



Ottawa Regional Women's Committee  
 Thursday, January 26, 2017

Potluck at 5:00 pm 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
 1620 Scott Street, (11 Holland Ave)  
 Pat McGrath boardroom

Jennifer Keays, Chair

Louise Blouin, Alternate Chair

Christina Lamothe, Secretary

Anne-Marie Grondin, PSAC Regional Representative: [grondia@psac-afpc.com](mailto:grondia@psac-afpc.com)

## MINUTES

### Attendees:

Kira Turner

Marie Beaudoin

Elisabeth Woods (for Anne-Marie Grondin, PSAC regional representative)

Paula Williams

Emilie Taman, special guest speaker

Behiye Cinkilic

Linda Koenders

Louise Belisle

Idile Hassan

Grace Morgan

Zelma Buckley

Welcome

Changes, additions, and adoption of the agenda

Changes, additions, and adoption of the previous minutes – as prior meeting was the AGM, there are no minutes to review

Chair's report

- ♀ November 25 was the AGM, elections took place and new positions are listed above
- ♀ Thanks to former ORWC chair, Sister Linda Koenders, for her service
- ♀ December 6 vigil took place, marking the Ecole Polytechnique massacre of 14 women
- ♀ January 21 Women's March on Washington took place in Ottawa, where approximately 8000 people were in attendance; awesome feedback

Guest speaker – **Emilie Taman** is the candidate for the NDP party in a yet-to-be-announced by-election in Ottawa-Vanier federal riding. Emilie is also a part-time University of Ottawa law professor. She provided animated and informative insights into her political experiences, including touching on her famous mother, Louise Arbour, UN human rights judge and Canadian Supreme Court justice. We were able to engage with her in a Q&A session afterwards.

- ♀ Emilie encouraged women and supporters of women to acquire political experience and assist in her getting elected; all hands on deck! You can find her page on [www.facebook.com/EmilieTamanNDP/](http://www.facebook.com/EmilieTamanNDP/)
- ♀ Women still make up the largest % of precarious workers
- ♀ Lack of women is apparent at all levels, 4 only on city council, less than 50% representation among MPs and MPPs
- ♀ Recommended documentary: <http://www.cbc.ca/doczone/episodes/motherload>
- ♀ The documentary “The Hunt for Justice” is about Louise Arbour’s work to bring justice to those responsible for the Balkan genocide; information can be found at this link: <http://www.imdb.com/title/u0449588>

Three main priorities/issues are:

- ♀ 2015 amendments to EI to extend it to 18 months for parental leave
- ♀ The continued absence of a national childcare program (cost, availability, progress)
- ♀ CPP enhancement – current changes are not good for women because it eliminates the provision to zero out low income years and increase average

Women’s March on Washington – what next? See the next item, brief discussion on volunteers, etc.

Upcoming events:

- ♀ International Women’s Day – March 8, 2017 – Idile Hassan will bring ideas to the next meeting
- ♀ OAC AGM will be held on Wednesday, March 8 in the Pat McGrath boardroom

Update on child care consultations

- ♀ Government is more interested in P3
- ♀ PSAC is wholly in favour of publicly funded day care that is affordable and safe

Resolutions – The ORWC submitted 3 resolutions:

- ♀ Women and politics
- ♀ National resolution on domestic violence and the need for paid leave in this situation
- ♀ Proportional representation regarding electoral reform

ACORN has a resolution and is looking for support; Sister Behiye moved, Sister Idile Hassan seconded, carried

ORWC swag – Motion to purchase 200 OFL Women’s Day pins at \$3.75, Sister Louise moved, Sister Zelma seconded, carried

#### Round table

- ♀ Zelma – Feed 5000 project
- ♀ Louise – new and happy to be present
- ♀ Linda – served notice that Vicky-Lynn is buying African fabric from Cameroon trip and will have it available as a Social Justice fundraiser
- ♀ Marie – interesting meeting, especially politics
- ♀ Elisabeth – please have a look at PSAC regional education offerings, ratification meetings abound

Next meeting – Thursday, February 23, 2017

#### Adjournment

#### **Action Items**

- ♀ Sister Idile to bring ideas to next meeting for IWD
- ♀ Purchase 200 OFL IWD pins

Committee updates and information posted here:

<http://psac-ncr.com/our-organization/committees/ottawa-regional-women>