



**REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

- 1. LOCATION:** Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street, Vancouver, BC
- 2. CHAIRPERSON:** 2nd Vice President Stephen Von Sychowski

Queen Alexandra Elementary students' choir opened the meeting with some festive music.

Joey Hartman presented Queen Alexandra Elementary School Principal Cheryl Matthews with a cheque for \$10,000.00; the proceeds from the 2015 Queen Alexandra Elementary Fundraising Dinner.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Amend November 17 minutes to correct guest speaker's name – correct name is Melanie Mark (not Marks).

MSC that the minutes of the November 17, 2015 meeting be adopted as corrected.

4. CREDENTIALS:

The following credentials were received since the last meeting: (* = recredentialled, A = alternate)

BCTF – VESTA

Dan Graves
Gloria Roque

Unifor Local 111

Nathan Woods

CUPE Local 873

Bronwyn Barter *
Sophia Georgas *
Bob Parkinson *
Aaron Shapiro *
Shari Thomas
James Towle

Unifor Local 2200

Pritpal Bhumrah
Shawn Francis

MSC to obligate/seat the delegate(s).

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Joey Hartman reported on VDLC activities since the November 17, 2015 meeting.

VDLC Education and the Anita Yan Labour Law Program

The current plan for educational offerings in 2016 is:

1. Book study – 4 nights using Bill Fletcher Jr.'s book "They're Bankrupting Us! And 20 other Myths About Unions"

2. Public Speaking and Media Skills – either 4 nights or 2 weekends
3. Anita Yan – 11 or 12 offerings including a new weekend-long Organizing course with Leo McGrady and John Rogers in collaboration with SFU Labour Studies

Political Engagement

Twelve delegates completed political engagement sign up forms at the November meeting. They will be called on to assist with lobbying of MPs and MLAs. The form will be available at all VDLC meetings to encourage additions to the registry.

Worker Action Centre

Both the November 18 (public) and the November 19 (invitation only) meetings were completely packed and very successful. Many labour leaders and prominent labour side lawyers attended, as well as representatives from many worker advocacy and activist organizations. The BC Fed will be coordinating next steps.

VDLC Offices and 312 Main Street

The Maritime Labour Centre has provided notice of a significant rent increase effective January 1, 2016. All other entitlements for meeting space and parking will continue status quo. Various options are being considered but the VDLC will likely stay at MLC until 312 Main St. is ready for move-in, or a preferable option is determined.

BC Federation of Labour Conference

Joey Hartman attended as a delegate and also presented a workshop with Deborah Littman of Metro Vancouver Alliance on Movement Building.

Harrison Scholarships

The new VDLC scholarship that was approved at the November meeting has been circulated to delegates and affiliate officers. The deadline to apply is January 5.

BC Labour Heritage Centre

The BC Labour Heritage Centre is leading a number of exciting projects and really invigorating interest in labour history with a new book underway, plaques to mark historic sites, an oral history project to record interviews with elderly activists, a school curriculum project tied to the 3 minute Knowledge Network vignettes, and much more.

Metro Vancouver Alliance

The MVA continues to do good work and is planning a 5 day retreat advanced training program at Capilano University in February. The organization has outgrown having just one staff organizer but does not yet have the resources to support two.

Violence Against Women and December 6 Vigil

The CLC website now includes a resource centre on domestic violence and the impact it has on workers, workplaces and unions. The BC Fed Women's Committee held its annual December 6 candlelight vigil at Holland Park in Surrey to recognize the 14 women murdered at Montreal's École Polytechnique twenty-six years ago, and to call for an end to violence against women.

Sustainable Communities Initiative – December 8

Breakfast meetings are held about 4 times a year to bring labour leaders and municipal politicians together to get updates and discuss issues that impact the Metro Vancouver region.

Significant issues include transit and transportation infrastructure, waste management, recycling, water and sanitation and other matters that cross municipal boundaries. The labour council is always invited to provide a brief report on our activities. The December 8 meeting focused on Federal commitments on municipal issues, housing and transportation.

MSC to adopt the report

6. CORRESPONDENCE: Circulated

7. EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

Subject: Spending Approvals

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

- PNLHA – organizational membership renewal for 2016 – at a cost of \$150.00
- COSCO – associate membership renewal for 2016 – at a cost of \$25.00
- Helping Spirit Lodge Society – Donation to 2016 Christmas for Women and Children of \$50.00
- Crab DTES Annual Children`s Christmas event (RayCam) - \$50.00
- BC NDP – donation to support fundraising goals - \$500.00

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

Subject: 2016 VDLC Meeting Dates

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL hold its 2016 meetings starting at 7:30 pm on the third Tuesday of each month, except August and December, as follows:

- January 19
- February 16
- March 15
- April 19
- May 17
- June 21
- July 19
- (no August meeting)
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 13 (note a week earlier than normal and 7:00 pm start); and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL schedule a “pizza educational” from 6:00 to 7:00 pm prior to each meeting except December.

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

Subject: Canada Post

BECAUSE Canada Post announced they were putting a temporary halt to their plan to end door to door delivery and replace it with so-called community mail boxes; and BECAUSE this announcement is a victory, but does not restore door to door delivery to those who lost in since 2013; and

BECAUSE the Federal Liberals have promised a review of Canada Post, but have not indicated if this review will be public; and

BECAUSE we need a “public” review of Canada Post to discuss the future and our options for building a successful 21st century post office with the ability to meet the needs of Canadians and create new revenue streams, such as postal banking; and

BECAUSE there is an urgent need for this service because thousands of rural towns and villages do not have a bank and nearly two million people desperately need alternatives to payday lenders; and

BECAUSE postal banking helps keep post offices viable and financial services accessible in many parts of the world,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL support the addition of postal banking at Canada Post; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL ask the Federal government to hold a public review on the mandate and future of Canada Post, including consideration of postal banking; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL call upon Canada Post to restore door to door mail delivery to all those who lost it since the cuts were announced in 2013 and instruct Canada Post to permanently stop the postal cuts; and

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL send a letter to all MP's in its jurisdiction outlining these resolutions, with copies of this letter to:

- Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, Rm 18A1, 11 Laurier Street Phase III, Place du Portage, Gatineau, QC, K1A 0S5
- Mike Palecek, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3
- Raymond Louie, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 24 Clarence St, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3

8. REPORT OF UNIONS: *(in order reported)*

- a) CUPE local 391 – Reported by Gary Jarvis
Local 391 has served notice to the employer to bargain. Aliza Nevarie is CUPE Local 391's new interim president.
- b) USW Local 1944, TWU Unit 63 – Reported by Paul Browning
On Sunday, December 6, 2015, members of Unit 63, employed Strategic Communications (Stratcom), voted against the tentative agreement by 83.3%. Now that the tentative agreement has been rejected by the membership, the Stratcom bargaining committee will meet to discuss the next steps in the bargaining process.
- c) CUPE Local 1004 – Reported by Frank Lee
City of Vancouver and Parks Board members ratified proposals in November and will be meeting the employer December 18.

City of Vancouver will no longer continue with recycling services. Municipal recycling is run by Multi-Materials BC (MMBC). The city receives about \$7 million annually from MMBC, the cost for the city to run the services is about \$12 million. The city cannot continue and has given recycling workers notice. Local 1004 has negotiated a labour adjustment plan, approximately 60 full time employees will be re-allocated, about 25 going to the landfill and transfer station, others in street cleaning, and positions in sewers etc.

- d) HEU Dogwood Lodge Local – Written report only submitted by Karen McVeigh
Local is still waiting to hear from the Labour Board about the Compass workers' vote for representation between USW and HEU.

MSC to adopt the reports of unions.

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- a) Women's – Reported by Fruma Sloan
Members of the Women's Committee attended the December 6 event at the Women's Memorial. Heritage Hall, January 24, 2016 Women Transforming Cities are having a Grand Tea Party at 1pm. IWD Dinner poster is out, there is more information to be announced for the March 8 event, the theme is Women in Trades.
- b) Solidarity in Action – Reported by Stephen Von Sychowski
Caravan to BCAA picket line after the November 17 meeting went well. Money raised in previous 50/50 draws went to good use in providing supplies for the MoveUP members locked out at BCAA. It was very appreciated. Members there are prepared for a long fight; they have a "permanent" structure place to help them weather the elements. Real Leaders Don't - is the social media site in place for the lockout. BCAA's CEO has just resigned, so it will be interesting to see if that has any impact. MoveUP rep for BCAA members will meet with the committee to see what can be done to step up support. Fundraiser held for BCAA members was very successful, thank you to everyone who came out. The support will not only help them carry on their fight financially, but the morale boost to locked-out members there who could see the support that they have goes a long way.

Unifor members at the Container Truck Association are on-strike. There are picket lines up in Richmond and Delta. Delta's line is up at 7420 Hopcott Road, Delta – pickets are up from 6 am to 12 midnight daily. Picket support would be appreciated.

MSC to adopt the reports.

10. OTHER REPORTS:

- a) CLC Report - Reported by Ron Stipp
Harrison is filling fast – Week 3 is nearly full and the Facing Management has just a few spaces left. Weeks 1, 2, and 5 have space available, but register soon if you plan to.

The MP lobby will likely take place in March. CPP and the Health Accord, will be the primary issues, as well as one other that has yet to be determined. Help in the North Shore and Richmond will be necessary. The Throne Speech was interesting, it mentioned the increase to the CPP, but not the retirement age, it also talked about EI, which was not expected but is hopeful. The living wage policy adopted by New Westminster has been

successful and it's on its way in Vancouver; Port Coquitlam voted it in on December 7. The campaign is being worked on in Surrey and Victoria and is gaining momentum.

b) **BC FORUM** – Reported by Agnes Jackman

Winter Edition of the Advocate is available as well as the brochure on the BC FORUM dental plan, need to be a FORUM members. Applications for FORUM are always on the back of the Advocate magazine.

MSC to receive the report.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NIL

12. NEW BUSINESS: NIL

13. NOTICE OF MOTION: NIL

14. GOOD AND WELFARE:

- 50/50 proceeds to benefit the Solidarity in Action Committee
- Bruce Yorke, social advocate and political activist, passed away December 7. On Sunday, December 20 there will be a celebration of life at the Maritime Labour Centre, at 1 pm.

Moment of silence held for Brother Yorke

15. MEETING ADJOURNED: *MSC to adjourn at 8:20 pm.*

16. NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016**, 7:00 pm,
Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street.

JANUARY PIZZA EDUCATIONAL
Sanctuary City

Tuesday, January 19
6:00 pm

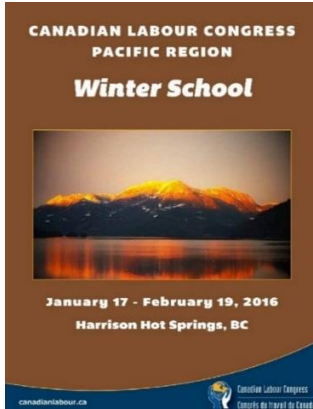
Maritime Labour Centre
1880 Triumph Street
(pizza by donation)

Vancouver may become a “sanctuary city” by adopting a municipal policy to ensure all Vancouver residents have equal access municipal services such as health care, recreation and education without fear. Currently, residents without Canadian citizenship fear that their status could result in denied services, or even in deportation.

Municipalities across North America, including Toronto, have decided that access to important services overrides questions about citizenship status, and declared themselves sanctuary cities.

Presenters from the Vancouver organization will explain the concept, and describe their work to make this a reality for Vancouver.

For more events and for full size of event flyers and for education brochures please visit website – www.vdvc.ca



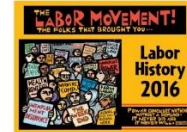
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