

ORWC Meeting Minutes 9 April 2026 (Virtual Zoom)

Attendees

Burcu – Chair – co-host
 Sharon Odell (DCL 70397) – Secretary
 Holly Trojan (UNDE 70673) – Treasurer
 Rose Touhey – PSAC NCR – host

Anne-Marie Bostic
 Joeli Reardon
 Zarina Khan
 Tracey Evans – UNDE 70673
 Yagusha Bondar – UCTE 70703
 Edith Nganga
 Meghan Forbes – Local 70672
 Lisa Gregory – UNE 70381
 Zainab Kadhem – Local 70380

5:32 PM	<p>Open Meeting Land Acknowledgment</p> <p>Any amendments to the Agenda? No</p> <p>Motion to approve the Agenda Motioned: Anne-Marie Bostic Seconded: Tracey Evans Passed: Yes / No</p>	
5:35 PM	<p>Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from the 12 Feb. 2026 meeting of the ORWC</p> <p>Motioned: Zarina Khan Seconded: Holly Trojan Passed: Yes / No</p>	

5:40 PM

Chair's Report

Re-cap of 12 March 2026 ORWC AGM - The members of the ORWC executive team were renewed, as acclaimed, Burcu (President/ Chair), Natalie Dumais (Vice President), Holly Trojan (Treasurer) and Sharon Odell (Secretary); Winners of the Feminist Trivia were Phoebe W. Jackie M and Lisa N. They each received a \$30 gift certificate to Second Cup.

WFA Budget 2025 – Canadian Government – We had recent town hall update meetings on 23, 24 & 25 March. Available info. through PSAC – education on workforce adjustment (WFA) can be found online through the PSAC main website. Link to PSAC WFA Resources webpage; [Workforce Adjustment | Public Service Alliance of Canada](#)

For those who missed the townhall please view the recording found on the PSAC website. Link below. WFA Recording <https://psacunion.ca/national-townhalls-workforce-adjustment-remote-work>

As of 30 March 2026, emails have been received by some public service members from Government of Canada “Public Service Compensation Email Notifications”, which includes further details.

This past week in April 2026 Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) letters have been sent out from the Government of Canada to all public service employees who fit within an eligibility parameter, who may be eligible for ERI, to inform that they may apply as of now until deadline of 24 July 2026. Those public service staff applications that are accepted, must retire by Jan. 20,2027.

PSAC continues to raise serious concerns over ongoing public service cuts. Also, PSAC is grieving the early retirement incentive, because the employer is bargaining directly with PSAC members and is seen as interference, also other hidden penalties have been noted. It is advised to speak to your union component, about letters received for ERI.

During townhalls in late March 23,24,25 PSAC expressed it is not a good deal, because it is interfering with the collective agreement progress. To date, in early April, as reported in the Ottawa Citizen, 3,700 public service members have taken the ERI. PSAC reminds all that if they do, to do so with caution. Complete research and options first prior to agreeing.

ORWC Financial Report 2026

Treasurer Holly T. reported on committee finances, for the recent 2026 budget review of expenditures. The new projected balance for ORWC events and projects in 2026 included; OFL pins **\$212**, the AGM 12 March Feminist Trivia (x3 at \$30 each prize gift cards) **\$90**, note the dinner was cancelled. Craft-In 6 March 2026 3 kinds of crafting materials (Michael's was a total of \$172.07, Dollarama was \$25.71) total **\$197.78** (light refreshments were not budgeted, and need to be motioned for approval at this meeting, or **\$95.80** could be transferred from chair discretionary fund?)

Motion to approve \$95.80 retro-actively for the refreshments purchased for the past OFL/ ORWC Craft-in event **6 March 2026**

Motioned: [Edith Nganga](#)

Seconded: [Zarina Khan](#)

Passed: **Yes** / No

Motion to approve \$100 for the refreshments at the next hybrid ORWC Craft-in event **10 April 2026**

Motioned: [Sharon Odell](#)

Seconded: [Holly Trojan](#)

Passed: **Yes** / No

Looking Ahead:

10 April 2026 (6-8pm, Fri.) hybrid craft-in 'Bitch n' Stitch' with ORWC: At 233 Gilmour Street. Bring your own craft. All NCR PSAC women members & their family, including children are welcome to join. Sharing OFL pins. Bring own snacks, and to share.

A \$100 budget was tabled for each future monthly ORWC craft-in event. It was noted that we could buy in bulk ie. drinks and have them stored at PSAC HQ for repeat use.

Motioned: [Sharon Odell](#)

Seconded: [Edith Nganga](#)

Passed: **Yes** / No

Open to allies? Other Equity committees MDAC, Pride, RMAC- change from women and kids to all gender going forward. Tabled now for decision next meeting in May, whether to welcome other committee allies to every second craft-in event. Additionally, to clarify boundaries for just women only crafting evenings, every second month.

14 April 2026 Equal Pay Day ‘# Care Counts’ Campaign

Kit: Focuses on building childcare in Ontario, as we are lagging behind other provinces. Poster was discussed and call to please wear red clothing on 14 April in support of equal pay for childcare workers.

PSAC 2025 National Equity Conferences 3-7 May 2026

at Royal Bank of Canada Convention Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Deadline to register was 31 Oct. 2025, deadline for resolution submissions was 14 Nov. 2025. Results of delegates were sent out in February. (Travel between 2-8 May). Rose, Zarina, Holly and Burcu are attending from ORWC membership. Will share feedback and learning materials upon return.

5-7 June 2026 10th Triennial PSAC NCR AGM, Hilton Lac

Leamy, Gatineau QC. Review of delegates occurring presently, with selection no later than April 20th. Most regional positions are up for voting. Over 300 potential participants have registered.

Naming & Bylaws Committees, Film Screening

Committee – creation of volunteer groups.

Name Change committee, would present ideas of a new name at the next AGM March 2027; No volunteers enlisted for this project yet.

Bylaw committee, to review terms of reference (TOR) and turn them into bylaws. Bylaws are a better investment of our time. Volunteers; [Zarina K.](#), [Lisa G.](#) and [Burcu G.](#)

Film screening committee, Polytechnique was very triggering, hope to select a light-hearted film this time. Possibly have a panel to talk about the movie with question and answer afterwards. A committee to decide where and when it will be, Q&A guest(s). Volunteers; [Joeli R.](#) and [Sharon O.](#)

It was tabled that volunteers for these committees have booked rooms for planning/ event within Wylie or McGrath rooms – with provision of food for the day and transportation provided.

ORWC Retreat 2027

Initial planning budget for a retreat is \$5,000. If we do not spend all of the budget in this year 2026, the budget for the retreat might be more.

We need to continue our discussion as to when this event will be held. The following approximate dates were table for deciding in May ([Oct.](#) or [Nov. 2026](#) & [Jan.](#) or [Feb. 2027](#)). Also, where this retreat will take place? To save on budget could use rooms at PSAC HQ. Everyone's input continues to be welcome.

29 April 2026 (5:30-8:30pm, Wed.) Water Colour Event

Some ORWC members won the water colouring event tickets during the prize draw at the Women Regional Conference in October 2025. The date for this class with [Lisa G.](#), is planned 29 April 2026. However, it was discussed that the OAC AGM is on at the same timing and same date. [Lisa](#) has proposed another date on a weekend for those prize winners, who cannot attend during a week evening, on 29 April.

April is Cancer Prevention Awareness Month, to also raise awareness preventing cancer disease in women. Encourage early detection, PAP. A gentle reminder for women to complete their tests and be aware of their health.

	<p>ORWC to have own Zoom account or not? It was decided to not have a ORWC separate zoom account to save on cost. Rose offered to create an open link without need to register, so that Zoom can run for some ORWC meetings. Also, PSAC might possibly have a free account for us.</p> <p>Next ORWC Meeting on 14 May 2026, Thurs. – online Zoom</p>	
<p>6:30 PM Vote</p>	<p>Action Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Zoom Account for ORWC – decided to not proceed. 2) Refreshments Budget for ORWC Craft-In ‘Bitch n’ Stitch’ 10 April – Motion of \$100 passed. 3) Film Screening Evening Budget for popcorn, drinks Tabled but, will decide next meeting in May. <p>There were no further motions.</p> <p>Round Table : Open floor & Closing remarks April is Stress Awareness month https://speakingofwomenshealth.com/podcasts/april-is-stress-awareness-month#:~:text=April%20is%20recognized%20as%20National,significantly%20higher%20stress%20than%20men.</p> <p>Healthcare cuts in Ottawa – in news today, 3% Ottawa Hospital staff to be cut.</p> <p>Alto Train – expense and environmental concern, cut into farmland, change landscape. Sign of progress but, huge drawbacks with costs. Lack of priority provincially and conflict with federal initiatives. Health and education should be funded first.</p> <p>Meeting closed – 6:36pm</p>	
	<p>Want to get in touch between meetings? Email us: orwc@psac-afpc.com</p>	

