Winter 2024

# NCR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

***February 3, 2024 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.***
***Westin Ottawa and Online Via Zoom***

NCR·RCN
Public Service Alliance of Canada
Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada

## Meeting called to order

Meeting chairperson Alex Silas welcomed the participants to the Winter 2024 National Capital Region Council meeting. He also shared some online and in-person meeting rules and acknowledged that we are currently on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Algonquin people.

Alex introduced Grandmother Irene Crompton to provide the opening for the meeting.

Kenny Kashirahamwe and Karl Lafrenière were designated as the Harassment Coordinators for the meeting.

Alex welcomed the new members of the NCRCE: Leslie Pamphile and Candice McMullen.

## Credentials report

65 delegates
16 observers
7 staff
2 guests

The credentials report was moved by Diane Girouard and seconded by Kerry Gervais. The motion carried.

## Moment of silence

A moment of silence was held to acknowledge those individuals who have passed since the last in-person meeting in 2023.

## Review and adoption of the proposed agenda

The adoption of the agenda was moved by Christine Griffin. It was seconded by André Miller. The motion carried.

## Approval of the minutes of October 7, 2023

Lisa Gregory moved to approve the minutes from the National Capital Region Council meeting on October 7, 2023. Karen Kenniphaas seconded. The motion carried.

## NPF strike update – Julie Laska

Julia Laska from the Non-Public Funds (NPF) Ottawa local presented an update on their job action. They have been on strike for 20 days. The strike is the result of long-standing unresolved issues. Employees are facing a lot of issues with the employer, including: salary, respect and dignity in their work. The employer is not responsive to MPs who have reached out about the strike, saying that they don't answer to them. Members are encouraged to send a letter to their MP and there will be a special event on February 7 to put pressure on DND about the strike.

## Motion from Tin Tang

Tin Tang made a motion for PSAC-NCR to make a $3,000 donation to the NPF strike fund from the REVP budget. The motion was seconded by Christine Griffin. The motion carried.

Following the motion, other donations were made by delegates:

- Christine Griffin donated $3,000 from her local.
- Noha Haydari donated $500 from her local.
- Local 70005 donated $1,000.
- Ruth Lau MacDonald donated $500 from the Ottawa Area Council.
- Alastair Holmes donated from $500 from UNDE 70654.
- James Valois donated $500 from CIU.
- Rubin Kooner donated $1,000 on behalf of UHEW.
- Local 70713 donated $500.
- GSU donated $1,000.
- Local 70165 donated $500.
- Charles Khoury donated $1,000 on behalf of CIU 7006.
- Bruce Roy donated $1,000.
- Jade Conrad donated $1,000 on behalf of MDAC.
- Matt Johnson donated $500.
- Gilles Lavigne pledged to provide coffee to the picket line on behalf of the OHS committee.
- CEIU 70705 donated $500.
- Members also contributed cash to a hat that was passed around the floor.

- Kerry Gervais motioned for PSAC-NCR to add $7,000 to the $3,000 collected by other delegates for a total of $10,000 being contributed to the NPF strike fund. Chantal Rajotte seconded. The motion carried.

The donations to the NPF strike fund totalled $21,752.24.

## REVP report*

Ruth Lau MacDonald, Alternate REVP, took over chairing the meeting while Alex presented his report.

Alex presented his report that was sent ahead of time to delegates and was also made available online.

- Alex talked about the NFP strike which is on its 20th consecutive day. He encouraged everyone to engage in the picket line on Labelle Street.
- It went from a hot labour summer to a hot labour winter.
- PSAC members are fighting hard for fair wages, respect in the workplace, and dignity. Alex couldn't be more honoured to be REVP during a time of such widespread courage, determination, and resoluteness.
- The striking members of PSAC-UNDE 70682 are undertaking a breathtaking fight for fair wages and have been increasing the pressure on their employer by escalating their strike actions.
- PSAC-CIU declared an impasse at the FB table.
- The Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS) workers, workers at the Senate and workers with the House of Commons Operational Group also declared impasse. They are asking for compensation from damages due to the Phoenix pay system and the same settlement won by Treasury Board workers in the spring.

Alex ended his report. Ruth invited delegates to ask questions.

- Chantal Rajotte suggested that the NCR put up resources (pamphlet, website) for members to know where to go get support information about mental health.
- Christine Griffin suggested that emails from committees be sent to all members instead of just the executives.

Alex motioned to accept the REVP report. Diane Girouard seconded. The motion carried.

Alex Silas resumed chairing the meeting.

## Motion from Alaistair Holmes

Alaistair Holmes made a motion to have Julie Laska as a delegate instead of an observer.

## Lunch break

## 2nd credentials report

74 delegates
5 observers
7 staff
3 guests

Diane Girouard motioned to accept the credentials report. Kerry Gervais seconded. The motion carried.

## Alternate REVP Report

Ruth Lau MacDonald presented the Alternate REVP report:

- On September 14, young workers at the National Young Workers Conference elected their delegates to go to National Convention.
- Ruth attended the following events:
    - National Equity Conference (October)
    - Ontario Federation of Labour Convention
    - International Day for Persons with Disabilities
    - PSAC Leadership Training in December
    - Chaired elections for UHEW 70008
    - One rally and two interviews

Ruth motioned to accept the Alternate REVP report. Ryan Ward seconded. The motion carried.

## NCR financial treasurer's update

## Committee reports

Kerry Gervais motioned to accept all committee and area council reports in one block. Lisa Gregory seconded. The motion carried.

## Member-at-Large reports

Stephen Richards motioned to accept all member-at-large and separate employers' representative reports in one block. André Miller seconded. The motion carried.

## Meeting adjourned.