



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

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

2. CHAIRPERSON: 2nd Vice President Stephen Von Sychowski

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

MSC that the minutes of the July 19, 2016 meeting be adopted.

4. CREDENTIALS:

CUPE Local 391

Jane Curry *

Johnathan Dyer

Tanya Ferry

Gary Jarvis *

Aliza Nevarie *

FPSE Local 5 (Kwantlen)

Bill Burgess *

Rob Scharff

MoveUP

Frances Soucie

TSSU

Benjamin Anderson

Phillip Dluhy

Unifor Local 465

Autumn Friesen

USW/TWU Local 63

Benny Chou *

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Joey Hartman reported on VDLC activities since the July 19, 2016 meeting.

Fall 2016 Executive Schedule

As of September, VDLC executive meetings will be held on the Thursday prior to evening meetings, on a trial basis. This means the motions and meeting details will be emailed earlier than the day of the meeting.

VDLC Office Move

The VDLC has moved to the upper floor of the Maritime Labour Centre. The new address is #170 – 111 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, V5L 4C4. The phone number remains 604-254-0703 and general email is still office@vdlc.ca.

Political Engagement

The VDLC sent a survey to affiliates to ask about their satisfaction with VDLC endorsed municipal politicians. Their responses will be shared with the politicians. The VDLC Executive and Political Action Committee will also meet with invited politicians to discuss key issues.

In addition, the Political Action Committee recommended that the 2016 VDLC budget provide for wage loss for a VDLC delegate to work in advance of the May 9, 2017 provincial election. The selected individual would be assigned to a key campaign within the VDLC's jurisdiction.

Summer Institute for Union Women

Sister Hartman facilitated Collective Bargaining at the SIUW in Los Angeles. Next August 8 to 12, 2017 the location will be Honolulu.

Protein for People – Hot Dog Day at Queen Alexandra School

Plans are well underway for the free, public event on September 28 to be held from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. It will be in the field if weather permits or under cover if raining.

Employment Standards Coalition

The ESA Coalition has scheduled forums for workers in precarious jobs to share stories that highlight the need to improve both ESA legislation and its enforcement. Volunteers are requested to document the stories, assist with the filing of ESA complaints or to provide advice about the existing laws. Forums are as follows:

- October 11 from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm – Cloverdale
- October 12 from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm – Central Burnaby
- October 13 from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm – East Vancouver
- October 17 from 3:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Northeast Burnaby & Coquitlam
- October 19 from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm – Central Vancouver
- October 20 from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm – New Westminster

United Way of the Lower Mainland

Nikki Hill has been appointed to replace Mervyn Van Steinburg as Director of the Labour Program at the United Way.

City of Vancouver – Living Wage Employer

The staff report and motion will be considered by Vancouver City Council on September 21. The VDLC is working with CUPE Locals, MVA, Living Wage for Families Campaign and others to support steps to ensure a living wage for all direct City staff and contracted staff.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: Circulated at meeting

7. EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

Subject: Spending Approval

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL approve the following expenditure:

- Union Film Night – Donation of \$200.00
- ILWU Local 500, 50th Anniversary – Purchase 2 tickets, \$50 each – Cost of \$100.00

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

Subject: VDLC Resolutions to the 2016 BC Federation of Labour

BECAUSE the VDLC has adopted several resolutions of province-wide significance since the 2014 BC Federation of Labour convention; and

BECAUSE the subject matter of many of those resolutions is still timely,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL submit the following resolutions, edited for length and BC Federation action as necessary, before September 29, 2016 deadline for consideration at the 2016 BC Federation of Labour convention:

1. Coasting Trade Act of Canada
2. Poverty Reduction Plan for BC
3. Sexual Assault Services for BC Women
4. Asbestos
5. Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement
6. Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendations
7. BC Minimum Wage Announcement
8. Adult Education is a Basic Right
9. Live-in Caregivers and Project Guardian
10. School Closures

MSC to amend the resolution to include resolution passed December 2015 regarding Canada Post, postal banking, and greening the post office.

Resolutions can be viewed on the VDLC website – www.vdvc.ca

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

Subject: Green Jobs BC Conference

BECAUSE the BC Federation and Green Jobs BC are collaborating on a conference to be held November 24 and 25, 2016 in Vancouver; and

BECAUSE the VDLC has engaged with community environmental activists to build a better understanding and relationship between environmentalists and trade unionists with regard to climate change and just transition for effected workers; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL approve the registration fee for the VDLC president plus up to two low-income community activists from Climate Convergence at a cost of \$250.00 each for a total of \$750.00.

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

Subject: BC Employment Standards Coalition Workers' Forums

BECAUSE the VDLC is a member organization of the BC Employment Standards Coalition; and

BECAUSE the Coalition works to improve the *Employment Standards Act*, the law covering non-union workers in BC, in both substance and enforcement; and

BECAUSE the Coalition met on June 14 with representatives of the BC Ministry Responsible for Labour, who indicated that the Liberal government has no plans to consider any changes to the Employment Standards Act, except those minimum wage adjustments

already announced, until receipt of recommendations from a BC Law Institute review expected to be available in the summer of 2017; and

BECAUSE the Coalition decided not to wait for government, and instead to give a voice to precarious workers through a series of seven free public forums where workers can tell their stories about bad jobs, be properly documented, find out if they may have the basis for a complaint, and assistance to file a complaint if appropriate and desirable,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL promote and participate in the BC Employment Standards Act Coalition workers' forums; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL FURTHER contribute \$400 towards the cost of the BC Employment Standards Act Coalition workers' forums.

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

Subject: Proportional Representation

BECAUSE the Canadian Labour Congress is urging the federal government to replace the first-past-the-post (FPTP) electoral system in Canada with a form of proportional representation (PR), consistent with over half of the democracies in the world; and

BECAUSE there are two popular models for proportional representation: Mixed-Member PR and Single Transfer Vote,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL endorse the concept of proportional representation to replace the first-past-the-post system for federal elections, and will provide education to VDLC delegates about the Mixed-Member PR and Single Transfer Vote options.

8. REPORT OF UNIONS:

a) Unifor Local 111 – Reported by Krista Lee Munro

At the end of July, Local 111 ratified a non-concessionary 3-year contract. It included modest wage increases and some language improvements. The union thanks the labour council, affiliates, delegates, and friends for the support during bargaining.

b) Unifor Local 114 – Reported by Maurice Mills

Anyone who has not yet signed the petition in support of Bill C-285, the National Standards for the Armoured Transport of Currency and Valuables Act, was encouraged to do so.

Unifor had a table at the Abbotsford Air Show primarily to bring public awareness to the TPP. They collected 100 signatures.

Local 114 held their general meeting on September 17. Brother Mills reports to the Local on happenings at the labour council at their meetings. This meeting the Local held their Executive elections, Maurice Mills is now the 2nd Vice President of Local 114. There are 2 positions that are yet to be decided by run-off. Of the 14 Executive positions, only 6 were held by the incumbent.

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

- a) CUPW Vancouver – Reported by Louise Sloan

MSC to adopt the reports of unions.

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- a) Women's – Reported by Louise Sloan

Committee meeting, Monday, September 26. Contact the VDLC for location.

- b) Solidarity in Action – Reported by Stephen Von Sychowski

There have been 2 events held by the VDLC in conjunction with Solidarity Notes Labour Choir in support of MoveUP on strike at the BC Nurses' Union office. The committee has been working with the MoveUP rep and supporting their flying squads that have been leafletting hospitals in the region. Delegates and guests were encouraged to come out to those flying squads, it's a great opportunity to reach out to the nurses and encourage them to contact their union.

It has come to the VDLC's attention, thanks to the move, that Telus subcontracts some of its technical work out to Leducor, whose workers are members of CLAC. When Leducor arrived at the VDLC they were turned away and Telus told that unless a Telus employee was sent, our business would go to Shaw. Please be aware of who is servicing your Telus lines.

MSC to adopt the reports of committees.

OTHER REPORTS

- a) CLC – Reported by Ron Stipp

(*Extended report available on the website – www.vdvc.ca)*

The CLC will be presenting the Pizza Educational in October on proportional representation, a leaflet was made available to delegates and guests.

The CLC has a new workplace certification program that provides documentation to workers showing proficiency in workplace equipment/machinery, that wouldn't be certified through Red Seal or the like. There are currently 60 workers who have received certificates in BC so far.

Winter School schedule is out. There are several new and revised courses. Remember to register early, as last year people had to be turned away last year.

- b) BC FORUM – Reported by Agnes Jackman

Fall issue of the Advocate is out, this issue features election issues. October 1 is the United Nations International Day of Older Persons – events in your area are posted on Seniors' Voice website. COSCO invited municipal governments to make proclamations of the day and 13 have agreed to do so. There are 4 cities who will be flying a flag honouring this day: Vancouver, New Westminster, North Vancouver, and White Rock. A number of BC FORUM members have been helping COSCO prepare for their conference, September 25 and 26 at the Hilton Vancouver Airport followed by the National Pensioners Federation Caucus from September 27 to 29.

MSC to receive the reports.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

11. NOMINATION TO VDLC EXECUTIVE:

There are 4 openings for Executive Member-at-Large.

MSC that the nominations for 4 vacant Executive Member-at-Large positions be postponed until the October meeting.

12. NEW BUSINESS: Nil

13. NOTICE OF MOTION: Nil

14. GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Please note that the VDLC Harassment Policy has been updated to be more inclusive in its language
- The Concierge of Vancouver, a play about affordable housing, is being performed at Studio 1398 at Granville Island. Check the Metro Vancouver Alliance for a group rate that is being negotiated for MVA members, delegates are members through the VDLC.
- BC Fed Executive Council unanimously passed a motion that they host a People with Disabilities Day event on December 3, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Affiliates will be approached for support.
- Unifor held its 2nd convention in August in Ottawa where a motion was passed in support of electoral reform and a made in Canada proportional representation system. Locals will be actively supporting the campaign. They will launching an education program, a legislative and media campaign, and will continue their support and work with the CLC and “Every Voter Counts Alliance”.
- ILWU Local 500, 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance, September 28 – VDLC has 2 tickets available

15. MEETING ADJOURNED: *MSC to adjourn at 8:28 pm.*

16. NEXT MEETING: [TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016](#), 7:30 pm,
Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street

Next Pizza Educational
Tuesday, October 18, 2016
6:00 pm

[Proportional Representation for Federal Votes](#)

[For lists of happenings please see our website events page.](#)
www.vdvc.ca/events/