



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021**

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.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission – Calls to Action

Professional Development and Training for Public Servants

57. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

1. **LOCATION:** ZOOM Video Conference – 7:00PM
2. **CHAIRPERSON:** 2nd Vice President Nick Aubichon
3. **NOTICE OF VDLC POLICY ON HARASSMENT:** Circulated prior to meeting
4. **ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**
M/S/C that the agenda of the December 14, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.
5. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
M/S/C that the minutes of the November 16, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.
6. **NEW CREDENTIALS:**
CUPE Local 8911 Emergency
Communications Professionals of BC
Donald Grant
Akash Gill
Carrie James
Sheldon Miller
7. **OBLIGATION OF NEW DELEGATES**
8. **GUEST SPEAKERS:** Janice Morris, KDocs

Presentation available on request.

9. EDUCATIONAL: NIL

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Stephen von Sychowski reported on activities since the November 2021 meeting.

Political Action

Since our last meeting the Vetting Committee completed the remainder of its interviews with previously endorsed incumbents. They will prepare recommendations and pass them through the Political Action Committee in advance of our January meeting, at which time we will debate and vote on them.

The next step will be to carry out a survey of remaining incumbents who wish to receive our endorsement. We will be doing that over the remainder of this year and early next year, and bring recommendations sometime between February and April on all of those candidates.

I am in the process of setting of a process for discussions with parties in the City of Vancouver regarding our endorsement process.

I also participated in the lobby days organized by the BC Federation of Labour late last month, attending several meetings and speaking at some of them regarding actions needed to protect workers from asbestos exposure.

Labour Education

The Winter/Spring portion of the 2022 Labour Education Program is finalized and opening for registration shortly!

The courses for that session of the program are as follows:

- Medical Information Case Law
- Steward Level 1
- Discipline and Discharge
- WCB Level
- Steward Level 2
- WCB Appeals
- Privacy Rights
- Parliamentary Procedure and Effective Meetings
- Effective Representation in High Conflict Situations
- Defamation Law for Unions
- Election Rules for Unions
- Law of Protest
- Bullying and Harassment
- Charter Rights in the Workplace
- Duty to Accommodate
- Unions and the Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation Process

If there is a course you are hoping for that you don't see here, it may be included in the Fall program.

Black History Month

I met recently with Candace Knoll of the National Congress of Black Women Foundation, and Janet Andrews of NWDLC regarding our three organizations hosting two Zoom courses to mark Black History Month. With the Executives agreement I'd like to proceed with this. Candace is currently looking at presenters and dates and we will proceed from there.

Merchandise

We have two new shirts available for pre-sale. One is long-sleeve featuring our logo and the other is short-sleeve featuring former VDLC leader (and namesake of our Community Service Award) Syd Thompson. More new items will be launched later in the year.

Labour Disputes

Labour disputes noted last month between Unite Here! Local 40 and Metrotown Hilton/Pacific Gateway, and IBEW and Ledcor Telecommunication Services are still ongoing.

United Way

On December 2 we were happy to present the Syd Thompson Community Service Award to Leo McGrady. The event was a hybrid and worked well.

Combatting the Growth of the Far-Right

Through the BCFED Community and Social Action Committee, which we co-chair, Janet Andrews and I have been working with a group of grassroots anti-fascist activists who have directed their attention in recent months to the efforts of far-right groups to utilize the pandemic as a movement-building opportunity by tapping into anti-vax/mask/health order politics and weaponizing the anxiety, fear, and frustration being felt by many.

A short briefing document is being prepared for distribution to the committee, unions, and labour activists. This will focus on who these groups are, what their strategy and tactics look like, and how they are attempting to infiltrate and undermine the labour movement.

Also, training in de-escalation strategies and protest safety will be offered for those who are interested. These would be provided by members of Peace Bearers, who we have worked with in the past.

Events Attended / Dates of Note

November 17 – Lorene Oikawa re: Anniversaries of Change

November 18 – Meetings re: VDLC endorsement process

November 18 – BCFED Lobby Training

November 19 – BCFED Paid Sick Days working group

November 21 – VDLC 132nd Birthday

November 22 – BCFED Lobby Day

November 22 – Vetting Committee meeting with Linda Buchanan

November 23 – BCFED Lobby Day

November 23 – Sustainable Communities Initiative breakfast

November 23 – DTES Joint Union Committee

November 24 – BCFED Precarious Work Working Group

November 24 – Meetings re: VDLC endorsement process

November 25 – Vancouver Plan engagement session for economic stakeholders

November 25 – Meeting re: BCFED Community and Social Action Committee

November 25 – Canadian Labour Congress Municipal Working Group
November 25 – Vancouver Economic Commission Just Transition Stakeholders Working Group
November 25 – Worker Education and Labour Learning Society officers meeting
November 29 – Vetting Committee meeting
November 30 – BC Employment Standards Coalition
December 1 – Union Protein Project annual general meeting
December 2 – Labour Appreciation Night
December 4 – Labour Education: Steward Level 1
December 6 – Political Action Committee
December 6 - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women candlelight vigil
December 6 – United Way Campaign Cabinet Labour Caucus
December 6 – BCFED Community Social Action Committee
December 6 – Trade Unions for Energy Democracy meeting
December 8 – Vancouver Economic Commission Zero Emission Economic Transition External Advisory Committee
December 8 – Worker Education and Labour Learning Society directors meeting
December 8 – YVR Joint Union Committee
December 9 – Executive Board
December 10 – BCFED Political Action Committee
December 11 – Labour Education: Steward Level 2
December 14 – Regular Meeting

M/S/C to adopt President's report.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Stefan Nielsen reported on financials since the November 2021 meeting.

M/S/C to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

12. CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS REPORT:

No report from the Canadian Labour Congress at this meeting.

M/S/ 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: Spending Authorizations

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

- Donation to BC Federation of Retired Union members in the amount of \$100

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

Subject: Municipal Election 2022 – Mayor, City of Vancouver

BECAUSE the Vetting Committee has recommended the endorsement of Kennedy Stewart in his bid for re-election to a second term as Mayor of the City of Vancouver,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL endorse Kennedy Stewart for Mayor of the City of Vancouver in the 2022 municipal election.

15. REPORT OF UNIONS:

Submitted in writing in order to be included on meeting minutes.

M/S/ to adopt the report of unions.

16. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: None submitted.

Submitted in writing in order to be included on meeting minutes.

OTHER REPORTS: Nil

M/S/ to adopt reports of committees

17. REPORTS OF LABOUR COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

Submitted in writing in order to be included on meeting minutes.

M/S/ to adopt reports of labour council appointed representatives.

18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

19. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Nil

20. NEW BUSINESS: Nil

21. NOTICE OF MOTION:

Subject: Per Capita Increase

BECAUSE operational costs including rent, salaries, and supplies continue to increase; and

BECAUSE the last per capita increase was implemented in 2015; and

BECAUSE the revenue of the Labour Council has been significantly negatively impacted by the loss of affiliates in recent years due to disputes within the Canada Labour Congress,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL increase its per capita tax by two (2) cents per member per month, to fifty (50) cents.

22. GOOD AND WELFARE:

Seema Ahluwali - KPU

Further to Neil's report as support for victims of the flooding. It is First Nations communities whose suffering is largely being ignored. One of the unions that I belong to, Federation

of Post-Secondary Educators, has a Decolonization, Reconciliation and Indigenization Committee. Our committee sent a motion to the President's council for emergency funding for \$2,000.00.

Stefan Nielsen – UFCW Local 1518

Just to say a quick word to be kind to your retail workers this holiday season. We've had a wild year with fire, floods, continued shortages and higher prices. It isn't the fault of the person at the check stand. Please be patient and kind and maybe say thank you like you did in 2020.

Tahmi Yazdanyar – CUPE Local 15

Teachers in Iran in over a 150 cities and provinces came out to the streets recently fighting for their wages. The price of the dollar went up so this means their wages went down. One of the leaders was arrested and no one knows where he is. Other teachers fear being arrested. Any support would be appreciated.

23. MEETING ADJOURNED: *M/S/C to adjourn at 8:21pm.*

24. NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022** at 7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference.



Please visit website for event listings and more – www.vdlc.ca