



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

**1. LOCATION:** ZOOM Video Conference – 7:00PM

*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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bal Sandhu

**3. NOTICE OF VDLC POLICY ON HARASSMENT:** Circulated prior to meeting

**4. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

*M/S/C that the agenda of the September 15, 2020 Regular meeting be adopted.*

**5. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

*M/S/C that the minutes of the July 21, 2020 Regular meeting be adopted.*

**6. CREDENTIALS:**

Teaching Support Staff Union (TSSU)  
Katie Gravestock  
Kayla Hilstob  
Lea Hogan

United Food and Commercial Workers  
Union Local 1518 (UFCW Local 1518)  
Stephanie Smith

**7. OBLIGATION OF NEW DELEGATES:** Pledge of New Delegates

**8. GUEST SPEAKERS:** Jenny Kwan, MP – Vancouver East NDP

Thank you so much for inviting me. It's very exciting to see new delegates being sworn in. I'd like to acknowledge the First Peoples, the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh to which the territory which I sit on, that I'm dialling in from. As you know we are in the midst of a pandemic and there has been a lot going on in the last 6 months or so. Ever since the pandemic started we have been pushing the government hard to bring in measures to support the people of Canada. You may recall that in the beginning, the federal government was only just looking at waiving the 10 day wait period for Unemployment Insurance to support people during the pandemic. We immediately said that this was not good enough as there was a significant amount of people who did not qualify. As we know now they implemented CERB. We had to push the federal government to plug the holes of people who did not qualify for this. A variety of the measures we pushed for did come in to play. The government made vague promises about adjustments. In the middle of the pandemic, the Prime Minister decided to pirogue the house and this was right in the midst of the WE scandal, which continues to this day. This basically shut down everything. This included committee and all the committees which were doing the work on the pandemic. We are anticipating for the

house to be recalled for the Throne Speech on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Subsequent to that there will be a budget. There is a lot of noise that there will be an election. I want to state very clearly, from the NDP's perspective, what we want to make sure happens is that government provides the necessary support for Canadian. If there is going to be an election, we will be ready for it.

In terms of recovery, what are some of the issues that Canadians want? At the committee, we have been hearing from a variety of people. The UI changes as a replacement for CERB, a bill that is to be tabled in the house. This will be a significant piece of legislation. Our caucus is pushing hard on a Universal Basic Income. It remains to be seen what action the government will take on this. With the pandemic, it has really shown the gaps in our social safety net and how the government needs to revamp this systems. Another issue near and dear to my heart is affordable housing. This has been a crisis for us for decades. In 1993, the Federal Liberal government cancelled the National Affordable Housing Program. As a result of that, Canada lost over half a million units of affordable housing that would have been built. In British Columbia alone, that's a hundred thousand units that we don't have. In Strathcona Park we see the results of this. This is not just a BC crisis, but a crisis across the country. Along with my provincial Melanie Mark, MLA and the Mayor of Vancouver, Kennedy Stewart, have written a joint letter calling on the Federal Government, to come to the table to address our housing crisis on our 50/50 call share so that we can acquire assets to house the homeless who are in a precarious situation with a variety of different housing measures. To this day, the Federal Government has not put in one dime in partnership with the Provincial Government to address the homelessness and housing crisis that we are in today.

The other issue that we are greatly worried about, while the government has made some movement but still is sorely lacking, is addressing the issue of sick pay for workers. We did not have sick pay prior to the pandemic. So consequently, a lot of people are risking their lives in having to go to work and then also losing their employment as a result of that. So we've pushed the government to say that this cannot continue and you in fact need to revamp this policy and people ought to have sick pay leave. The government has come in with half measures toward this. Every single worker deserves to have sick pay whether in a pandemic or not. We are also for a universal childcare initiative. As we know, there is no recovery without a 'SHE' recovery, and many of the folks working, and in particular women who cannot access affordable, quality childcare that is a major problem. We do not have a national program in place for this.

All of these issues that I'm talking about I know you are familiar with them. As labour leaders you have fought for these basic rights for people. As we head into the throne speech and then into the budget, we need to take the opportunity, at this point in time out of the pandemic to build back better. The time has come for a wealth tax, the ultra-wealthy need to pay their fair share, it's time for us to shut the loop holes with respect to the tax havens and the subsidies, so that we can fund these essentials services and programs for all Canadians.

Prior to COVID, and this is no different during COVID and has in fact, heightened the issue that we have been pushing for universal Pharmacare and dental care. This is still very much on our agenda and is it's also been shown during this pandemic that the risk to seniors and the loss of life to seniors that we need national care standards for seniors.

Last, but not least, in terms of labour, and it was brought up on Labour Day during our zoom call with the Federation of Labour, is the issue of recall. The right of recall where people have lost their employment during the pandemic and some employers are engaging in the practice of not recalling long term employees; these employees are not being called back. The employer then will hire people who are new to the organization. This is definitely a major concern; I have spoken to my colleague, the critic on labour, Scott Duvall, and to bring this to his attention as we continue to raise these concerns with the impacts on workers during this pandemic.

There are many, many issues that I can go into. The last one I will touch on is the climate action issue. I'd like to acknowledge the fire fighters that are out there doing tremendous work. The fire that took place on the pier in New West is absolutely shocking. In the days ahead we'll have more information on what started this fire. This is defiantly another layer as to what is happening south of the border with the fires burning. Climate action is a very real situation before us and there is no question that this has to be a top agenda item for the government. I was dismayed to see in the news where the government stated that they can't move forward at this time with the climate crisis; the Liberal government has continuously done this. We have an opportunity before us to give meaning to the words 'to build back better' with economic, environmental and social justice policies so we will continue to do our work and push hard and we will see what this brings in the day ahead.

It has been such an honor for me to have the opportunity to engage with all of you and so I would love to hear your feedback, concerns and your thoughts with where we are at with the pandemic and going forward.

**9. EDUCATIONAL:** Nil

**10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Stephen von Sychowski reported on activities since the July 2020 meeting.

COVID-19

The Executive Board has determined to host the remainder of our meetings for 2020 via Zoom in light of the state of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Political Action

I will be meeting with all the broadly-defined progressive parties during the course of September and October in order to do a mid-term check-in and get some early sense of where they see themselves in the next election. This will be followed by a meeting of our Political Action Committee later in the Fall to begin early planning of our 2022 election strategy.

Our Municipal Engagement Committee held its first meeting with its new Chairperson, Bal Sandhu, on September 10. The meeting raised many potential issues and avenues for engagement in municipal politics over the coming months. Stay tuned.

The joint VDLC-VTU info session that was proposed by the Housing Action Team, and approved by the July regular meeting, has not yet taken place. VTU was in the midst of planning for their AGM when I reached out to them following our last meeting. They were

both very busy, and uncertain as to who would be in charge after the AGM. So, they asked that we plan to do this after the AGM. I met with them recently to begin planning discussions.

On October 20 at 1pm we will jointly host a webinar on public transit issues with the New Westminster and District Labour Council. This event is by invite, but if you are interested please let me know. We are also working on a similar event on housing issues, in collaboration with the Columbia Institute. The date for that event is not yet established.

Finally, the possibility of a provincial or federal election has loomed large over the Summer months. Today both of those look less likely, at least in my view. In BC this is owing to the climbing COVID-19 numbers in BC and lack of an obvious issue over-which to trigger a non-confidence vote. Federally, the new Conservative leader, O'Toole, has surprisingly indicated willingness to work with the current government despite his general stance as an arch reactionary. Although an election could still occur, all parties are likely weighing the possible risk associated with being the cause of an unnecessary election during a pandemic. Only time will tell. To their credit, the CLC and BCFED are both engaged in election preparedness activities just in case.

#### DTES Joint Union Committee

The DTES Joint Union Committee has continued to operate throughout the Summer. We wrote a response letter back to Ministers Simpson and Bains in early Summer. Since that time, we have been looking at the situation of Peer Workers and discussing what other ways we might advance fairness and safety for workers and residents in the DTES during the pandemic. Right now, we are engaging in some consultation with affiliates, and listening to frontline workers. After this we will reconvene to discuss the future of the Committee and its activities.

#### Labour Education

Our labour education program is in full swing, and it will be a busy Fall with a total of thirteen courses being held over the course of seventeen days, including a mix of weekdays and weekends. We have seen strong interest in the courses being offered and had some last-minute requests by facilitators to add additional courses, which we have done. All of this speaks to the reputation our program has earned over the past several years.

Of course our courses will look a little different this Fall, with most being offered online via Zoom and only a few being offered in-person. The in-person courses will be limited registration, with physical distancing, boxed lunches instead of buffet-style, and sanitation protocols.

We did have two unfortunate scenarios, wherein we had to cancel the Striking with History and the Labour Economics courses as the facilitators became unexpectedly unavailable. We will try again in 2021 for those courses. I will begin looking at planning for 2021 shortly.

I continue to be involved in the discussions around the formation of a new labour education society focused on online learning. This is of course a slow process as it is crucial to get it right, and it takes substantial time to set up a charitable society in the first place.

#### Labour Day

Our Labour Day “Elsies” event was released on September 7 and went over well. This was jointly produced with New Westminster and District Labour Council, and with the sponsorship of Community Savings and Vancity. The event honoured frontline union members and activists and call on us all to commit to fighting for fair treatment now and in the future. The award winners received a package of items donated by both Council’s and by the sponsors.

We also had a kids colouring contest and posted the submissions on our social media. The participants received a certificate.

#### Labour Trafficking

On August 7 we co-hosted a free webinar on “Identifying and Responding to Labour Trafficking in BC” with the Migrant Workers Centre. This was a highly informative webinar about how to identify the varying faces of trafficking and what can be done to help. It highlighted some harrowing worker experiences, and the good work of the Migrant Worker Centre in response.

#### BC Employment Standards Coalition

The BC Employment Standards Coalition has been primarily focused on the question of paid sick leave and is working with the Retail Action Network on a campaign which has included a number of virtual and in-person actions. The BCFED also has a campaign around this issue, and the two are discussing how best to collaborate. My view is that the campaigns should find common ground and work together to the greatest extent possible rather than getting hung up on differing perspectives around some of the details.

Aside from this, there was a controversy wherein Vancouver Rape Relief, an organization with a long and well-known history of discrimination against Trans persons, signed onto the campaign. After discussion, a decision was made not to allow their participation in the campaign. This spawned a subcommittee to establish a Basis of Unity document in order to navigate future questions about who we work with, and how. I volunteered to join this committee, and the draft we have created will be discussed at the next Coalition meeting.

#### United Way

I have notified United Way of the Lower Mainland of our nomination of Adrienne Smith for the Syd Thompson Community Service Award. I have also made Adrienne aware. They were very excited to have been nominated for this award.

They also asked for some information about its namesake, Syd Thompson. I was able to provide some basic details, however this made me realize that we do not have a biographical outline detailing why Syd was, or why we have named the award after him. I checked our files and asked former President Joey Hartman, but it was confirmed that nothing like this exists. So, I have been in touch with Rod Mickleburgh and he has assisted me in finding some information. I am working on putting together a one-pager biography which can be provided to United Way and given to future recipients.

#### YVR Joint Union Committee

At the request of the YVR Joint Union Committee, I requested meetings this Summer with Minister of Transportation Claire Trevena, and new YVR CEO Tamara Vrooman.

I met with Minister Trevena on July 27 in order to discuss protecting airport jobs, particularly in terms of imposing successorship in the case of contract changes due to the pandemic. The Minister was receptive and indicated she would also pass the information on to Minister of Labour Harry Bains. We have also written to the Ministers and the Premier about this.

I met with Mrs. Vrooman on August 27 in order to introduce myself, our Council, and our Committee to her and to discuss issues such as protecting jobs, living wage, and successorship. Mrs. Vrooman was also receptive and offered to meet with the Committee to continue the discussion. We are hopeful for a good working relationship and strong lines of communication with her as CEO, particularly given her familiarity with working with labour organizations and her progressive stance on various issues during her time with Vancity credit union.

#### Metro Vancouver Alliance

I continue to participate in the Sponsorship Committee of Metro Vancouver Alliance. The Committee is a small group of representatives from member organizations who are working, with the guidance of the Board of Directors, on re-building the capacity of the Alliance.

MVA held a member's assembly on July 27 and is holding another on September 9. These assemblies intend to bring together members of MVA organizations to discuss, and commit to, next steps in the process of rebuilding MVA.

#### Committees

There have been inquiries at the past two regular meetings about the idea of establishing a form of anti-racism committee, and/or BIPOC caucus. The Executive Board supports this idea and will call a meeting for those who are interested in discussing next steps sometime this Fall.

#### Events Attended

July 22 – Webinar, Tens Relations: Exploring the Problems and Promise of Labour and Religion

July 22 – BC Employment Standards Coalition, Basis of Unity Working Group

July 23 – Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy Virtual Workshop

July 23 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee

July 24 – Meeting with potential new affiliate

July 27 – Meeting with Minister of Transportation Claire Trevena

July 27 – Metro Vancouver Alliance Assembly

July 28 – Columbia Institute “Another COVID-19 Webinar?”

July 28 – Canadian Labour Congress webinar “The Growing Threat of Privatization”

July 28 – Paid Sick Day campaign meeting

July 28 – Canadian Labour Congress Labour Council check-in

July 29 – Employment Lands & Economy Review

August 4 – DTES Joint Union Committee

August 4 – Metro Vancouver Alliance Sponsoring Committee

August 6 – Labour Day Planning Meeting

August 7 – Migrant Workers Centre webinar: Preventing and Responding to Labour Trafficking in BC

August 7 – Labour Day Filming

August 7 – BC Employment Standards Coalition, Basis of Unity Working Group

August 8-23 – Vacation  
August 20 – Labour Day Filming  
August 24 – BC Employment Standards Coalition  
August 25 – DTES Joint Union Committee  
August 25 – The #DoneWaiting Back to School Special: Working and Parenting During a Pandemic (CLC webinar)  
August 25 – Meeting with Vancouver Tenants Union re: joint info session  
August 26 – BCFED Election Working Group  
August 26 – Our road to recovery: Let’s win this together! (CLC webinar)  
August 26 – United Way, Joint Board Integration Committee  
August 27 – Meeting with YVR CEO Tamara Vrooman  
August 28 – Labour Day Filming  
August 28 – United Way of the Lower Mainland, Labour Cabinet of the Board  
September 1 – CLC Labour Council Check-in  
September 1 – MVA Sponsoring Team  
September 1 – Meeting with Councillors re: housing issues  
September 3 – MVA Sponsoring Team  
September 3 – Meeting re: digital labour education  
September 3 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee  
September 3 – Labour Day conference call with Jagmeet Singh  
September 7 – Labour Day, “Elsie” Awards  
September 8 – DTES Joint Union Committee  
September 8 – YVR Joint Union Committee  
September 9 – United Way of the Lower Mainland, Campaign Cabinet Labour Committee  
September 9 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee  
September 9 – Metro Vancouver Alliance workshop  
September 10 – BCFED Executive Council  
September 10 – Municipal Engagement Committee  
September 10 – VDLC Executive Board  
September 10 – Young Workers Committee  
September 11 – Labour Education: Discipline & Discharge  
September 14-17 – Labour Education: Human Rights Bootcamp  
September 14 – Councillor Christine Boyle, BCFED leadership re: housing  
September 15 – Living Wage for Families, Municipal Committee  
September 15 – VDLC Regular Meeting

*M/S/C to adopt President’s report.*

#### **11. TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer Stefan Nielsen reported on financials since the July 2020 meeting for both July and August.

*M/S/C to adopt the Treasurer’s Report.*

## 12. CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS REPORT:

Ron Stipp reported on the Canadian Labour Congress since the July 2020 meeting.

I want to talk a little about our 'Forward Together' campaign, which was launched on Labour Day. A number of you might have received something from the VDLC this afternoon and it's the first action that we are asking labour councils to do. We really need your help on this. There will be a few actions a week. The first one is on Pharmacare and we'll be talking a lot about that. The timing of this is crucial. We do have a minority Federal Government in and the NDP has been pushing and I think we need to assist them in pushing this government as well. We have a throne speech coming up next week on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and it will be interesting to see what's in there. We've heard all sorts of what it will contain; all kinds of interesting things that we are supposed to like. We've had a little bit of crawling back from the government in the last few days so it will not be as ambitious as originally thought. The big document really important with this will be the budget. A throne speech means nothing unless there is money behind it. So we'll see where that goes. Our campaign called Canadian Plan is about replacing a lot of the jobs we had with replacing them with better ones. There was a lot of job losses during the pandemic; about 2 million jobs. We are looking at kick starting local economies. Doing green economy jobs as well. Protecting public health care of course is another one. A prescription drug plan. But also, by making long-term care part of the public health system rather than this half private, half public in-between hybrid model that we have now. Disaster proofing the social safety net, which includes childcare, affordable housing, protecting pensions; these will all be rolling out in the next few weeks. How do we pay for this? Jenny was right; we need to raise taxes on wealthy folks. Also, there was a lot of winners in the corporate world during this pandemic. A lot of corporations made a lot of money and they have to start paying their fair share as well. If we push hard enough we can make some progress in the next while.

It's a three phase campaign. The first phase which you may or may not have notices is the digital buy by the CLC on this. Lots of videos have gone out, lots of stuff on Facebook. The purpose of this is to really have some influence on the throne speech next week. The second phase starts throne speech and until the end of October where we'll be doing a lot of policy backgrounders, some more advocacy, talking about government recovery plans; not only federal but provincial. It will culminate at the end of October around Halloween with nationwide digital lobbying of our Members of Parliament. That will happen late October, early November. If we still haven't had an election, then the third and final phase, will be the beginning of November until the spring of 2021. There will be lots more roll out of this as we get close to the end of the term of this government; which I can't see going much further than next spring.

The letter you would have seen today will ask you to sign onto the campaign by writing your Member of Parliament. Put your email address and name and your MP and MLA will pop up. The letter will also go to Trudeau and Horgan talking about implementing national Pharmacare. We'll be doing this a few times a week; very easy stuff. If we can get thousands of emails popping into these MP's and MLA's in-boxes, I think we can have some real influence with what is going on.

*M/S/C to adopt the Canadian Labour Congress Report.*



13. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Circulated prior to the meeting.  
*M/S/C that the correspondence be received and filed for the information of the delegates.*

14. **EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

a) *M/S/C that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Canadian Foreign Policy Institute Open Letter

BECAUSE the VDLC has been invited to sign-on to an open letter calling for a review of Canadian foreign policy considering two unsuccessful UN Security Council bids; and

BECAUSE the open letter does not appear to conflict with previous policies established by the Council; and

BECAUSE the letter boast numerous high profile progressives and public figures such as Stephen Lewis, Naomi Klein, David Suzuki, Niki Ashton, Linda McQuaig, Alexandre Boulerice, Libby Davies, and many more (<https://www.foreignpolicy.ca/campaign>),

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL sign-on to the Canadian Foreign Policy Institute open letter, which reads as follows:

TIME TO FUNDAMENTALLY REASSESS CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

With Canada suffering two consecutive defeats in its effort to gain a UN Security Council seat, the time has come to fundamentally reassess Canadian foreign policy.

Ten years ago, the Conservative government's loss was largely explained as a rebuke of their support for Washington, mining and oil companies as well as anti-Palestinian policies. The Liberal government promised change, but the world is unconvinced.

Canada lost partly because of its support for controversial mining companies, indifference to International treaties, anti-Palestinian positions, climate policies and militarism. And in recent weeks, thousands of ordinary and prominent people were inspired to sign onto a grassroots effort that drew attention to the many flaws in Canada's foreign policy record.

The world's rejection of Canada's bid for a seat on the Security Council is a unique opportunity for a review of Canadian foreign policy.

These 10 questions must be considered as part of a foreign policy reset:

- Should we have a foreign policy driven by Washington or an independent foreign policy?
- Should Canada continue to offer financial and diplomatic support to arms exporters or refocus on demilitarization?

- Should Canadian foreign policy continue to be enmeshed with mining interests abroad?
- Why has Canada isolated itself from world opinion on Palestinian rights rather than standing for universal human rights?
- How can we ensure Canada abides by all International treaties protecting Indigenous rights?
- How can we ensure Canada radically reduces its greenhouse gas emissions?
- Does Canada's sanctions policy respect International law?
- Why is Canada involved in efforts to overthrow Venezuela's UN recognized government, a clear violation of the principle of non-intervention in other country's internal affairs?
- Should Canada continue to be part of NATO or instead pursue non-military paths to peace in the world?
- How can we ensure Canada's foreign policy has a focus on peace, human rights and overcoming global inequities?

There has not been a formal review of Canadian foreign policy in fifteen years. Let's use this moment to usher in a new era in which our government's policies abroad reflect the desire of Canadians to be a force for peace and human rights in the world.

b) *M/S/C that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Vacancy Control in SRO units

BECAUSE on December 10, 2019, Vancouver City Council unanimously passed a motion to:

- 1) Ask the province for vacancy control in the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units, and
- 2) Investigate ways that the city can control rents, if the province fails to act, to slow the rapid loss of affordable housing in this stock and protect vulnerable Vancouver residents; and

BECAUSE SRO's are roughly 100 square foot rooms with no kitchen or private bathrooms, which are typically rented for \$300-\$500 per month to low income persons including welfare recipients; and

BECAUSE SRO's are often the last stop before homelessness, and therefore it is crucial that they are preserved until the homelessness crisis is ended; and

BECAUSE the city can legislate that rents in SRO's be tied to the unit, not the tenant, so that they remain affordable even when tenancy changes. This can be done by using the Business License bylaw to impose penalties on landlords who raise rents between tenancies; and

BECAUSE the City of New Westminster has implemented this form of vacancy control, and its right to do so was upheld by the BC Court of Appeal,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL call on the City of Vancouver to legislate rents tied to SRO units, not to tenants, and to enforce this with the use of fines, which can be collected via tax rolls if necessary, and expropriation in cases where a landlord refuses to adhere to the legislation or to pay applicable fines.

c) *M/S/C that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: Save the PNE!

BECAUSE the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) and over 4,200 employees have been left out of Canada's economic recovery plan by being excluded from the Emergency Wage Subsidy; and

BECAUSE this has means 1,600 part-time workers without work, 100 full-time workers laid off, and the annual hire of 2,500 seasonal workers cancelled; and

BECAUSE the PNE contributes over \$200 million in economic benefit to the region each year and creates thousands of high-skilled jobs and youth employment; and

BECAUSE due to COVID-19, the PNE now forecasts \$16-19 million in debt by 2021 - threatening over 4,200 jobs; and

BECAUSE workers at the PNE are members of VDLC-affiliated unions including locals of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), and International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE),

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL call on the Federal Government to expand the Emergency Wage Subsidy to include public and semi-public employers, placing particular emphasis on the case of the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE).

**15. REPORT OF UNIONS:** Submitted in writing in order to be included on meeting minutes.

BC Forum – Report by Agnes Jackman

Although BC Forum's Board is still not meeting, there is still a lot of activity happening, especially by our President, Diane Wood, and by our staff person, Theresa Cowan.

BC Forum's website is being maintained and can be referred to for up to date information.

The Fall edition of BC Forum's Advocate has started circulating online and is out for printing.

Members are being informed by email of various events and campaigns, etc. that they can participate in. Examples of this are:

- the BC Fed "Our Future For All" campaign ad

- the registration info for the “Pharmacare For All” webinar on September 16th @ 5pm
- the CLC’s current “Forward Together” action call re: a national pharmacare program
- the BC Government’s announcement re transforming primary care in BC

Yesterday we were informed of:

- the “Make Revera Public” townhall on September 16th @ 7pm EST
- the BC Government’s announcement re launching a lung cancer screening program, the 1st in Canada
- the BC Supreme Court decision re the Brian Day/Cambie Surgeries case

Of particular note, Diane Wood is on a COSCO/NPF task force to make recommendations for future longterm care (LTC) national standards of care.

Also to note, is that the Oct 1st United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP) is fast approaching. October 1/20 marks the 30th anniversary of the UNIDOP. This year’s theme is “Pandemics: Do They Change How WE Address Age and Aging?” and it focuses on raising awareness of the needs of older persons and their contributions to the functioning of the societies in which they live. (See 6th page of the Fall Advocate for an IDOP article.)

*M/S/C to adopt the report of unions.*

#### **16. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

*M/S/C to receive report of committees.*

**OTHER REPORTS:** Nil

**17. REPORTS OF LABOUR COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:** Nil

**18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nil

**19. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:** Nil

**20. NEW BUSINESS:** Nil

**21. NOTICE OF MOTION:** Nil

#### **22. GOOD AND WELFARE:**

Just a reminder that there is no August meeting. We will meet again in September. Don’t forget Labour Day and don’t forget your nominations for the Elsie Awards.

**23. MEETING ADJOURNED:** *M/S/C to adjourn at 8:14pm.*

**24. NEXT MEETING:** [TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020](#) at 7:00 pm  
Zoom Video Conference.