

Draft Minutes
BEC Monthly call
Jan 12, 2016

Attendees:

John O'Connor
Harry Mesh
Wendy Martin
Michael D'Souza
Natalie Clancy
Annick Forest
Marc-Philippe Laurin
Chantal Payant
Gaynette Spafford
Jonathan Spence
Naomi Robinson
Saida Ouchaou-Ozarowski
David Croft

Regrets:

Wil Fundal
Michael Robert

Meeting was called to order at 7:32pm.

Marc-Philippe Laurin asked BEC members to read the statement of human rights principles silently.

MOTION: to adopt the agenda.

Additions: CCSB query from Jonathan, motion from Naomi regarding staff rep hiring, update on JE from Annick.

M/S Forest/Mesh CARRIED

MOTION: to adopt the minutes from the October face-to-face meeting.

A couple of small corrections were noted.

M/S O'Connor/Clancy CARRIED

MOTION: to adopt the minutes from the November 10, 2015 call.

M/S O'Connor/Robinson CARRIED

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

MPL welcomed BEC members to 2016. He noted recent meetings with V-P Josee Girard, and said a number of issues had been discussed including the Rubin report. He said another meeting is planned in January on Rubin and on PMSD. He said that with a number of changes in management, there has been little movement nationally on PMSD. He also said the BEC needs to find dates for the next face-to-face meeting. He said that he is still working with Girard to set up a Port Credit-type session.

OLD BUSINESS

Trust fund

MPL said that Lise Lareau has proposed some motions to move this item along, and this discussion will be pended to the next call. Jonathan Spence said he offered on the last call to head up a committee to look at this issue and see what needs to be done.

SCRC Petition

We did not take a position on this, and the issue is now finished.

MOTION - Spafford/Mesh

"The BEC insist that the national office respect the wishes of the Branch Executive members and stop issuing any further comments on CBC matters without the express approval of the Branch Executive."

The BEC had a general discussion about communications coming from the national office. Spafford said that the branch president is in charge of branch business, and this motion would send a message to the national office. Forest said it should be a sign of respect for the office to let the BEC know of communiques that are being issued, if not actually consulting with the BEC. Chantal Payant said it could be difficult to have every communique approved by the BEC. Spence said sometimes news happens very quickly, and collaboration should be the key. MPL said he worries that the branch's power and authority is being eroded.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION - Spence/Payant

Whereas there the SCRC represents 3,000 Radio-Canada employees in Québec and New Brunswick. Whereas we have similar interests.

Whereas we are stronger when we work together.

Whereas the CBC Branch Executive has not had direct contact with SCRC

I move that the CBC Branch invite the President of SCRC to our next in-person Branch meeting to hear their perspective on the current state of affairs at CBC and the challenges ahead.

Spence said he would like the BEC to meet with the SCRC president, to hear about their issues and build solidarity. After a general discussion, it was agreed that the BEC could extend an invitation to the SCRC president to attend for a session at our next face-to-face.

MOTION CARRIED

Petty Cash Funds in locations

MPL said there will be a meeting with people from finance this week to update the situation.

Welcome to the Guild booklets

Sean Laughlin sent out a list of items that need updating in the booklets, and indicated he would continue compiling items. He said he will then assess how the work will get done. Spence said he is helping, and D'Souza indicated he could also help, if needed.

Temps

D'Souza noted that the use of temps is becoming a big issue again, and needs to be dealt with at a national level. He said the NGC should be asked to establish a sub-committee again to look at this. MDS said he is getting a lot of calls from the West. Spence said Vancouver might be a good place to start. Mesh noted it is an issue in the East as well. MPL said he would raise the issue with the NGC.

Committee vacancies

MPL said there is a vacancy on the NJC with the resignation of Allan Gofenko. He said he is very sorry to see Gofenko leave.

MOTION: that the BEC thank Allan Gofenko for his dedication and service to the BEC and the NJC.

M/S D'Souza/Mesh CARRIED

MPL said there are vacancies on both the NJC and the CCSB. Since it is the last year of the mandate of both committees, MPL said the BEC could appoint new members. But after some discussion, the BEC decided to put out a call for both vacancies.

MOTION: that the BEC issue a call for new members for the CCSB.

M/S Forest/Payant CARRIED

MOTION: that the BEC issue a call for new members for the NJC.

M/S Payant/Mesh CARRIED

MPL said that Dominique Delisle has offered to remain on the committee for PMSD, but will no longer serve as co-chair.

MPL also said that Allan Gofenko's resignation leaves a vacancy on the BEC. He said that seat will remain vacant until the national elections committee holds spring elections.

JE UPDATE

Forest said she is very frustrated with delays in the JE process, and noted that the webwriters issue should have been settled long ago. MPL said everyone is experiencing the same level of frustration. He noted there are a lot of delays on the SRC side, and a Port Credit session is needed to address this.

MOTION - Robinson/O'Connor

Whereas the CMG has lost 6 long-serving staff reps across the country in the past few years,
And whereas we have only hired 2 full time staff reps as replacements so far,
And given that the last Ottawa based rep (not replaced) held responsibility for the second largest local, and all LTD files, and handled SRC issues across the country,
And given that we are now asking a newly hired staff rep to hold all of those files - plus be 1 of 2 staff reps for the Toronto CBC location, (with 2000 members alone),
We move that the new hire for an eastern staff rep be a Full time position that can also hold SRC files and the LTD files, and as such be bilingual & knowledgeable about medical leave issues.

Naomi Robinson said she was concerned about the need for an additional rep to serve members. Mesh said the motion did not specify that the position be located in the east. Payant said the motion should be clear that the position be based in Atlantic Canada, and serve Atlantic Canada.

The last line of the motion was amended to read:

We request that the union hire an Eastern staff rep as a full-time position based in Atlantic Canada, as soon as possible.

Motion CARRIED Martin abstained

CCSB

Jonathan Spence said the CMG document about LTD needs to be updated and more accessible. He asked if the CCSB could work on this. MPL said there will be a new document, and it will be available for members. Spence noted he is working on a pre-retirement section on the website, and hopes it will be up in a couple of months. MPL said the communique about the dental plan has still not been issued. He said the CBC had concerns that it was too long, and the CMG may issue its own communique.

He said the new plan goes into effect March 8, and there will be a call with presidents to update them.

MOTION to adjourn

M/S Various

Meeting adjourned 9:37pm.