

**EXECUTIVE/RA COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

**Sunset, Port McNeill – 4:30 pm**

**-Minutes-**

Attendance:

Shawn Gough	VINTA	Serena Lansdowne	AJES- Zoom
Jason Voth	PHSS	Sarah Soltau	FRES
Courtney Wall	PHSS	Ricki-Lyn McCrae	NISS
Melanie Demoe	PHSS	Kevin Ogren	SES
Kevin McGhee	PHSS	Sara Wood	NISS
Teresa Wadhams	SES	Julie Nielsen	EVES -Zoom
Alex Clemmer	PHSS	Colette Doan	Sunset
Kristen Dahmer	EMX - zoom		

1. Call to Order. Courtney Wall, Chair: 4:35 PM

2. Review/adoption of agenda dated.

**MOVED: Voth/Demoe**

That the agenda dated November 19, 2025 be amended to say Adjournment at 6:00pm.

**CARRIED**

**MOVED: Ogren/Demoe**

That the agenda dated November 19, 2025 be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

3. Review/adoption of minutes dated September 17, 2025.

**MOVED: McCrae/McGhee**

That the minutes September 17, 2025 be accepted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

4. Business:

- a) HS+W request – write the BCTF to encourage them to release ad campaign on violence Request from district Health and Safety to engage in campaign around violence, didn't track well with focus groups. Is a top issue in the classrooms now. Send letter to BCTF, resolution to RA, motion sent to meeting, now that nurses have put out their ad campaign, look at ways to approach it, bargaining year, AGM motion would be most effective.

**MOTION: Gough/McCrae**

That VINTA submit a motion to the BCTF AGM to engage in an ad campaign about violence in classrooms.

**CARRIED**

Sara W concerned the campaign would normalize violence. Jason V parents would feel their children don't create violence, Julie N as someone that has been hurt, pushed under, not seen,

becoming more common, hushed. As HSW this issue is becoming more and more prevalent, increasing in intensity the EA's experience it more-so. Kevin M Don't beat around the bush put it out there. Colette D in elementary its more student vs student violent incidents, forcing us to step in and physically stop the fighting from happening. Ad agency should have to decide what to put out.

- b) Provincial Bargaining Update – Job Action Plan (in committee)

**MOVED: Gough/Demoe**

That the EC/RA move into committee.

**CARRIED**

**MOVED: Demoe**

That the EC/RA rise from committee.

**CARRIED**

The EC/RA committee discussed Provincial Bargaining update.

- c) Robert's Rules

Specifically around Orders of the Day, if there are important issues still remaining then we should continue on with a vote, Jason- where that line is if we keep going round and round and extending meetings, we will lose members. Keep to Roberts Rules, point of order, how the rules are applied. Add the simplified Roberts Rules to the website so members can review them.

- d) Member at Large – Equity Seeking

Deb Edzerza was on the GNN staff list and that's how we found out she will no longer be on our executive. Vacant position will bring it to the January General meeting, find some people who might be interested in the position. Jason – I thought the procedures or by laws state the seat remains vacant until the next election.

- e) Fitness Program through Harbourside Physio

Information sheet in the package to review. A session will take place at the professional development day on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION: Gough/Wood**

That VINTA provide the Fitness program through Harbourside Physio at no cost to members for 6 sessions for up to 12 members in Port Hardy and up to 12 members in Port McNeill.

**CARRIED**

\$1800 – 6 sessions, once a week, on site at schools, no start date yet. Shawn would like to put something on for the members. Sara – What if the classes are really sought after?

- f) December EC Meeting

Would not have EC in December; unless something important comes up.

- g) Sponsorship Christmas Skates

We sponsor the skates every year and they are well attended.

**MOTION: Gough/McGhee**

That VINTA sponsor 2 public skates in both Port Hardy and Port McNeill in December 2025.

**CARRIED**

- h) Recommendation from Remote Voting sub-committee  
Met with the committee around voting remotely. Google vote, so it's secret, take recommendation to the AGM, read out page 9 in the package, adding a ,  
Voth – amend 2.2a/2.2b to 2.21/2.22  
Discussing voting BCTF – simply vote, keep your information with BCTF relevant.

**MOTION: Gough/Voth**

**That the VINTA EC recommend the changes to the VINTA By-Laws, presented by the Remote Voting Subcommittee, to the membership at the VINTA General Meeting in January 2026.**

VINTA to bring the remote voting language addition to the bylaws, with correcting a+b to 1 and 2 and a comma, to the GM in January to the membership for approval.

**CARRIED**

- i) Letter to Minister Beare  
EC Received a copy of the letter– Christie Oxley is going to run it up the flag pole.

**MOTION: Gough/McGhee**

That VINTA submit the letter to Minister Beare that was circulated by the local president, contingent on BCTF's field service feedback.

**CARRIED**

- j) AGM Delegate  
Start of spring break – LR Kevin O goes and the local president. At the January GM we can decide who goes, it is really interesting and eye opening experience to see the structure and how things are run in the union.

- k) Women's Institute delegate  
Need to put a name in, put out an email to all the 5 or less year teachers, only two people responded. Need to elect 1 of them. Barb Cave or Hanna Worthen, both fit the criteria. Serena would like to see a bio of each of them. Courtney found the experience really rewarding and eye opening. Would like to see information about both of them to make a choice, agreed to answering emails quickly. Send EC/RA emails to do a google forum vote by Friday.

- l) EpiPen petition  
Last Board meeting trustees supported publicly endorsed the petition online. Have looked into the cost it's about \$100-\$150 they last 15-18 months, significant cost. Do we as VINTA endorse? Colette- can anyone be allergic to the EpiPen? After doing some research discovered that yes, they can. The boards motion allowed members to sign the petition in support. VINTA as an organization supports the EpiPen petition.

- m) Westmount Elementary  
Suspicious fire, would like to send our support for their members effected as we have done for other schools. \$50/member affected.

**MOTION: Gough/Ogren**

That VINTA donate \$50 per union member effected by the Westmount Elementary School fire through the Kamloops-Thompson Teachers' Union.

**CARRIED**

5. Reports:

a. Currently we have a lot of funds sitting in GIC's. We had other grants come in and have a buffer just in case.

**MOTION: Demoe/Soltau**

To accept the current financial report.

**CARRIED**

b. Presidents Report

Courtney, Shawn and Nimfa out of the office Thursday/Friday, LP presidents meeting North Island zone Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, Dec 15, school board meeting Christy Oxly from the BCTF field office, coming for a visit.

c. Professional Development report

District Pro-D November 28<sup>th</sup>

d. Bargaining Report

3 grievances on the go with 1 resolved and 2 in abeyance. G going to arbitration, melding starting early

e. Social Justice Report

No report

f. Health, Safety and Wellness report

District has reverred back to it's old ways. Nothing done at the board office. No walk through at NISS or SB office.

**MOTION: McGhee/Demoe**

That VINTA report District 85 to WorkSafeBC for an audit of the District's Health and Safety Program.

**CARRIED**

Sara- Has any other union done this in the province? Yes, it has occurred in other districts. Serena – Where does the money come from? It comes from the board offices surplus funds.

**MOTION: Gough/McCrae**

That the EC/RA meeting be extended by 15 minutes to complete the agenda, to rise no later than 6:15pm.

**CARRIED**

g. Teacher on Call report

TTOC's are receiving a sufficient amount of work now.

h. Aboriginal Educators' Contact Report

No Report.

i. Local Representative report  
Emailed out report to members.

j. French Language Report  
No report

k. MAL Equity Seeking Report  
Vacant position

l. Political Action Contact Report  
Family First – a right wing group becoming more vocal

m. School Reports

**MOVED: Doan/McGhee**

That the EC/RA move into committee.

**CARRIED**

**MOVED: McGhee**

That the EC/RA rise from committee.

**CARRIED**

The EC/RA committee discussed school reports.

Adjournment at 6:14 pm.