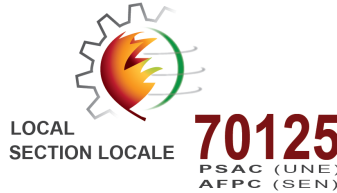


Monthly meeting

Wednesday November 20, 2013,
at 12:00 pm
in Room 1264,
219 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa



Assemblée mensuelle

le mercredi 20 novembre 2013,
à 12 h 00
à la Salle 1264,
219 avenue Laurier Ouest,
Ottawa

Minutes

20 XI 2013

Minutes

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Gordon McAllister, who chaired the meeting.

2. Roll Call of the Executive:

Gordon McAllister, President
Kinga Nogrady, 2nd Vice-President and interim secretary
Helen Miller, 3rd Vice-President
Archie Campbell, Chief Shop Stewart
Chantal Di Franco, Treasurer
Jean Lalonde, Health and Safety Officer

Regrets:

Stéphane Allard, 1st Vice-President
Christine Comtois, Human Rights Officer

3. Adoption of proposed Agenda

Archie Campbell moved that the agenda be adopted. Helen Miller seconded the motion. All were in favour and the agenda was adopted at 12:07 p.m.

4. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting

It was noted that an error was made in the executive report for Gordon McAllister regarding a Conference he attended. The secretary took note and will make the necessary amendment.

Archie Campbell moved that the minutes be adopted. Kinga Nogrady seconded the motion. All were in favour and the minutes were adopted at 12:10 p.m.

5. Executive Reports

The Local Executive provided verbal reports.

- a) **Gordon McAllister, President**
Gordon has been assisting with a number of representation cases. He will be attending the Labour Management meeting next week. He has worked with Jean to ensure that information regarding the Bill C-4 budget bill is posted to the Local 70125 website. He is hoping to finalize the MCO reallocation grievances.
- b) **Kinga Nogrady, 2nd Vice-President and Acting Secretary**

Kinga has been organizing meetings, drafting minutes and providing other secretary duties to the Local. She has also continued her work on drafting retention periods for Local 70125 records and has been researching solutions for document management storage. She attended the bargaining demands meeting hosted by Stéphane Allard, Local 70125 1st Vice President and submitted 7 demands on behalf of the Diplomatic Couriers. She also attended a meeting hosted by Jean Lalonde to hear ideas for a number of local members regarding a holiday party.

c) **Helen Miller, 3rd Vice –President**

Nothing to report.

d) **Jean Lalonde, Health and Safety Officer**

Jean attended the Bill C-4 presentation given by Larry Rousseau. He was interested to hear that PSAC, CAPE, PIPS and APSO public service unions will join together for the collective bargaining/opposing the omnibus bill and its ramifications. He also attended the bargaining demands meeting hosted by Stéphane Allard, Local 70125 1st Vice President and submitted 2 demands. Jean has been working on upgrades to the website in an effort to keep the information current, and stated that the local will need to examine the information listed under the “members” site. Jean has worked on a number of Health and Safety issues and indicated it remains an on-going challenge to ensure committees have a co-chair, that minutes are posted, meetings attended regularly and other issues.

e) **Archie Campbell, Chief Shop Stewart**

Archie indicated that he has not received many calls for assistance during the past month. He is currently overseeing 4 member cases, one involving a values and ethics issue; one is a workplace conflict matter which might be resolved through mediation; one is an ongoing classification issue; and one is a disciplinary issue abroad which has been forwarded to Heather Brooker.

f) **Chantal Di Franco, Treasurer**

Chantal noted that she had not received any claims for the executive and encouraged them to submit any claims before year end. She indicated the Local has a surplus of \$28,000 to cover expenses until the end of December 2013.

6. Strike Fund

Chantal and Gord have opened a new GIC so that strike funds can be moved on an ongoing basis. The advantage to opening a new GIC is that, should the Local require funds from the strike fund, they can move funds without breaking the original GIC thereby losing all of the interest earned. Any member who would like to see a financial statement can request a .pdf from Chantal di Franco.

Chantal noted that as of November, the Local has matched the total 2012 expenditures and we have 6 weeks remaining for 2013.

7. DFAIT/CIDA Amalgamation

Gord is attending the monthly meetings. There appears to be a concurrent posting process. The posting process for DFAIT and CIDA differ, as DFAIT uses a rotational approach and CIDA uses a competitive approach. With the merging of the departments, employees will be able to apply for rotation postings to either department. Champions exist for the MCO, FSAA and ECO groups, however no champion has been identified for the non-rotational group. Formerly, Ian Dawson was the champion for the non-rotational group.

Question from the floor: Can you tell us about the merger of the two PSAC unions?

Answer: Currently there are 2 separate locals for DFAIT and CIDA, which are in 2 separate locations. The locals will remain separate until the August 2014 conference because an amalgamation would impact the number of delegates we have at the Conference.

8. Holiday Party

Normally the annual Local 70125 BBQ is the big event of the year. In years past, a holiday party was organized by the Local and some members approached Jean Lalonde requesting a holiday party. Unfortunately, the Local will not be organizing a holiday party this year because there isn't enough lead-time. The Local will introduce the idea of the holiday party at the next AGM and seek approval of this item in our budget. Gord opened the floor to any comments from members.

Comment from the floor: Member Pamela McKale proposed having the next party at the banquet facilities of the Ottawa Police Association, located at 41 Catherine Street. She can assist with securing this location if the Local would like to host a party.

9. New Business

Gordon opened the floor to any new business.

Question from the floor: Is the Local 70125 mailbox visited regularly for mail?

Answer: Local Treasurer Chantal Di Franco regularly checks the mailbox for statements. Gordon has also checked the mailbox on occasion.

Gord asked if the ARD group had any issues. He indicated that the lease at 219 Laurier was renewed for 1-2 years. The program groups from CIDA are moving to Pearson and the administrative groups are being moved to 45 Sacre Coeur. While the price for parking is better at 45 Sacre Coeur (\$60/month), the bus routes are frustrating.

Questions from the floor: Will the CSN and CSR groups move to 45 Sacre Coeur? They are part of ARD.

Answer: We are not sure.

Gord indicated that renovations are occurring in Tower D at 125 Sussex. The new workstations in this tower are the new 2.0 workspaces. Accommodations has indicated they will also employ workspace 2.0 overseas.

Question from the floor: Is workspace 2.0 the office of the future that was set-up for viewing near D-Tower?

Answer: Yes.

Question to the floor: Are there any concerns regarding air quality at 219 Laurier?

Answer from the floor: Sometimes there are issues with temperature, for example during the summer the air conditioning didn't work and employees were sent home. ARD has environmental engineers as part of their staff, who are able to measure temperature on-site, which helps expedite the process. It was noted that 219 Laurier has had multiple changes in building management.

Question from the floor: Perfume and scents is an issue with our office. Management spoke to one person, however the problem is prevalent and on-going throughout the offices.

Answer: Posters are available on-line to educate employees.

Question from the floor: Posters have already been posted around the building. I have put in a grievance with Health and Safety at this location, which is what led to the one employee being spoken to, but the problem persists. What are my next steps?

Answer: This is about duty to accommodate. Please feel free to speak to Jean Lalonde, our Health and Safety Officer.

Question from the floor: I missed any notifications regarding the technical group. Have they signed a new agreement?

Answer: We will have to check. There is often a delay of months before a notice is posted.

Question from the floor: But for all intent and purposes it has been ratified?

Answer: Yes. Negotiations took so long that the new agreement expires next year.

Question from the floor: A letter went out to employees on whether to cash in their severance or leave it with the government. Have all those letters gone out? I haven't received mine and I'm concerned that it is lost in the mail.

Answer: Compensation can be extremely slow. I suggest you contact your compensation advisor directly.

Question from the floor: Has anything occurred with the Human Rights Committee?

Answer: Helen Miller, 3rd Vice President, indicated that the Human Right Officer (Christine Comtois) is not available until Friday.

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was tabled by Archie. There was a unanimous consensus and the meeting was adjourned at 12:48 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Kinga Nogrady, 2nd Vice-President and interim secretary