

Local 70125

external affairs



PLEASE CIRCULATE

VEUILLEZ CIRCULER

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 15, 1995

ASSEMBLER MENSUELLE
LUNDI, LE 15 MAI 1995

7:30 P.M.
246 QUEEN STREET
ROOM 202

7:30 P.M.
246 RUE QUEEN
CHAMBRE 202

ASSEMBLEE

MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
4. MINUTES OF APRIL 95
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM ✓
MINUTES
6. CORRESPONDENCE ✓
7. REPORTS
Executive ✓
Committees
8. NEW BUSINESS
9. *at Grassville*
photo per
ADJOURNMENT

1. OUVERTURE DE LA RÉUNION
2. APPEL NOMINAL DES
DIRIGEANTS
3. PROPOSÉ ORDRE DU JOUR.
4. COMPTE-RENDU DU AVRIL 95
ASSEMBLÉE MENSUELLE
5. DÉBAT DU COMPTE-RENDU
6. CORRESPONDANCE
7. RAPPORTS
Executif
Comités
8. AFFAIRES NOUVELLES
9. FERMETURE

Section Locale 70125

affaires exterieures

PSAC LOCAL 70125

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

MAY 15, 1995

1. The meeting was called to order by President Dubé at 7:30 p.m.

2. PRESENT: E. Dubé, C. Pyl, P. Coupland, J. Davidson, L. Cundell, J. Kruithof

ABSENT: G. Doherty, for personal reasons

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA M/Cundell S/Pyl Carried

The following items were added under "NEW BUSINESS":

- a) Fax Machine
- b) Photocopier

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

J. Davidson mentioned, with reference to his report, that he did not have a meeting with different people at PAC HQ, but rather had been on the phone with Mary Ramsay. P. Coupland stated that a meeting had been mentioned on the tape and was recorded as such.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Added to list: APR 28 - Letter from S. Franey.

FSD INPUT CALL: Deadline date is in June. With respect to ensuring that members abroad know about this matter, it was suggested that J. Kruithof speak to PAFSO to see if a telex could be done jointly with them via Staff Relations. It had been handled like this previously.

LETTER FROM S. FRANEY: President Dubé read out his letter, which covered several matters. She also read out Daryl Bean's response concerning members overseas not being able to vote. If we hoped to have any influence on Bill C-76, the vote had to be conducted by the end of March at the latest. Also, nobody can predict how quickly any piece of legislation would be dealt with. If normal process had been used, vote probably would not have taken place until end of April or early May. In 1991, the vote was done within the

proper time frame. With respect to the other subjects mentioned in his letter, President Dubé expressed concern that certain things were taken out of context.

LETTER FROM SPSO/PROULX re Limiting the Area for a NCR Competition: President Dubé attended a meeting with D. McCarthy and G. Doherty on exclusions. Concurrence was reached as the competition really concerned the National Capital Region.

6. REPORTS:

a) President's Report

M/Dubé S/Cundell Carried

President Dubé mentioned that A. Sipos is officially the EO Rep and P. Coupland is the Alternate EO Rep. For the EO Conference, to be held October 15-18, 1995 in Winnipeg, there could be six applicants per region. Preference would be given to the disabled. She asked that we contact her if we knew of any disabled members interested in attending.

b) First Vice-President's Report

M/Pyl S/Cundell Carried

President Dubé mentioned, in response to his report, that she had approached Staff Relations, requesting that a committee be set up with respect to the question of tradeoffs. Members interested in taking early retirement who meet the criteria for the package should be able to take early retirement. Several members have already indicated that they wish to take early retirement. She intends to follow up on this on May 16. She further mentioned that the chronological clock (6 month period) does not start to tick until the members have received their notices in writing. She will ensure that employees get what they are entitled to.

c) Second Vice-President's Report

M/Coupland S/Kruithof Carried

The Chairperson for the Rotational Secretaries Consultative Group, F. Maurice resigned and has been replaced by M. Hiseler. D. Thompson was elected as Vice-Chairman. The Group has sent out a reminder to all secretaries to try and get appraisals done on time,

and will also try and find ways to jolt managers into completing them on a timely basis. The Group also sent out a reminder to us to complete the questionnaire (I:\CORPINFO\CAREER\SPV (CARRIERE in French)).

President Dubé stated that she had received plenty of feedback from both rotational and nonrotational secretaries. Nonrotationals wondered why they were not included in this questionnaire. There was also concern as to the questions; for example, Do you write speeches? In other words, it was felt that this questionnaire was more for senior CR's or AS's. P. Coupland also expressed this concern and mentioned that she could even see this questionnaire being given to FS's as well, but definitely not support staff. She found it very hard to complete and in fact was not able to do so. The deadline was very tight - May 10.

Further concern was expressed as to what management would use the questionnaires for; you had to put your name at the top of each page. It was felt that management could use the questionnaire to see who to keep and who to make surplus, as well as determining what else to add to SCY's job packages, without increasing their pay. P. Coupland mentioned that in C Tower, there is now "garbage duty". Everyone must shred classified waste, using the shredders provided. President Dubé mentioned that there is now only one person, not two, who pick up classified waste throughout the building. P. Coupland also mentioned (rightly or wrongly) that this person gets paid more than a secretary!!

d) Third Vice-President's Report

M/Davidson S/Cundell Carried

He took a course on filing done by E-MAIL and the C-2 course with respect to classified correspondence. The logging in/out procedure seemed to be unnecessarily complicated for C-2; you constantly needed a password.

e) Treasurer's Report

M/Cundell S/Pyl Carried

April statement was presented. There were no questions raised. Executive provided their names, addresses and phone numbers so that forms with respect to the auditing of last year's books could be completed.

President Dubé asked when we would be moving our money to the Royal Bank. C. Pyl mentioned that he would set

up a meeting with the manager as quickly as possible. He also suggested that we put all or part of our money into monthly GICs or term deposits.

f) FSD Committee Report

M/Kruithof S/Coupland Carried

There are ongoing discussions with NJC. There have been consultations with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation with respect to how rental rates are arrived at. The purpose is to ensure that members overseas get fair treatment, that they would pay rents based on market rates in Ottawa. It is expected that Dave Dunn will replace W. Halena as the PSAC person on the NJC.

J. Kruithof passed out copies of an article in the Citizen concerning the difficulty in getting permanent jobs and that people are discouraged and frightened. He also mentioned that he will follow up on the question of LES getting preference over Canadians for jobs at post. President Dubé mentioned that the press tends to back up the government, printing articles that point out to waste in management at posts abroad, and the travel scams. What is left out is the various hardships faced by employees abroad, especially in hardship posts.

g) Health & Safety Committee

M/Pyl S/Coupland Carried

C. Pyl mentioned that Doug Woods, Director of HQ Admin. Services, would be the new management co-chair. The Committee is functioning quite well in general.

The second week of June will be Health and Safety Week. There will be notices in PANORAMA and SIGNET. He said that next week, the agenda would be finalized.

At Place Vanier, the recent meeting was quite interesting. There was a petition signed by 50-60% of members at Place Vanier re air quality, and it got the attention of the building manager and Public Works.

President Dubé expressed concern about the number of workplace injuries. C. Pyl said that this item took up quite a bit of time at the meeting; accident reports were seen and reviewed. Management gave assurances that they would investigate. A preliminary investigation revealed that the waxing of the floors was not done properly; not enough drying time was

given. This will be redone, properly, in the evenings.

Ensuring that health and safety concerns are addressed and dealt with is a slow process; to be effective, a higher profile and financial commitments are needed (there was money for new marble for reception counter!). It is important to keep pressing this question.

h) Membership Committee: NIL to report.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) Fax Machine

L. Cundell mentioned that the fax machine had broken down, that nothing was getting out or being received from the missions. The machine is now operational, hopefully at no cost. Savin Company, who services machines in the Department, will also service ours.

MOTION: M/Cundell S/Pyl Carried

That L. Cundell be reimbursed for loss of salary for 1.5 days (approx. \$150.00) for spending time at the Local Office with the Savin representative.

b) Photocopier

It was felt that the Local needed a new photocopier; the one we have now is slow and the quality of copies is not very good. President Dubé will contact Savin Company. It was suggested that once we have the new machine, the old one could be sold off to the best bidder or else given to charity.

MOTION: M/Cundell S/Coupland Carried

That the Local set aside \$5000.00 for the purchase of a new photocopier.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT Submitted by E. B. Dubé

Since I was unable, for personal reasons, to attend our last regular monthly meeting I will review a portion of what took place since the March meeting.

As you all recall the Alliance vote took place and the response to that left us dismayed, to say the least. I addressed a letter to Brother Doherty asking for his assistance vis-à-vis voting for Outside Canada and received a reply from Brother Bean.

Brother Doherty and I attended a meeting concerning the cuts and, once again and fortunately for us, we will not be hit as severely as some other Departments. I participated in a Conference call regarding this subject and Locals with the National Component devised a letter to be sent to the USSEA or any of the ADMs requesting being considered for retirement based on the offer from Treasury Board. To date, nine Members have sent such a letter. There is also talk of setting up a Committee, Union and Management to oversee and assist, whenever possible, those on the surplus list to ensure that they are being treated in a fair and equitable manner and that they receive all the benefits to which they are entitled. Also attended a meeting with Brother Doherty concerning positions in the Department which are excluded. The list was very similar to those of previous years and although it would have been nice to reduce the number of excluded positions, it was also nice to know that the list was not increased.

Goods news is that Anna Sipos, in Hong Kong, has been informed that she is now the official EO Representative for Outside Canada and I am happy to say that Sister Peggy Coupland, Headquarters, is now the Alternate Representative. Finally, that is settled. Have been communicating with Anna and she will be attending the June 15 to 18 meeting in Ottawa. As regards the EO Conference itself, it would appear that there will be only six spots for each Region and that preference will be given to the disabled. Any Member in attendance who knows of a disabled employee who would like to participate in the Conference, please have them contact me so that I can register their name through the Vice-President of our Region and make Anna aware so as to ensure their attending.

Distributed a good number of the PSAC leave charts in our building and the Hull Offices. Brother Pyl picked some up for Members in his building and, I am now making arrangements to have some sent to Missions abroad. I will however, require some assistance to fold the charts and prepare envelopes for them. We should set up a time and place soon to do this. Also, a think tank is in order which will enable us to devise a way to have all Members abroad send a message to L. Fucile of the Component in order to enable the Component to communicate rapidly with our Members. Suggestions and assistance appreciated.

May 15, 1995

