

**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, September 24, 2025**  
**PHSS, Port Hardy – 5:00 pm**  
**MINUTES**

Attendance:

|                   |             |                     |             |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Jeanine Nicholson | NISS        | Joy Cochrane        | FRES        |
| Melissa Mrus      | PHSS        | Alexander Clemmer   | PHSS        |
| Teresa Wadhams    | SES         | Kevin Ogren         | SES         |
| Barry Korven      | NISS        | Julie Nielsen       | EVES        |
| Barb Cave         | EVES        | Lynne Penhale       | EVES        |
| Jason Voth        | PHSS        | Frank MacLean       | PHSS        |
| Sarah Soltau      | FRES        | Maya Wold           | NISS        |
| Kendra Sharpe     | NISS        | Courtney Wall       | PHSS        |
| Robyn Gordon      | PHSS        | Kevin McGhee        | PHSS        |
| Leah Slacke       | PHSS        | Holly Williamson    | EVES        |
| Keon Birney       | PHSS        | Corey Weber         | EVES        |
| Shawn Gough       | VINTA       | Shannon Passmore    | EVES        |
| Paul Cagna        | PHSS        | Marc-Andre Gosselin | PHSS        |
| Darcy House       | PHSS        | Heather Jack        | SES         |
| Steph Boal        | NISS        | Joel Dyck           | PHSS        |
| Jessica Tuttle    | TTOC        | Melanie Demoe       | PHSS        |
| Serena Lansdowne  | Zoom - AJES | Brianne Bartel      | Zoom - EVES |
| Charleen Purdey   | Zoom – NISS | Jamie Woodford      | Zoom – SES  |
| Bhearni McAleer   | Zoom – NISS | Jen Rowell          | NISS        |
| Heather Miller    | EVES        | Colette Doan        | SES         |
| Eliza Haugrud     | PHSS        |                     |             |

1. Call to Order. Courtney Wall, Chair: 5:19 PM.

2. Review/adoption of agenda dated September 24, 2025.

**MOVED: Soltau/Ogren**

That the agenda of be adopted as presented September 24, 2025.

**CARRIED**

3. Review/adoption of minutes dated January 29, 2025.  
Amendment is to fix Leah Slacke's name in the minutes.

**MOVED: Cave/Dyck**

That the minutes of January 29, 2025 be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

4. Business:

- a. Sub Committee E20.4 language  
Issues around the language and staffing process. Looking to form a committee of 3 members to review the language. Priority claiming the job before it is posted firstly teachers returning from a leave, secondly teachers transferring position and thirdly teachers wanting to change positions within the same school.

**MOTION: Gough/Nicholson**

That Jeanine Nicholson, Steph Boal and Eliza Haugrud be appointed to a sub committee to review the E.20.4 language and present a revised version to the general meeting in January 2026.

**CARRIED**

- b. Election for political action contact  
Political action contact was left vacant after the AGM, and now Alex Clemmer has stepped up. Shawn Gough nominates Alex Clemmer. Alex Clemmer is willing to take the position. No one else ran in the election against Alex Clemmer. Alex Clemmer is the new Political action contact.
- c. Grievance Committee  
We create a committee every year, very rarely meet up. It is to help decide if a grievance should be moved to step 1 or 2 to the BCTF. Only non EC members can be part of the 5 member committee.

**MOTION: Wall/Voth**

That Robyn Gordon, Jeanine Nicholson, Heather Miller, Julie Nielsen and Leah Slacke be appointed to the grievance committee for the 2025-2026 school year.

**CARRIED**

d. Honorary Life Membership

At the EC/RA we have decided to add Ricki-Lyn McCrae as an honorary life member for her copious years on the EC, Rep and HSW committees. Ricki will join the other honorary life member Fred Robertson.

e. BCTF Frano Marsic

North Island Rep from the BCTF, Started in July in this position.

**MOTION: Ogren/McGhee**

That the general meeting move into committee.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION: McGhee**

That the general meeting Rise from committee.

**CARRIED**

The committee discussed the bargaining that BCTF is doing for the teachers.

f. Appointment percentages

Reviewing the document in the package. It is based on the linear system and doesn't work for the semester system. Long block is almost double a normal block. Want to see TTOC's and teachers get paid for what they are working. Discussed with John Martin. At the EC/RA we set up a small committee to make it work better. We are doing something about it. All 4 parties have to sign off on it, will bring it forward after bargaining takes place. Giving the TTOC prep time the teacher is given. TTOC should have a heads up on what their assignment is for the day.

g. Remedy Spending

Just starting to look at what you can and can't spend money on. Can only be used on non-taxable items, PD, classroom item. Some members mention that they never could find out how much they were owed and how they could spend it. Muffy has the account. Some members were forced to take their remedy without notice. Shawn has talked to the district about this and that should not be happening any longer, you should be given choices of which day and when but you have to make it possible to happen. It is not supposed to be paid out. It is possible to find out how much you are owed from your admin.

h. FSA

That time of year, there is a letter that goes home. Have the letters to go home. Can go out next week as Shawn has made arrangements with the board office, but he will hand them out today for you to take with you so you can distribute them next week. Shawn will bring the ones that no one claims to their school.

## 5. Reports

### a) Treasurer's Report

#### i. Current Financial Report

Looking over the financial documents in the package, admin as an estimated 200000 revenue and a budget of 233000 so a little bit over and will dip into our surplus some. Pro-D accounts look good, haven't done a district day yet, 127000 in revenue to math with surplus. Looking it over everything looks good.

#### **MOVED: Demoe/MacLean**

That VINTA approve the current financial report.

#### **CARRIED**

### b) President Report

Covered a lot of it in earlier discussions. Had conversations with the MLA and MP in an attempt to put to use the 2024 expansion of the student loan forgiveness program for health care to be expanded to teachers and education workers; hasn't happened. Aaron Gunn committed to looking into why it hasn't happened but will not advocate for it. Would be important for recruitment in our rural community. Kindy is aware of our concerns but again nothing has occurred from the talks.

### c) Professional Development Report

Individual Professional Development is now \$800 and 1 TTOC day. There are also 10 – 1k collaboration grants, if you have any questions ask your Pro-D Rep. PSA Day is October 24<sup>th</sup> there are many options, you can go to the VINTA website and find a link to the BCTF PSA Day options. November is the District Day at NISS and the May District Day will be at PHSS. If you have any ideas for workshops or guest speakers let your PD rep know or Sarah Soltau.

### d) Bargaining Report

Grievances put forward on review of the autism designations external legal Steven Rogers (BCTF external lawyer) - things will not be moving quickly, 2027 arbitrator.

### e) Social Justice Report

Tuesday will be National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

### f) Health, Safety and Wellness Report

Continue to push the district office to comply with HSW standards.

g) Teacher on Call Report  
Nothing to report.

h) Aboriginal Educators' Contact Report  
Tuesday will be National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, has extra copies of blanket exercise, my elders tell me, color sheets of every child matter, lots of ideas, VINTA library has some great books for reverence and resources.

Jason Voth Called orders of the day at 6:31pm  
Shawn Gough acknowledged the call and noted that the last few reports would only take a few minutes and continued.

i) Local Representative  
No report

j) French Language Report  
No Report

k) Member at Large Equity Seeking Report  
No Report

l) Political Action Contact Report  
Municipal election coming up in a few years, pick good school board trustees.

6. Other Business:  
Door Prize Draws were done.

7. Adjournment 6:42