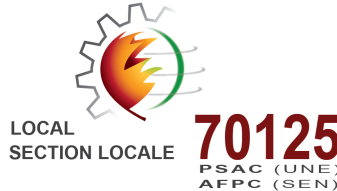


Monthly meeting

Wednesday, May 21st, 2014,
at 12:00 pm
in Room A1-500,
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa



Assemblée mensuelle

le mercredi 21 mai 2014,
à 12 h 00
à la Salle A1-500,
125, Sussex, Ottawa

Minutes

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Minutes

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Gordon McAllister, who chaired the meeting.

2. Roll Call of the Executive:

Gordon McAllister, President
Stéphane Allard, 1st Vice-President
Pierre Lamy, 2nd Vice-President
Chantal Di Franco, Treasurer
Archie Campbell, Chief Shop Stewart
Jean Lalonde, Health and Safety Officer

Regrets:

Harold Thériault, 3rd Vice-President
Kinga Nogrady, Secretary
Christine Comtois, Human Rights Officer

3. Adoption of proposed Agenda

Archie Campbell moved that the agenda be adopted. Pierre Lamy seconded the motion. All were in favor and the agenda was adopted at 12:05 p.m.

4. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the April 16, 2014 General Meeting were not available for adoption. Gord moved that the minutes be brought forward for adoption at the next General Meeting (September 17th). All members were in agreement.

5. Executive Reports

Gord along with Stéphane and Christine attended the NCR regional convention last week. Peggy Coupland attended as an observer. Larry Rousseau was acclaimed during the convention. Various proposed resolutions were discussed over the two day period. Majority of the proposal were not recommended by the members. Gord also attended the Regional Mobilization Team meeting, where he was named as the Zone 6 (East Ottawa) coordinator. PSAC has planned a member's walk to Parliament Hill for June 19. The local executive will strive to update the 70125 website with further information. Gord also attended the latest labor management meeting. The focus of the meeting surrounded management's new HQ accommodation space plan. The employer will be relocating approx. 1800 personnel over the next 7 months. The idea is to have all of DFATD Corporate Services located at 200 Promenade du Portage while all of DFATD Program and Policy positions will be located at 125 Sussex. 111 Sussex will house most of the Trade positions. The property lease at 219 Laurier has been extended for a few more months, with the notion of moving these employees to QC as well. The Department is also undertaking a retro-fit project for 125 Sussex, which will see D tower as the first area to be converted to Workspace 2.0. As part of the employer's communication plan, a guide will be developed and

distributed to those employees who will be affected by the relocations.

Question from Jean: What about possible shuttle service between the two main buildings?

Response from Gord: The original RFP was submitted last December however there have been not further updates from the accommodation division.

Stéphane Allard provided the members with a written executive report. In addition to the report, he asked the members to keep in mind that the resolutions proposed last week at the NCR regional convention were not for the UNE convention planned for August 10-15, 2014 but for the PSAC convention planned for next 2015. Also, 8 “bargaining update meetings” have been planned for the coming months, in which Stéphane will attend at least 4.

Comment from Gloria: May I suggest the local add the planned “bargaining update meetings” to the local website.

Response from Stéphane: We already have plans to update the local’s website.

Pierre Lamy reported that he has been asked to supply BBQ tickets to a good deal of members now, which is positive news. He also spoke about the high frustration some members are experiencing with the new Shared Travel Services website.

Comment from Jean: I have to agree with Pierre’s statement over the new STS system. The system does not seem user friendly and management has done a poor job of rolling out the transition. Employees within SMFV division are experiencing severe back-logs and have to deal with very angry phone calls from employees not being able to book travel arrangements correctly. It appears the employer has had to hire two additional staff members to alleviate the back-logs.

Response from Gord: I will ask to have this issue added to the next labor management meeting agenda.

Comment from protocol member: Training on how the new system operates has been very minimal. A lot of frustration is being experienced by our (PSAC) members. Transition to the new BMO credit cards has been very difficult.

Response from Gord: The local will make an effort to reach out to the affected members to see what can be done to support them during this initial start-up phase.

Comment from Pierre: I would like to assist you in this action as it affects me at a personal level not just as an executive member.

Question from Jean: What if we draft a letter from the Health and Safety committee?

Response from Gord: I think our first approach should be through the labor management committee.

Question from Gloria: Could you also add lack of paper towels in the kitchens be added to the agenda? These are not being supplied by the employer.

Response from Gord: This is not a labor management issue but a health and safety issue which should be brought to Jean’s attention and addressed through the H&S committee.

Comment from Jean: I’ve asked for the paper towel item to be added to the H&S agenda however this has yet to materialize. I will follow-up with Sharzad.

Archie Campbell provided the members with a written executive report. Only one new case has been brought to his attention since submitting his written report to the executive. The issue is in regards to an employee who has been told he must re-apply to a competition process for a vacant position in which he is already in a pool for.

Chantal Di Franco provided the members with an updated financial spreadsheet.

Question from Jean: Could you provide an updated pie-chart depicting the distribution of our union dues ie. How much of our union dues are sent to the PSAC vs. UNE vs. Local 70125.

Response from Chantal: No problem. I will provide a pie-chart for the next general meeting.

6. Collective Bargaining Update

The bargaining team met on April 13-15, 2014 to finalize the bargaining package. PSAC and Treasury Board have discussed possible dates for a meeting and, while no dates have been confirmed yet, the team has been asked to be available the first week of July. A location for the meetings has also not been confirmed.

Stéphane was chosen to be a PA negotiating member on the Technical Committee for the sick leave proposal. The Technical Committees ensure that consistent language is used for any proposals that cross-over with other proposals. The PSAC set up a technical committee to look at 7 separate cross-cutting issues.

Local 70125 members are encouraged to check all PSAC/UNE websites and Twitter feeds to follow the latest bargaining news and or processes.

Comment from Gord: We will eventually need “point of contact” volunteers for each of the DFATD buildings. The point of contact volunteers would be responsible to distribute urgent union information i.e. walk-outs etc. Public displays supporting Public Servants must be large in numbers in order to have a real impact. We will use the BBQ event to inform members of the June 19th demonstration.

Comment from Gloria: The UNE is preparing posters now. Is the local going to offer bus transportation in order for members to attend the “bargaining update meetings” at the conference center? Members need to know about these activities, people are very concerned about the upcoming negotiations.

Response from Gord: The UNE regional team would need to know how many members are interested in attending these meetings first before agreeing to organize transportation services. Once we can get a sense from the members (through the bbq event) as to their level of interest then we can approach the regional team.

Question from Jean: Would employees be required to use personal leave to participate at the June 19th demonstration if the event runs longer than the lunch period?

Response from Gord: It would more than likely be a case by case situation as each manager may have differing opinions on the matter.

Question from protocol member: When is bargaining start?

Response from Stéphane: An official date has not been set however we anticipate sometime in July.

7. BBQ

The Local 70125 Annual Barbeque will occur on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. As in previous years, it will take place on the cafeteria patio of the Lester B. Pearson building. Tickets are available and can be obtained through the Events@70125.ca mailbox or through any of the Local Executives, who are located at 125 Sussex, 111 Sussex and 200 Promenade du Portage. Anyone interested in volunteering for the event should contact Kinga Nogrady.

Question from Gloria: Will a vegetarian option be offered?

Response from Gord: Yes, believe a vegetarian burger is the option, same as last year.

Comment from Gord: There will be a separate ticket draw for door prizes. Each employee will be asked to draw a ticket upon entering the BBQ, the ticket will announce whether the employee has won anything. Door prizes will be supplied by PSAC/UNE and various local executive members.

8. New Business

Question from Gloria: Can anyone explain the new arrears payment process?

Response from Jean: If I understand correctly the employer will give us two pays now and recall one of these extra pays when we retire from the government.

Gord updated the members on the MCO group. The MCO’s have officially decided to close out the MCO committee with management. Gord has suggested perhaps the creation of an MCO-Sub Group under the Local 70125 to strategize next steps would be useful.

Comment from Stéphane: I would like to propose a motion to creating an MCO sub group.

Response from sole MCO member: MCO community not prepared to second the motion at this time.

Comment from Gord: Nothing stops the local from notionally creating a working sub-group. We strongly encourage all MCO local members to attend and participate at the monthly general meetings.

9. Adjournment

Archie Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting. There was a unanimous consensus and the meeting was adjourned at 1:05pm.

Minutes prepared by: Chantal Di Franco, Treasurer