

Local 70125

external affairs



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 16, 1983
7:30 p.m.
53 QUEEN STREET, ROOM 14

ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE
LUNDI, 16 MAI 1983
7:30 p.m.
53 rue QUEEN, CHAMBRE 14

A G E N D A

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
4. MINUTES OF APRIL 18 MEETING
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
6. CORRESPONDENCE
7. REPORTS:
Executive
Standing Committees
Group Representatives
8. ELECTIONS
Education Committee Rep.
Publicity Committee Rep.
Head Steward
9. NEW BUSINESS
10. ADJOURNMENT

ORDRE DU JOUR

1. BIENVENUE
2. PRESENCE
3. ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR
4. COMPTE RENDU DE L'ASSEMBLEE DU 18 AVRIL 1983
5. DEBAT DU COMPTE RENDU
6. CORRESPONDANCE
7. RAPPORTS:
Exécutif
Comités
Représentants de groupe
8. ELECTIONS
Représentant(e)-Education
Représentant(e)-Publicité
Chef-délégué syndical
9. DISCUSSIONS OUVERTES
10. AJOURNEMENT

ASSEMBLEE

MEETING

Section Locale 70125

affaires exterieures

PSAC LOCAL 70125 (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)
MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 16, 1983

1. The First Vice-President, Carol Chilton called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.
2. PRESENT: Carol Chilton, First Vice-President
Barry Kemball, Second Vice-President
Gary Doherty, Treasurer,
Bob Phillips, SI Representative
Ginette Remillard, SCY Representative
Hal Ade, OHAC Delegate
Nicole Levesque, SCY Member
Janine Arpin, SCY Member

The President, David Delaney is absent and away on Union business, Carol Chilton reported.

Carol Chilton pointed out that members who so desired, were welcomed to express themselves in french and that she and Barry Kemball would do their best to answer whatever questions they may have.

Most of the meeting was conducted in french.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S/C Carol Chilton, seconded by Barry Kemball, agenda accepted as presented. Carried.

4. MINUTES OF APRIL 18 MONTHLY MEETING

M/S/C Hal Ade, seconded by Ginette Remillard Minutes accepted as presented. Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a) Under New Business, Item 10. Ginette Remillard asked what type of news THE COURIER carried when published. Barry Kemball explained briefly that articles of interest for members at HQ and abroad were presented by different groups, also published were the activities of the Local's Executive, Standing Committees and Group Representatives.

6. CORRESPONDENCE (ANNEX A)

Item 3 - Apr. 18: Office Accommodation Agreement with DRIE Local has been terminated and all monies paid.

Item 12 - May 3: Re: LS Group motion to include "family leave package" in 2nd year of contract. The PSAC President, P. Samson does not wish to re-open the negotiations to include this "package" as he believes the group would lose money if part of the package was presented as it would be included in the 6 & 5% increase.

Item 6 - Apr. 20: EMC meeting july 7 and 8. Please take note that observers from this Local are always welcome to attend.

Ginette Remillard asked if a letter had been sent to the PSAC Regional Office concerning weekend courses that are cancelled at

the last minute. B. Kemball replied he was not aware if action had been taken on the matter.

7. REPORTS

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT: Carol Chilton verbally reported that she has been busy with grievances and attended a meeting on Employee Assistance Programme with Neil Clarke and Lynn Starchuk. Also attended a grievance at the second level. Was present at the EAJC meeting held on May 4. We very much need shop stewards to get involved and anyone interested in taking a Steward course is to get in touch with the PSAC Regional Office or our Local office for inscription. The sum of \$25.00 a day is apid to defray expenses.

M/S/C C. Chilton seconded by Gary Doherty, report accepted as presented. Carried.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT: Barry Kemball verbally reported he also attended the EAJC Meeting on May 4. There is much taking place at the moment; i.e. 12% cutback in staff, terms being let go, the possibility of Commissionaires replacing messengers. Also mentioned at the EAJC was the announcement to be made any day with regards to the McDougall Royal Commission Report. It is to be an impressive announcement. Also attended the last Ottawa-Hull Area Council meeting held on May 11. I will be meeting with Mr. Sinclair re: Telephone for David Delaney.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by Gary Doherty, Treasurer

FINANCIAL POSITION

1. Cash on hand as of March 31/83	5265.81	CR
2. Revenues for April 1983	3553.00	CR
3. Expenditures for April 1983	2390.47	DR
4. Equals cash on hand	6428.34	CR
5. Unpresented cheques	470.23	CR
6. Equals bank statement as of April 30/83	6898.57	CR

M/S/C Gary Doherty, seconded by G. Remillard report accepted as presented. Carried.

Barry Kemball said he was disappointed the Hononarium, Committee had still not reported on the 1982 Hononarium for the sum of \$500.00.

Gary Doherty said he would get in touch with Don Larkin. Bob Phillips volunteered to be part of the Committee.

RE: Budget Item 631 - Group Activities

It was discussed that groups who wish to hold a meeting or a social gathering that funds would be forthcoming from the Local to held defray cost of such an event. Whether it is Union

oriented or just a social evening, groups interested should feel free to approach the Local.

8. ELECTIONS: Publicity - Education and Head Steward.
Tabled until next meeting

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Hal Ade brought forward a Motion that Local 70125 support the Ottawa-Carleton Health Coalition for financial help on Medicare throughout Canada and that he be designated as the Local representation.

Carol Chilton seconded the Motion.

Hal stated that he had attended two meetings. The aim is to stop Medicare being eroded by extra charges which in the long run could destroy the Medicare programme as we now have it.

A further meeting is scheduled for June.

The money collected would help people in financial need to receive medical help they cannot afford on their own.

Hal Ade was elected as a representative of this Local at the Ottawa - Carleton Health Coalition.

MOTION: Presented by Hal Ade.

That PSAC Local 70125 donate the sum of \$25.00 towards the Ottawa - Carleton Health Coalition Committee.

WITHDRAWN

The above motion was withdrawn on the grounds that further information about the Committee be available to the Local and should further information satisfy the Local, the Motion be presented again for consideration.

- b) Bob Phillips on recommendation from David Delaney that the Local secretary contact UNDE Component to inquiry where a donation can be forwarded in memory of Joe Power, President, who passed away on May 14.

(N.B.) The sum of \$25.00 has been forwarded to the Ontario Heart Foundation.

10. ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C Carol Chilton seconded by Barry Kemball that meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Local 70125

External Affairs - Affaires Exterieures

P.O. BOX 1339, STATION "B", OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1P 5R4
C.P.

JUNE 20, 1983

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past two months have been busy and sometimes frustrating ones for myself, this executive and our members. The posting season is upon us once again as well as appraisals of employees being posted to new areas both items creating numerous inquiries and complaints. The recent release of the Government's response on the MacDougall Royal Commission on the Foreign Service has sparked considerable activity as well, many of us feeling the Government has failed to take the opportunity to make substantial changes for the better and spent more time denying problems exist.

My recent sojourn to London last May for the European Seminar provided an excellent opportunity to have the Component President Regional Vice-President and three Local Presidents as well as a rep from the CM Local sit down and clear some problems especially in the area of communications and representation. One of the results of this has already been shown by the invitation of all Z Local Presidents to attend a special meeting with Departmental Officials ^{concerning} the Government's response to the MacDougall Report, on June 29th. Also in London I was able to talk with our members in the field and learn first hand some of their problems and feelings on issues. Lack of communication with reps at H.Q.s was high on the list. Hopefully we can get out our first issue of the revised Kourier for months end and if we receive a favourable response we may be able to continue publication after summer recess.

Finally I would like to thank every one for their continued support to date and as this is the last scheduled meeting until September I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer

David Delaney

June 20, 1983

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT - Presented by Barry Kemball

Letter to recruit "Rand Deductees" has been re-written and 250 copies made. As of April 30, 1983 the PSAC Membership listing show 355 rand deductees. We have located 230 of these members. We have noticed that the majority of the rand deductees have been transferred from another Department. Also members from the SCY group forget that once they are transferred back to a regular non-excluded position that they must sign a membership card again to become a full member. I have requested that all completed membership application card be return to me for transmission to the PSAC Office.

As of April 30, this Local has 1246 signed members which entitle us to send 5 delegates to the National Component Convention which will be held July 9 - 12, 1984. Hopefully our membership will increase and so will our accredited delegates to the Convention.

As soon as the Local membership is brought up to date a request for a print-out will be sent to Alphatext for up-dating.

On Thursday, June 23 I will be attending a meeting of the Ottawa-Hull Regional Action Committee on the PSAC Economic Recovery Alternative Campaign.

20 JUNE 1983

The following activities justify (I hope) my presence as chairman of this august committee:

1. Attendance as a National Component delegate to the PSAC Health and Safety Convention May 5-7. (see formal report)
2. A survey of health and safety is to be included in the upcoming newsletter along with promotion of health and safety rights in the workplace.
3. We have run into a problem with the improper use of insecticides in the the Pearson building during working hours. We are trying to have the insecticides used in the off hours, while at the same time looking into the effects of these chemicals on employees.
4. A grievance (my first) has been made in the non-collection of leave without pay taken in May 1982.

respectfully submitted,



N.H. Clarke, Chairman Welfare Cttee

REPORT ON PSAC HEALTH AND SAFETY CONFERENCE - MAY 5 - 7, 1983

Submitted by: Neil Clarke, PSAC Local 70125 (External Affairs)

As I have many concerns regarding Health and Safety in the workplace, I was asked to attend the above conference as a delegate of the National Component. The following are observations and analysis of the meeting which went a long way in promoting awareness in many areas.

Concerning administrative arrangements, the financing by the Component was adequate on my part. I would like to point out, though that many of those who attended had to pay all their own travel costs, accommodation and take annual leave. As witnessed by the number of participants, (over 400) subsidies by the Alliance to such participants or others would be money well spent.

For the Ottawa-Hull region an evening was set aside before the Conference for all attendees to get acquainted and bring up common health and safety concerns. Such as it was, it was a good idea, but no briefing material was available at that time on the issues. Even the convention 'kit', I felt was limited to material already in circulation, general pamphlets and an itinerary. During the workshops we did receive background sheets, but not enough for those of us who have done considerable study of subjects already. (e.g. VDTs)

What I have just found fault in was made up for by the excellent quality of speakers and workshop leaders. Working within restrictive time constraints they provided good practical ideas, sound theory and imaginative inspiration to the delegates. On the subjects I participated in:

Indoor Pollution

This was easily the most relevant area of health and safety to many attending. A good outline of the subject in plenary session was followed in the workshop with intense activity by delegates wishing to share common problems and to recommend actions. This was especially true concerning smoking in offices.

Know your Rights

I am happy to see that the Alliance has not forgotten to see the place of passionate ideals in dealing with health and safety. Bob Sass in his imitable style gave all of us a glimpse of why - really why - we are involved as we are.

Workers' Compensation

This old subject is always in need of clarification for our members. The speaker progression of Labour Canada to OFL to PSAC provided, in my opinion, the best possible concise policy discussions of this complicated matter.

Health and Safety Committees

Considering course / information already available on this subject, it was hard to make a presentation worthwhile. Instead of outlining the "hard facts", perhaps we could have done something more dynamic in workshops.

Video Display Terminals

This was an eagerly awaited subject and it was well organized. Karel Marha in both workshops (ours anyway) and plenary session brought us closer to a technical understanding of this health hazard than we would have by reading articles/studies only.

The solid emphasis on ergonomics by Geoff Wright was good because it pointed out the non-technical hazards of VDTs and showed us that remedies are available. Workshops for VDTs, I feel demanded too much of participants in the time available. This is not to express regret though as the key points were enunciated well.

The concept of having displays at this time of conference is worthwhile. I was appreciative of information provided by the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety on their activities and publications. Along with government and private groups - perhaps other unions would be willing to show by "display" how they are tackling health and safety concerns.

The theme of our two days, "participate for change" represented the understated message to all delegates. The message, woven throughout the fabric of our deliberations, to know your rights, organize and take action, provided me with invaluable insight of health and safety concerns outside of my workplace and even some in my own. The example here is indoor pollution. We need to know our rights concerning this hazard, get together with management to deal with the problems and understand the nature (of how for example, ventilation systems work and are cleaned) to be effective.

My thanks to the Component for their support in my participating at the PSAC Health and Safety Conference. Considering this was the first of its kind, all signs point to a success for our deliberations. We have all learned a great deal which will be passed on for the protection and service of our members.