up to \$100.00.
- 24th Annual Labour Community Christmas Dinner: Donation of \$100.00

b) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Free Them Now (Campaign to Free Jailed Workers in Iran)

BECAUSE truck drivers in Iran went on strike on September 23 for three weeks after the authorities refused to address their urgent demands including low pay and dangerous conditions; and

BECAUSE these workers faced harsh repression by the authorities, including the arrest of 256 striking drivers on October 8, and have been threatened with punishment up to and including execution; and

BECAUSE the Global Union Federations [The international Transport Federation (ITF), Education International (E1), IndustriALL Global Union, The International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco, and Allied Workers Association (IUF), and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)] in a joint statement on October 17th, condemned the execution threats, and demanded unconditional and immediate release of the all the detained drivers; and

BECAUSE many teachers have also been arrested in relation to their national strike on October 15, including Mohammed Reza Ramazan Zadeh, General Secretary of the Teachers' Association, as well as Mohammed Saleh Shekari, and Abbas Vahedian; and

BECAUSE other teachers' leaders were already imprisoned in advance of this strike, including Abdolreza Ghanbari, Imsail Abdi, Mohammed Habibi, and Mahmoud Beheshti,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL join the call by Free Them Now and international labour bodies to demand the unconditional release of these union activists and striking workers; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FURTHER write to Hassan Rouhani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran in support of these workers.

c) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Municipal Engagement Committee(s)

BECAUSE electing progressive municipal governments is only the first step to ensuring worker-friendly, progressive, inclusive, sustainable cities; and

BECAUSE the most recent municipal election led to the election of a progressive mayor and progressive majorities on city council, school board, and park board, however, the elected representatives come from four different political parties; and

BECAUSE there is an ongoing role for the labour council in encouraging progressive cooperation, monitoring municipal government decisions, and acting on municipal and regional issues,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL establish a Municipal Engagement Committee for the City of Vancouver, which will exist and function in accordance with the VDLC Constitution and By-Laws; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FURTHER establish additional Municipal Engagement Committees for other municipalities in our district, if and when sufficient persons are prepared to dedicate the necessary time for them to function.

d) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Hands off Venezuela

BECAUSE the federal government joined the Trump administration in the United States in inflicting sanctions on Venezuela in the fall of 2017; and

BECAUSE these sanctions are much broader than those previously imposed by the U.S. under the Obama administration and are clearly aimed at undermining the Venezuelan economy as a whole; and

BECAUSE these sanctions are a form of economic warfare, aimed at toppling Venezuela's democratically elected United Socialist Party government which has nationalized the countries oil industry and invested in housing, education, and social services for its people; and

BECAUSE the sanctions predominately hurt the working class and the poor, and act as a political support to the even harsher sanctions placed on Venezuela by the Trump administration, and for its ongoing support for opposition forces within Venezuela, some of which have resorted to acts or terrorism against government officials and public facilities; and

BECAUSE claims that these sanctions are intended to support human rights fall flat when faced with the reality that these governments continue to support, and sell weapons to human rights abusing regimes such as the one in Saudi Arabia; and

BECAUSE President Trump has spoken on many occasions of the possibility of toppling the Venezuelan government by military force or through support of a coup,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL call upon the federal government to end its sanctions against Venezuela and promote dialogue and diplomacy instead of economic interference and threats; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FURTHER acknowledge the right of all nations to self-determination and respect for national sovereignty; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FINALLY categorically oppose the use of military intervention, and the support of coups or other anti-democratic means of achieving "regime change" in Venezuela.

e) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Oppose Fascism in Brazil

BECAUSE the recent election in Brazil led to the rise of a fascist government under the Presidency of Jair Bolsonaro. A man who has praised former Chilean dictator Pinochet; called for political killings and the use of torture to purge leftists and other opponents; and threatened the elimination of indigenous land rights and culture; and

BECAUSE during the election campaign, and since the election, there have already been raids on universities, as well as several politically motivated arrests, and a string of violent attacks and murders targeting left-wing activists and politicians; and

BECAUSE the election result itself has been challenged given that it comes on the heels of the 2016 coup which forced President Dilma Rousseff from power, as well as the imprisonment of former President Lula da Silva, who had sought to run in this year's election,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL call upon the Canadian government to exert whatever pressure it can to ensure respect for the rights of the Brazilian people, including the indigenous people of Brazil, as well as the union movement and working class political parties and organizations which are now targeted for repression; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FURTHER express its solidarity with those fighting for democracy and human rights in Brazil; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FINALLY continue to monitor the situation for specific opportunities to express that solidarity through action.

f) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Against Anti-Semitism

BECAUSE eleven people were murdered by an anti-Semitic terrorist on October 29, 2018, at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and

BECAUSE this attack is a tragic reminder that anti-Semitism remains alive and well in our society and must be opposed and combatted; and

BECAUSE anti-Semitic, racist, and pro-fascist propaganda and graffiti continue to appear throughout our local region, including the appearance of racist and pro-nazi graffiti at UBC last November,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL reaffirm its opposition to anti-Semitism and to all forms of racism, fascism, and xenophobia; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL reaffirm the commitments of its November 2017 motion to:

- call upon its affiliates, community, political, and business leaders to continue to work together in solidarity to help stamp out the hate, fascist ideology including neo-nazism, discrimination, and oppression here in Canada,
- ensure that our work promotes a labour movement which is inclusive and representative of the diverse working class which it represents,
- participate in activities that demonstrate our condemnation of acts of hatred in our communities, and
- act to ensure that organizations representing the targeted demographics within our society are included in the strategizing and planning.

- g) *MSC that the following recommendation be adopted:*
Subject: Condemning the Massacre of the “Sagay Nine”

BECAUSE on October 20, 2018, nine civilians were gunned down in Hacienda Nene in Sagay City, in the central Philippine island of Negros by what is described by Philippine human rights groups as the single most deadly attack against peasant activists under the President Rodrigo Duterte administration; and

BECAUSE sources report several armed men opened fire on the farm workers while they were eating supper inside their tents at around 9:30 pm. Furthermore, the victims suffered headshot wounds and three of those who died were doused with gasoline and burned.

The victims are ANGELIFFA ARSENAL, 47; ROMMEL BANTIGUE, 41; PATERNO BARYO, 48; MARCELINA DUMAGUIT, 60; RENE LAURENCIO, SR, 53; MORENA MENDOZA, 48; EGLICERIO VILLEGAS, 36; and minors MARCHEL SUMICAD, 17 and JOEMARIE UGHAYON, JR, 16, all collectively now referred to as the “Sagay Nine (9)”; and

BECAUSE the farm workers were members of the National Federation of Sugar Workers (NFSW) who had occupied an idle portion of Hacienda Nene’s 75 hectares/185 acres which is earmarked for redistribution to farmers under the government land reform program; and

BECAUSE the farm workers were participating in a collective farming program (called bungkalan) which meant that when the land is left idle after the sugarcane harvest, the NFSW farm workers occupy the land and plant vegetables to feed their families and communities. This downtime is called “tiempo muerto” or the dead season in between the sugarcane harvest and planting season; and

BECAUSE a national fact-finding mission on the massacre, which included human rights groups, lawyers, and children’s advocates reported that the most likely suspects point to the government-backed paramilitary group called the Special Civilian Auxiliary Army (SCAA) who are well known to be engaged in protecting the haciendas; and

BECAUSE Hacienda Nene is currently under notice by the Department of Agrarian Reform for land redistribution to peasant farmers under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program and after decades of waiting for the Program to redistribute the land, the farm workers have asserted their right to occupy the idle land and cultivate it for their survival; and

BECAUSE the sugar industry in Negros Island accounts for 25% of the employment of local farm workers who are among the poorest in the Philippines. On average, sugar workers in the haciendas receive wages of PHP500 to PHP700 (US\$9.30-US\$14) per week, which is below the government minimum wage of PHP245 (US\$4.50) daily for farm workers; and

BECAUSE various international groups like the Canadian Council for International Cooperation - Asia Pacific Working Group, Human Rights Watch, the New York Committee on Human Rights in the Philippines and the Canada-Philippines for Human Rights in the Philippines have condemned the massacre,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL send a strong letter to the Philippine Government to condemn the massacre of the “Sagay 9” and call for an independent and thorough investigation by the Philippine Commission on Human Rights; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL send a letter of support to the National Federation of Sugar Workers as they continue to seek justice for the “Sagay 9” massacre victims and to seek genuine agrarian reform; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL send a letter of concern to the Canadian government to stop funding and cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police and other groups who have been linked with human rights violations; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL continue its solidarity with workers in the Philippines through such means as its “Adopt-a-Organizer” program; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL organize a report back of the solidarity tour which is visiting the Philippines this month, in order to raise awareness about the conditions faced by workers there and to build support for the program; and finally

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL submit the recommendation to the BC Federation of Labour Convention as an emergency resolution.

9. REPORT OF UNIONS:

- a) HEU Dogwood Lodge – Reported by Karen McVeigh
The HEU Facilities Bargaining Association is still at the bargaining table.

HEU held their convention November 3 to 19. Karen was elected as Regional Vice President for Coastal Region. Financial Secretary Donisa Bernardo retired and Betty Venezuela, from VGH Local, was elected. HEU also has a new president, Barb Nederpel from Kamloops. In HEU’s 74 years, Barb is the first woman elected President. Barb is also the President of Kamloops and District Labour Council.

Bill 47 – Health Sector Statutes Repeal Act, to appeal Bill 29/94 passed its second reading November 19.

- b) CUPW Local 846 Vancouver – Reported by Nick Aubichon
Over the past month, every centre in Canada has been without the postal service for at least one day. This has created a backlog of mail in all the major processing centres in the country. The pressure is hurting the corporation. CUPW’s approach in negotiations has been consistent about correcting key issues that impact postal workers: health & safety, staffing, overburdening, job security, reduction in precarious employment, pay for all hours worked, and a better work-life balance.

The corporation presented an offer last Wednesday, which expired on Saturday. The offer didn’t address any of the union’s concerns. November 19, the employer made a last ditch effort to save the holidays in a 5:00 pm deadline, offering \$1000.00 to all employees and a cooling off period (no strike or lock-out) until the end of January. This deadline also passed.

Mediation begins as of November 20. CUPW hopes a fair, negotiated collective agreement can be reached soon and that the Liberal government will let this happen without the introduction of back-to-work legislation; if they don’t, then they are no better than the Conservatives.

The following reports were made but not submitted for the minutes:

- a) HEU North Shore Community Local – Reported by Graham O’Neill
- b) UFCW Local 1518 – Reported by Stefan Nielsen
- c) HEU PHSA Local – Reported by Peter Marcus
- d) FPSE Local 5 Kwantlen Faculty Association – Reported by Romy Kozak

MSC to adopt the reports of unions.

10. REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- a) Women's – Reported by Karen McVeigh
IWD Dinner March 8 planning is coming together. The Women's Committee Scholarship will be announced soon. The committee will continue their collection for the Tampon Tuesday campaign at their IWD event.

Karen took the opportunity to thank the labour council and the Women's Committee for the opportunity to develop her skills which has helped her in her to get elected as a Regional Vice President at the HEU. She encouraged others to participate.

MSC to adopt the report of committees.

OTHER REPORTS:

- a) BC FORUM – Reported by Agnes Jackman
Delegates were encouraged to take a magazine and everyone was encouraged to join FORUM if they are a union member of 50 years or older. BC FORUM does a lot of good work that benefits everyone. Unfortunately, their numbers are dropping due to the nature of being a "retirees" organization and the natural progression of things. Please sign up and so they can continue their good work.

- b) CLC – Reported by Ron Stipp
Harrison Winter School is filling up, there are already some full courses.
The Pharmacare lobby is underway. Most are completed now, there are still a few left to do in Vancouver. The lobby with Dr. Hedy Fry was very positive and is working on this issue with labour.

The Proportional Representation referendum is going well, the returns are coming in. Please send them in sooner, rather than later.

The federal government has introduced an Omnibus Bill regarding some labour legislation. There is a lot of positive legislation for Labour contained within the bill, including equity, successorship, and contract flipping. As a confidence bill, it is all or nothing. This is legislation that Labour has been asking for, for 20 years.

Over 70% of labour endorsed candidates in the municipal elections won their seats. Progressives now control councils and school boards in many municipalities, including New Westminster, White Rock, Richmond, and, of course, Vancouver. Chair and Vice Chair of Metro Vancouver are both progressive mayors which will be crucial going forward. Thank you to everyone who worked for the municipal election. Now we have to keep those elected true to their word.

Delegates and guests were encouraged to get out in support of CUPW where they can.

MSC to receive the other reports.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

12. NEW BUSINESS: Nil

13. NOTICE OF MOTION:

The following motion will be brought to a vote at the December 11 Regular meeting of Council.

Subject: Cascade Region Labour Leaders Institute

BECAUSE President Stephen von Sychowski has been invited to attend the Cascade Region Labour Leaders Institute (CRLLI) in 2019/2020; and

BECAUSE the CRLLI is an intensive leadership development program for union and community leaders from British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon, the alumni or which contain some of British Columbia's most respected labour leaders; and

BECAUSE the program was attended by previous President Joey Hartman in 2014/2015, and Sister Hartman reported that the Institute, which was then called the National Labor Leadership Initiative (NLLI), was a tremendous experience which substantially built upon her leadership skills and approach; and .

BECAUSE the program is unique on several levels: it is leadership development for leaders, it's cross border - including both Canadian and American participants from our region, it explicitly values relationship building between labour and community leaders, and it provides support between three sessions spread out over eight months; and

BECAUSE the three sessions of the CRLLI are as follows:

- June 3 to 7, 2019 – Harrison Hot Springs, BC
- October 7 to 11, 2019 – Tacoma, WA
- February 3 to 7, 2020 – Portland, OR; and

BECAUSE the VDLC and the broader labour movement would benefit from President Stephen von Sychowski's participation in the CRLLI; and

BECAUSE the cost of the CRLLI is \$8,000 for labour organizations and includes room and board, but does not include transportation costs,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL consider the three retreats as working time, and to pay the registration fee of up to \$8,000 for Brother von Sychowski with \$5,000 being budgeted for in 2019 and the remaining \$3,000 in 2020.

14. GOOD AND WELFARE:

- 50/50 Proceeds to member of CUPE who lost their home in a fire
- Sanctuary BC is holding a Christmas party and is need of support to be able to provide gifts to children and teens.
- BC Fed convention is the last week of November, anyone not attending as a delegate is welcome as a guest. There are some great speakers lined up, but also, as neither Irene Lanzinger, nor Aaron Ekman, are seeking re-election, there are tributes planned for both.
- Since Sister Joey Hartman's retirement from the VDLC she has been appointed the new Chair of Vancouver Community College, with Libby Davies as Vice Chair; and was elected as a member of the Board of Pacific Blue Cross. Sister Hartman introduced two guests with her, students from the SFU Labour Studies program; Joey is an advisor to the Labour Studies Program which now offers a majors program in labour studies.
- UFCW Local 1518 long-time activist and organizer Peggy Shima passed away. Peggy was the first to organize home care workers in BC. She will be greatly missed and her work will continue to inspire.
 - *A moment of silence was held for Sister Peggy Shima*
- A celebration of the Russian Revolution at the Russian Hall, November 24, 5:30 pm

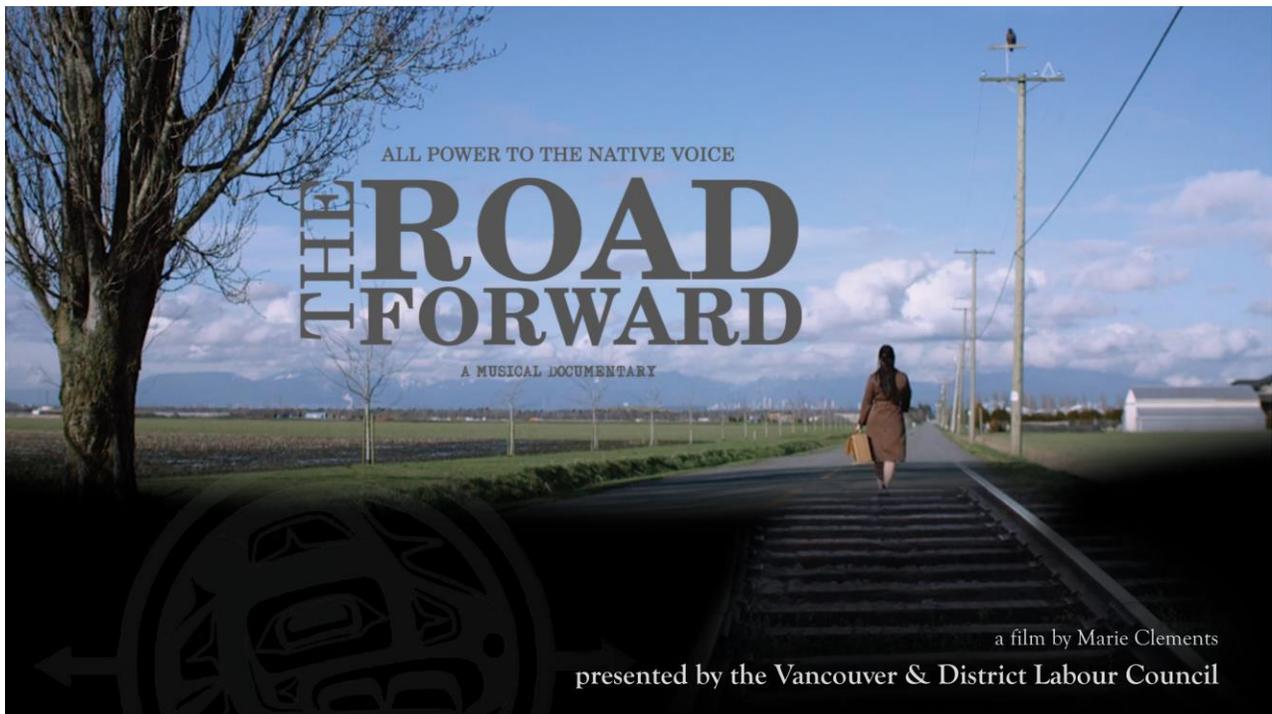
15. MEETING ADJOURNED: *MSC to adjourn at 9:00 pm.*

16. NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018**, 7:30 pm,
Maritime Labour Centre.

No Pizza Educational in December
PLEASE NOTE EARLY MEETING START TIME
7:00 pm

Meeting will be opened by Queen Alexandra Elementary Students

Meeting will be followed by a holiday social.



To raise funds for Queen Alexandra Elementary School's Wishing Tree free store.

January 17, 2019

Doors 5:30 pm

Start 6:00 pm

Tickets \$ 20

(\$10.50 ticket / \$ 9.50 donation)

Ticket purchase via Eventbrite

link at: vdlc.ca

The Rio Theatre

1660 E. Broadway

kmr-moveUP