



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

**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.

**Truth and Reconciliation Commission – Calls to Action**

**Commemoration**

**80.** We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

**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 November 16, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.*

**5. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

*M/S/C that the minutes of the October 19, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.*

**6. NEW CREDENTIALS:** NIL

**7. OBLIGATION OF NEW DELEGATES**

**8. GUEST SPEAKERS:**

1. Audrey Guay, BC Health Coalition
2. Lorene Oikawa – Canadian Labour International Film Festival

*Presentation available on request.*

**9. EDUCATIONAL:**

Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF) film screenings.  
Package C (Justice & Dignity for All: Stories From the Struggle for Pay Equity 33 mins), Canada / The Invisible Monster (29 mins), Spain / Migranta con M de Mama (25 mins), Mexico / Dare to Struggle Dare to Win; The life and politics of Jack Munday (31 mins), Australia  
Optional – Post-Meeting Viewing

## 10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

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

### Political Action

Our Vetting Committee began interviewing incumbents in Vancouver on October 28, November 1 and November 5. Most incumbents have responded and scheduled interviews.

We will follow up on remaining ones, with an aim for endorsements to come forward to the December and January meetings. Next, we will look at the other municipalities and then, in the Spring, move on to non-incumbents.

In keeping with the decision of our October meeting, I wrote to Minister Eby and Premier Horgan regarding evictions data, and vacancy control.

Our DTES Joint Union Committee also met with Attorney General/Minister Eby, Minister Malcolmson, and Minister Simons regarding issues of interest to frontline community health and social services workers including housing and homelessness, appropriate staffing and training, peer workers, and cheque day.

Our Political Action Committee continues to meet to discuss campaign plans, budget, election rules, endorsements, candidate numbers, etc.

I have been participating in bi-weekly meetings for the paid sick day campaign. On October 25 we participated in and promoted actions organized by the BCFED in Victoria, Burnaby and Surrey. I co-captained the event in Surrey. All of the events were very successful despite the poor weather. We are continuing to call for the provincial government to implement at least ten days of permanent, universal, employer-paid sick leave.

### Labour Education

Between the October and November regular meetings we will have hosted courses on Psychological Injuries, Employer Policies and Labour Law, Drug and Alcohol Policies and Testing, Duty to Accommodate and the WCB, Advocacy: How to Make Your Case Effectively, and Collective Bargaining.

All of these courses were successful and well attended. This concludes the Labour Education Program for 2021, with the exception of two Steward courses I am facilitating for Amalgamated Transit Union locals at the start of December. Thank you also to Nick for taking on the Bargaining Course on November 9-10 as I had conflicting commitments.

The program for the first half of 2022 will be released shortly.

### Trade Unions for Energy Democracy

About 175 registered and about 70 attended the recent Bargaining for Climate event which we cohosted with BCGEU, BCTF, and CUPW. Seth Klein, as well as Tara Peel from the CLC, were keynote speakers. CLC VP Larry Rousseau also attended and brought brief greetings. The event went well although it was heavily dominated by public sector workers from the unions who were involved in organizing the event, there is a real need to reach out to the private sector and attract engagement in these important discussions.

### 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.

Unite Here! Local 40 has launched a human rights complaint against the hotels alleging discrimination on the basis of gender and race given that the vast majority of workers impacted by the unjust treatment of the hotels are women of colour.

### United Way

This year's Labour Appreciation Dinner will take place on December 2 with some in-person attendance at the Anvil Centre and online participation for others. If you are interested in a virtual ticket please let me know.

### New Website

Our new website is up and running at [vdlc.ca](http://vdlc.ca)

### Canadian Labour International Film Festival

Our annual CLIFF screening will take place following the meeting. Please see your meeting notice for the link. You can sign on and start watching anytime until 10:30pm, and then will have 24 hours to finish watching.

### Events Attended / Dates of Note

October 20: Political Action Committee  
October 20: Labour Education – Psychological Injuries and Workers Compensation  
October 20: Team Kennedy Stewart event  
October 21: Labour Education – Employer Policies and Labour Law  
October 22: BC Federation of Labour, Paid Sick Days Campaign Meeting  
October 24: Labour Climate Network – Bargaining for Climate event  
October 25: DTES Joint Union Committee meeting with Ministers Eby, Malcolmson, Simons  
October 25: Action Network training  
October 25: Paid sick leave day of action  
October 26: Vancity education grant discussion  
October 26: Labour Education – Drug and Alcohol Testing and Policies  
October 27: Community Coordinated Response Network  
October 27: Valu Coop meeting re: shirts  
October 27: Meeting re: new website launch  
October 27: Labour Education – Duty to Accommodate and the WCB  
October 28: Vetting Committee  
October 29: MoveUP Convention  
November 1: Vetting Committee  
November 2-3: Labour Education – Advocacy  
November 2: Trade Unions for Energy Democracy event debrief  
November 4: BC Poverty Reduction Coalition  
November 4: Executive Board  
November 4: YVR Joint Union Committee  
November 4: Worker Education and Labour Learning Society AGM  
November 5: Vetting Committee

November 8: Political Action Committee  
November 9: BCFED Community and Social Action Committee  
November 9: Anti-Racism Committee  
November 10: Quarterly Municipal Affiliates Meeting with Mayor Stewart  
November 11: Remembrance Day  
November 16: United Way Campaign Cabinet Labour Committee  
November 16: Regular meeting

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

#### **11. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

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

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

#### **12. CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS REPORT:**

Ron Stipp reported on the Canadian Labour Congress since the October 2021 meeting.

A few things to discuss. The important part for us right now is that the federal parliament goes back on Monday. It's the first time in a long time that they are back together. We suspect that we will get 3-4 years out of this current parliament. We have a list of parliamentary priorities that we have been speaking to the NDP about. It comprises 4 overall themes;

- Increasing safe, stable and equitable jobs coming out of a pandemic.
- Improving EI. There will be a lot of work done on EI and other support programs. COVID programs have now ended which has caused considerable hardship for some people.
- Healthcare – We are looking at long term care, pharmacare and public long term care and mental health.
- Social Infrastructure – A program that the CLC will be working on in the next few months, the Care Economy. It hasn't been released yet, possibly in the new year, also climate action. Making sure that energy and manufacturing are with green jobs and building transit.

We will be looking to the labour councils for their help and assistance in lobbying parliament on these topics.

Harrison Winter School coming up January 16-18, 2022. Many of the courses are already full. If you haven't registered yet I recommend that you get on this quickly as 60% are already sold out. There won't be some of the extracurricular activities done as we can't have large groups together in a room. You will be required to show your vaccination passport which is a condition of the hotel as well as Fraser Health.

We have started offering courses for potential candidates for municipal elections. We will be doing more training sessions in the new year and we're hoping to be able to do them in-person after Harrison.

*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: 2022 VDLC Meeting Dates

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL schedule its Executive Board and Regular meetings for the calendar year 2022 as follows:

**Executive Board**

January 13  
February 10  
March 10  
April 14  
May 12  
June 16  
July 14  
September 15  
October 13  
November 10  
December 8

**Regular Meeting**

January 18  
February 15  
March 15  
April 19  
May 17  
June 21  
July 19  
September 20  
October 18  
November 15  
December 13

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

Subject: Affiliation of Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 8911 Emergency Communication Professional of BC

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL accept the application of Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 8911 Emergency Communication Professionals of BC to affiliate 521 members.

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

Subject: Making HOME

BECAUSE late last month Mayor Kennedy Stewart announced the Making HOME housing, economic, and climate action plan; and

BECAUSE the plan works by allowing up to six ground-oriented homes on lots currently zoned only for single detached homes; and

BECAUSE the plan aims to allow thousands of middle-income families buy their first home, and raise millions for affordable rental units for working people, supportive housing for those in need, acceleration of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, creation of thousands of good-paying jobs, and development of community amenities; and

BECAUSE the plan uses land value capture, a policy our Labour Council has advocated for, to generate these funds,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL, without negating any previously existing policy positions or campaign endorsements, support the Making HOME plan in its ongoing work to promote the development of affordable housing for all.

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

Subject: Oppose the Coup in Sudan

BECAUSE on October 25 the military under General Abdel Fattah Burhan dissolved the transitional government of Sudan, arrested Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and declared martial law,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL:

- Condemn in the strongest possible terms the recent coup in Sudan and the actions of the Sudanese military;
- Support strike action by health, airline, bank, education, oil and other workers resisting the coup; and

Call on the Government of Canada to:

- Cease all military and diplomatic cooperation with the Sudanese military, including Rapid Support Forces, until the Sudanese state is fully sovereign and free to make economic, political and security decisions without military influence;
- Support the right of workers to form trade unions and engage in strike action, as fundamental to a free society;
- Oppose any western military intervention and instead call on the IMF, national governments, and commercial banks to cancel Sudan's national debts which fuel the economic crisis.

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**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:** Nil

**22. GOOD AND WELFARE:** Nil

**23. MEETING ADJOURNED:** *M/S/C to adjourn at 8:32pm.*

**24. NEXT MEETING:** **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021** at 7:00 pm

Zoom Video Conference.



Please visit website for event listings and more – [www.vdlc.ca](http://www.vdlc.ca)