

**EXECUTIVE/RA COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

**Sunset, Port McNeill – 4:30 pm**

**-Minutes-**

Attendance:

Shawn Gough	VINTA
Jason Voth	PHSS
Courtney Wall	PHSS
Darcy House	PHSS
Kevin McGhee	PHSS
Teresa Wadhams	CHES
Melanie Demoe	PHSS
Julie Nielsen	EVES
Sarah Soltau	FRES
Ricki-Lyn McCrae	NISS
Kevin Ogren	Sunset
Jeanine Nicholson	NISS
Serena Lansdowne	AJES

1. Call to Order. Courtney Wall, Chair: 4:32 PM
2. Review/adoption of agenda dated February 19, 2025.

**MOVED: House/Soltau**

That the agenda dated February 19, 2025 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

3. Review/adoption of minutes dated December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**MOVED: Demoe/McGhee**

That the minutes of December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. Business:

a) Timing, Location and catering of VINTA AGM

The VINTA AGM will take place in Port Hardy on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, in the Fort Rupert Gym. Last year there were 41 members in attendance, options are Sporty's which can hold 44, API was used in the past, unsure of cost of venues and the schools are free, in-committee discussions would be more difficult in public venues, legion could be an option.

**MOVED: Soltau/Voth**

That the AGM location be in the Fort Rupert Gym.

**CARRIED**

b) EC and EC/RA location rotation

Stay with the 2-month rotation that was in the motion.

c) Council of Canadians

Learning resources, the cost is \$500, water activists, members would like more information but, in an email, so they can read about it more clearly before making a decision, referring to next meeting, Shawn will send out more information.

d) Survey results

26 people completed the survey which is a 33% response overall, the results were read off from the site, 50% want the 4:30pm start time, 76% say Yes to food at General meetings, 64% Hybrid options to be available

e) Communication from Jatinder Bir

Jatinder is running for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, information was read off about the candidate from an email. Jason mentioned Carol was another great option. Jatinder was the only one to reach out. VINTA has always encouraged voting from your conscious. Looking thru and reading from a book about BCTF candidate options.

5. Reports:

a. Treasurer's report

TTOC's costs are up. We are covering the costs from last year, Lots of grants coming in this year, everything looks good for running a balanced budget.

**MOTION: McCrae/Soltau**

To accept the current financial report.

**CARRIED**

b. President Report

**MOTION: Ogren/McCrae**

That the EC/RA committee move into committee.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION: Voth**

That the EC/RA committee rise from committee.

**CARRIED**

The committee discussed grievance for TTOC's around pay.

The two new positions, Equity Seeking and a French Language will be emailed out prior to March 5<sup>th</sup>.

c. Professional Development report

Afterschool sessions are going well. May 9<sup>th</sup> day is being planned, if you are interested in presenting something there was an email sent out, it is a math theme. Marc Garneau will be presenting but he is not the astronaut, he is a teacher from Surrey. Have 5 or 6 other sessions so far. Expect a motion from the pro-d committee changing the pro-d allotment and TTOC's days.

d. Bargaining Report

Vote was sent out via email, some do not have the correct email set up with the BCTF please log in and correct that, the vote closes Feb 20, 2025.

e. Social Justice Report

BCTF gave out a package with posters, stickers and information. Monday at 11am going to have a zoom meeting with Coastal Research, Education, and Advocacy Network (CREAN) around a study on Anti-Racism in Education, a project spanning from 2018 until 2025.

f. Health, Safety and Wellness report

Felt like John didn't know what was going on, asked a lot of questions. Kevin doesn't like the time-line given. Talked about how to move forward, a deadline for monthly minutes due on the 15<sup>th</sup>, inspection reports, 2 in a year with a deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup>, and April 15<sup>th</sup>, would like to see that moved up to March 15<sup>th</sup>. The new First-aid assessment deadline would be September 30<sup>th</sup> prior to the great shake out drill, to learn the new procedures around that. Conversation around violence in the workplace, if student sent home, kid tries to go home on the bus with others, student safety plan, worker safety plan not getting done. Student being put back in classroom after incident with no conversion or plan to correct behaviour. All admin will be taking a HSW training. VINTA SURT is booked in April at NISS, all admin are to be in attendance, Larry Dureski will be doing the training. CUPE welcome but it's on a weekend and VINTA will not be paying them. VINTA staff reps, EC, and HSW are welcome and will be provided with time in leu. The spreadsheet data was a real eye opener of where the district is lacking for HSW. Kevins next goal if he continues to be HSW rep is to address the Teachers safety around violent students. Regarding the motion to file a report to WorkSafeBC would like to delay it until September to allow for the changes to have time to take place, Kevin would like to see if they actually show up for the promised training.

g. Teacher on Call report

No longer present.

h. Aboriginal Educators' Contact Report

MMIW day was great they went to be big house, had local pictures, singing and dancing, with nice red dresses on display in Alert Bay. Nothing was done in Port Hardy that anyone was aware of.

i. Local Representative report

Bargaining is starting, talk about the Ombudsperson Investigation, \$100 strike pay would last 3 and half weeks, ads are running, public education, teachers are the best voice, amend school act, no decrease in minutes, grant structures, Kal Tire boycott because they closed down 2 shops, not really possible in a small town and they had nothing to do with that.

j. Political Action Contact Report

Had a meet and greet with the MLA in Campbell River, she as lived here in the 90's, got to ask question and hear her answers.

School Reports

**MOTION: Ogren/Soltau**

That the EC/RA committee move into committee.

**CARRIED**

**Orders of the day were called 6:15 – Voth**

**BCTF 2025 Winter RA Report:**

**President's report highlights:**

- Introduced the Bargaining Team (*the employer has not appointed anyone to their team yet*)
- Reminder to members to log into their MyBCTF accounts and check for Bargaining updates
- BC Ombudsperson has launched an investigation into the underfunding of special needs and the resulting lack of support

**Finance Report:**

- The audit has been completed and found no areas of concerns.
- Budget is on track and the BCTF Executive and RA voted to recommend a status quo fee for next year.
- We currently have \$93 Million in the Bargaining Defense Fund, with a projection of \$126 Million by the end of 2025. That will guarantee the \$100 a day strike pay for 3.2 weeks for all members.

**NOW Communications Presentation:**

- The BCTF have been working on a media campaign with NOW Communications as a lead up to the contract negotiations. NOW completed some surveys and found that the majority of BC residents believe that the conditions in education have worsened and the reason is the underfunding of public education. The results also showed that the public believe that teachers are the overwhelming #1 authority of what is needed in school and that teachers should be speaking out for better conditions.

**Some Motions of interest that passed:**

- "That the Federation lobby the Government to amend the School Act so that prescribed minimum hours of instruction reflect the addition of the Family Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation statutory holidays to school calendars."
- A motion passed to denounce the Minister of Education for the firing of the Victoria School Board.
- There were a number of motions dealing with grant structures within the BCTF and the minimum level of fees needed to qualify. One change was to move from a specific minimum fee to a minimum percentage to calculate fees. These do not affect out local as we are above the minimum local required.

**Canadian Federation of Labour Report:**

- There is a current boycott of Kal Tire, due the closure of three union plants. It was mentioned at the meeting that there are many small rural communities, like Port McNeill, where the only option is Kal Tire and that local people run it and that most of the staff have students in the Port McNeill schools, so this may be a difficult boycott to carry out here.