



Education Committee / Comité d'éducation

Record of Decisions: Meeting of February 16, 2021		
Virtual meeting with Zoom		
Present		Regrets
Chantal Fortin (CEIU) – Chairperson	Diane Girouard (UHEW) - scribe	Anna-Marie Melanson (Retiree)
Ken Zarichansky (UCTE)	Alex Silas (REVP/VPER)	Pamela Kirk (UNE)
Sergey Sheshnev (UNE)	Pierre Lebel (REO/ARE)	Lee Pallotta (UTE)
Mike Chartrand (UTE)		Virginia Noble (UNE)
		Monica Mercier (GSU)
		Sophie Rouy (UNE)
Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM.		
1.	Adoption of the agenda, as amended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Chantal Fortin; Seconded by Ken Zarichansky; Carried 	
2.	Adoption of the Record of Decisions, meeting of January 19, 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by Diane Girouard; Seconded by Ken Zarichansky; Carried 	
3.	Questions to Alex Silas (REVP) on “Return to work in physical workspaces” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The REVP is currently getting updates from Chris Aylward, National President, PSAC and from the Service-Wide Committee on Occupational Health and Safety (SWOHS) • It is believed that 50% of Public Service jobs can be performed remotely – post pandemic. • The PSAC is asking for continued flexibility by the Employer, to allow public servants to continue to work remotely and to also allow those requesting to work at the worksite, to be allowed to do so. • The PSAC’s priority is the safety and well-being of its members and to be consulted at every step along the way as the working environments change. • Question 1: Will there will be committees struck to ensure that all new collective agreements include the terminology for “workplace” and “worksite” as to not leave its discretion to individual managers. Answer 1: The REVP agrees that the language must in included in all collective agreements 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question 2: Will both the PSAC Regional and the National offices think of ways to strike committees so the Locals can have new tools to mobilize or recruit new members? Answer 2: The REVP says yes! It is a top priority of the PSAC as this is a very difficult task because members are mostly working from home. Together, we need to find creative ways to solve the issue. • Chantal Fortin explains how she attended a panel where Rebecca Keetch was a panelist and spoke about mobilizing our members while working remotely. Rebecca spoke about finding specific issues members care about specifics and getting them involved to work with those campaigns. • Chantal suggested that the Education Committee could organize a panel on overcoming challenges while working remotely. The REVP supports that idea.
4.	<p>Education Committee Operating Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Girouard provided brief update on budget. • The current balance still stands at \$4674.00 as the excess funds from 2020 have yet to be transferred and the first installment from the AEC has not been received.
5.	<p>Activities by Ottawa Area Council (OAC) - Pamela Kirk</p> <p>Pamela sent her regrets, therefore there is no report.</p>
6.	<p>Update on PSAC-NCR Education Program and webinars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pierre Lebel provided and update on the national and regional education programs and webinars. • The members registering for training are from several regions, not only the NCR. He explains that there needs to be added focus on registration verification so that priority can be given to NCR members • Pierre is also working on national courses to be offered and will be working with the regions in the very near future. • All regions should now be offering the Talking Union Basics (TUB) course virtually and in both languages.
7.	<p>Virtual facilitation skills for Locals – workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was a requested from Sophie Rouy. Chantal Fortin spoke on her behalf as she was unable to attend today’s meeting. • Pierre Lebel explained that this workshop was offered in the fall of 2020 as an evening module. Unfortunately, the French version had to be cancelled due to low registrations. A 90-minute module could be organized again. • Chantal suggested that it could be reoffered in the spring, when many Locals are conducting their AGMs.

8.	<p>Update on projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentorship Program: Development of the framework for the Program is almost completed • Guide for Regional Executive: Revisions almost completed, waiting on Diane Girouard (NCR Treasurer) to submit her contribution; • Education prospectus: No update to offer, as Pamela Kirk was absent.
9.	<p>Contribute to future projects?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas of future projects: Women in politics; Leadership clinics; Human Rights courses. • Chantal invites anyone who would like to contribute to future projects as she welcomes input and new ideas to new and existing projects.
10.	<p>Varia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chantal explains that many members are included in the distribution list, yet she has not heard from many in several months. She will reach out to them to seek their intent to stay on as members of the EC. • A suggestion was to use catch phrases to use in the emails' subject lines that would entice the recipients to open the messages.
11.	<p>Committee Terms of Reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee continued with reviewing and editing the current TORs. The sections reviewed today were: Elections and Functioning of the Committee. • The work will continue during the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm