

GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, January 24th, 2024 Eagle View
Elementary, Port Hardy – 5:00 pm.
MINUTES

Attendance:

Jason Voth	VINTA	Keon Birney	PHSS
Winona Waldron	BCTF Exe	Sarah Soltau	FRES
Julie Nielsen	EVES	Melanie Demoe	PHSS
Holly Kunstar	PHSS	Corey Weber	PHSS
Ricki McCrae	NISS	Nimfa Casson	NISS
Sherri Williams	PHSS	Darcy House	PHSS
Michelle Sedola	EVES	Robyn Gordon	PHSS
Jeanine Nicholson	SVES	Myra Connaty	FRES
Kevin McGhee	PHSS	Teresa Wadhams	CHES
Heather Miller	EVES	Kevin Ogren	SES
Courtney Wall	PHSS	Joel Dyck	PHSS
Shawn Gough	SES	Eliza Haugrud	PHSS
Angela Hagen	EVES		

1. Call to Order. Shawn Gough, Chair: 5:09 PM.
2. Review/adoption of agenda dated January 24th, 2024.

MOVED: McCrae/Sedola

That the agenda of January 24th, 2024, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Review/adoption of minutes dated September 27th, 2023.

MOVED: Nicholson/McCrae

That the minutes of September 27th, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Business:

- a) Commitment to Solidarity read as reminder

b) Guest Speaker – Winona Waldron

Touched on Key points: preparing next round of bargaining, training happening soon, focusing on teacher shortage but trying to focus more on the classroom conditions, reporting order needs to be made clearer so that every district is doing the same thing, it should not be adding more to their current workload, My Ed is a nightmare that needs to be updated and also made the same across all districts, insufficient evidence needs to be clarified, talk about safety in the classrooms was covered with class-size and composition mention as key points, Work safe BC was brought up as a resource of help, but work safe BC does not recognise children as workers therefore they do not help with overcrowding, administrators and councillors are too busy in classrooms teaching to get their own jobs completed, Childcare on site has shown many benefits.

c) Election of BCTF AGM Delegate

Shawn Gough and Courtney Wall have put their names in to be the delegate.

MOTION: McCrae/Casson

To accept Eliza Haugrud, Melanie Demoe and Michelle Sedola as scrutineers.

CARRIED

Courtney Wall was voted in to be the BCTF AGM Delegate.

MOTION: House/Haugrud

That the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED

d) Constitution and Bylaws – Policies and Procedures

There are minimal changes to the Constitution and By-laws. 3.3 added or designate. 5.1 edited the wording to Health, Safety and Wellness, Political Action Contact. 5.7 changed his/her to their. 6.1.3 was stroked out due to not having any isolated schools any longer. 8.1 added the word governed. 9.1 edited the wording to reflect today's terms. Health, Safety and Wellness, Political Action Contact. 11.1 removed the word

annual as it would be very expensive to do one annually and unnecessary. Changed the wording of competent accountant to more appropriate language. The Executive Committee shall arrange for an audit, or external review of books of the Association, such audit/review to be made by a CPA on a regular basis as determined by the Executive Committee.

Changes made to the Policies and Procedures of Vancouver Island North Teachers' Association are as follows.

B.1 Child minder was used instead of babysitter.

B.2 Child minder was used instead of babysitter.

B.3 Child minder was used instead of babysitter. It was noted that Childcare should be able to be provided by a preferred childminder and covered by VINTA. B.3 That Childminding expenses for Executive Members be claimable when childcare is not provided by VINTA or the BCTF.

C.1 updated language to state VINTA property.

D.1.1 removed Woss

D1.5 updated it to governed by Robert's Rules,

D.2.2 removed provincial and added ensure the

D.2.2 added a 1. A provincial agreement will be ratified subject to the procedures set out by the BCTF.

D.2.4 Reworded to make more sense, removed in the District. D.2.4 District Seniority will be a prime consideration in determining appointments.

D.4.1. 2 Removing Draw up to Have and added available.

D.4.2 Rewording by removing valid and putting in deemed valid.

Under Procedures, The President Shall: and The Bargaining Chair will: instead of rep in lines 4. It is now rep(s). In line 6 removing the .'s between BCTF.

Some Further Points:

1 and 3 Fixed the wording to make it more clear and positive.

E.5.3 added and composition.

E.7 Fixed the numbering.

E.8.4 was struck.

E.7.5 was struck.

The Pro-D Committee should decide and not be bound by these policies and procedures. The Pro-D committee has their own set of policies and procedures.

F. CUPE STRIKE

(1) In the event of a CUPE Strike VINTA members shall not cross picket lines.

This was reworded from VINTA members would not do any work normally done by employees on strike or by persons refusing to not cross picket lines.

(2) was struck as it was repetitive.

(3) teacher was changed to member and 'or who follow resolutions 1 and 2' was removed.

(4) shall was added prior was removed will legally was added and legally and morally was removed, teacher was changed to member, an s was added to refuse and at an

SD85 worksite was added.

G.1. ', or their designates,' was added.

G.2 was struck.

G.3 written was removed.

H.1. the procedures were updated to our current procedures for meetings.

H.3. was struck.

H numbering was changed.

J.3. was updated to current procedures.

J.4. removed as follows to negotiated at the time of hire with the Executive Committee:

1) was changed to now state 'An annual review of the contract is recommended to stay current with BC Labour Standards.'

2) That the VINTA Secretary be encouraged to engage in Professional Development activities which the Association will fund to a maximum of the annual Pro-D allotment for members.

3) was struck.

J.5. was struck. There is no one to cover the secretary at this time, the position is not full-time.

J.6. was struck.

K.1. 'in good standing' was added. 'for a position as a Table Officer or Committee Chairperson' was added or changed to match current language. In good standing meant that they were a current member with no current reprimands against them.

K.1.1 Why can people get nominated from the floor if we have a deadline, if you can get nominated from the floor there is no point of a deadline. The point of a deadline is so that the names can be published and people can see who is running and have an idea of what they stand for prior to attending the AGM. You cannot nominate yourself from the floor. If it is a vacant position you should be able to fill from the floor. K.1.1.

was changed to 'Nominations, by self or other, for positions of Table Officers and Committee Chairpersons will open on March 1 of each year and will close on April 5 of that year.

K.1.2 was added and states 'Nominations will also be accepted from the floor of the AGM for positions for which no members nominated.

K.2. was changed to 'All candidates nominated prior to April 5 shall have their names publicized in the agenda of the AGM.'

K.3. was changed to 'Members who are not elected to a particular position may be nominated for any position for which no members are nominated.

K.4 renumbering.

K.4.1 was struck.

K.5. 6 years was stated to be too long and would like to see the 2year extension removed, it was discussed what would happen if no one showed interest in the position the vice president would have to step up into the position, this could cause the vice president position to be difficult to fill with that prospect in mind. Would like to see more opportunities for the position to be sought after by other members. K.5. was added because there was no policy in effect, the president did not have a time limit before this

e) Getting VINTA bargaining team together.
Michelle Sedola, Joel Dyck, Melonie Demoe and Nimfa Casson.
Next week in person bargaining training for BCTF members, March is the deadline for locals to submit their priorities and resolutions to the bargaining conference, April EC committee makes recommendations to the bargaining conference bargaining collaboration day for locals. May 22-23 Bargaining conference determines provincial bargaining priorities.

f) Judicial Committee
Kevin Ogren's term is up at the end of this year. Ogren assists members that do not agree with the ruling they have received or works with them to get restorative justice.

MOTION: Voth/Mel

That Kevin Ogren is endorsed as a member of the judicial committee.

MOVED

5. Reports

a) President Report

This Jason Voth's last year as the local president, he is hoping that members step up to take his place, he has enjoyed his time and is impressed with all the members and the work that they do.

b) Treasurer's Report

i. Current Financial Report

We have received some of the grants, things have got more expensive but we have money to cover those expenses at this time.

MOVED: Soltau /McCrae

That VINTA approve the current financial report.

CARRIED

c) Professional Development Report

Collaboration grants have been a huge success and they have all now been claimed. Remember to always ask your Pro-D rep in each school how the process works as admin is not always clear. School based Pro-D in February,

end of May there is another District Day it will be land based and at many different locations throughout Port Hardy.

d) Bargaining Report

There is an on-going grievance in the process right now.

e) Social Justice Report

Every school should have a SOGI rep and if you have any concerns you can bring them to their attention or get in contact with Nimfa. There are also grants for certain projects and if you have an idea or question contact Nimfa.

f) Health, Safety and Wellness Report

When reporting injuries, it is encouraged to use the online method for a quick and easy process. It creates a paper trail that can be used further down the line if you have any issues from the injury. If the injury is caused by a child either indirectly or directly a incident report should also be filled out.

g) Teacher on Call Report

Wish we has more. We have applied for a grant to show appreciation to our TTOC's that we do have.

h) Aboriginal Educators' Contact Report

February 7th Drum designing - an event at the port hardy recreation center
February 27th is Pink Shirt day

i) Local Representative

RA Next weekend Sun/Mon.

j) Political Action

Thankfully we are not in a politically radical area so if you would like to put something in the local newspapers, positive ideas around any school activities that you want to show off.

Orders of the day were called by Michelle Sedola at 6:37pm.

6. No other business

7. Adjournment