

**MINUTES**  
**PSAC – London Area Council**  
**July 31, 2008**

**Attendees:** Nancy Richter, Jan Hauck, Jim Phillips, Peggy Phillips,  
Dorothy Drew, Ling Chen, John Kent, Jim Hale, Joe Evangelho,  
Lloyd Fischer, Keith Rattai, Alison Braley, Anil Jhawar

**Guests:** Melanie Jessup, Term Regional Representative  
Deb Willett, PSAC Regional Area Council Representative

**1. Welcome and Introduction**

Many new members attended this meeting together with special guests, Melanie Jessup, Term. PSAC Regional Representative and Deb Willett, PSAC Regional Area Council Representative.

**2. Review of Previous Minutes**

Motion was made to accept the minutes as presented.

*M/S Nancy/John/Carried*

**3. Financial Report**

Balance Sheet – \$6,726.85

Income Statement – surplus income over expenses \$738.68 \*

\* includes the expense of a new BBQ & 3 tanks of \$932.22

For the upcoming Labour Day BBQ, there will also be a \$600 allocation to be received from the Ontario PSAC Region

Motion to adopt.

*M/S Jim/Nancy/Carried*

**4. Education Report**

Melanie announced that the Local Officer Advance Training course will be held Nov. 20-23/08, at the Windermere Manor in London, and that the TUB course once determined will be announced. There are no plans currently for any Strike Preparation training however, if and when there is, it will be advised.

**5. London Women's Committee**

This committee takes part in pay equity issues, family events, collection of toiletries for women's community homes, participates at conferences and convention. Melanie asked for those interested in joining or taking part, to please contact her and to also put the word out to our locals for interest parties. Also, Take Back the Night event is set for September 13/08; Nancy will make the available; and a reminder was made of the December 6/08 event (National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women).

**ACTION ITEM:** Melanie will send out more info on this committee, and the support received from PSAC.

## 5. Think Public Campaign

Importance of not privatizing is the issue and a booth will be booked at Western Fair for the week. There will be free parking and fair entry for those representatives at the booth. The table and banners will be set up and several "give-aways" will be available. The dates are September 5-14; building hours are 11am – 10pm. We are looking for members to host the table in 4hr shifts. John Kent as currently 24hrs booked; more volunteers are required.

Other events:

Rock for Public Services – previously at Sturgeon Falls, coming to Kenora, Ajax, London, (there were 2500 pieces of material in 1 hour handed out at Sturgeon Falls)

Ottawa - 1 ½ hours – coming soon – more handouts at this event

April Wine, Trooper, etc – free concert for public servants

Costing support from PSAC will be submitted

**ACTION ITEM:** Nancy to prepare proposal.

## 6. Labour Day Celebration Planning

This year's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual will be held Thursday, August 28, 2008 for approximately 350+members who attend. PIPSC have agreed to again contribute & participate. Approval from PSAC Ontario Region was received as well as 50 T-shirts.

Many arrangements are underway: cakes, delivery, groceries, speakers, music, draw tickets, posters, etc. CEIU donated 2 sets of large BBQ utensils – thank you.

Motion put forth that funds be made available to cover wages lost up to ½ day in addition to the funds for mileage for cake delivery.

*M/S Jan/Joe/Carried*

PSAC Ontario Regional office suggested PSAC flags ~ \$100 each, not to exceed \$200

*M/S Jan/Joe/Carried*

**ACTION ITEM:** Nancy to follow up.

## 7. Round Table

Jim Phillips advised that the UTE Triennial Convention was held two weeks ago in Vancouver; National positions and current incumbents reentered; Jim was elected as PSAC delegate in Vancouver next year; and UTE London, no major concerns at this time.

Jan Hauk advised their Convention is in Edmonton and that she too is the PSAC delegate in Vancouver next year. During Public Service Week, a sub lunch was held on the Wednesday, there were Picket signs, sandwich boards, which were not well recd by security, and CEIU was also there.

Ling Chen also spoke on the Public Service week sub-lunch, in that picket signs "We're Ready", there was a lot of participation, and PIPSC assisted and shown additional support this year.

John Kent advised that during sub day, PIPSC were wearing signs and walking around, a walk-around the following week showed many in support, pictures, showed their devotion to participate and inform, unknown about essential services being finalized or not, thinks not even presented to unions. John is now on holidays and will then be a sponsored employee to United Way. Their first local newsletter also just went out. Lloyd Fischer's walk-around proved effective in communicating what is happening

Anil Jhavar encourages all graduates teaching assistants to participate on August 7-9/08 Canadian Coalition of graduate Employees. It is an opportunity to learn how their union works, its associates and

fellows, particularly as not all are unionized. The issue of Union members and signing cards was tabled at last convention due to wording; this must be readdressed and pressure kept on PSAC Ontario Region.

Jim Hale advised of the Agriculture Convention in Quebec City Aug.12-15/08. Jose, Dorothy and Nancy will also be in attendance. The hotel will be in strike mode so there may be concerns. As such, contingency plans are in the works. The Bill C-39 CGC Wheat Board issue is still alive and being pursued; getting well organized in getting more consumer boards on side etc are new on the back burner. Keep the pressure up and hopefully the bill will die. CFIA negotiations are ongoing, next is the 4th meeting to be held September 26/08, strike training is a definite interest. The biggest cut-out is the import service centres, it is all a paper process to ensure all requirements are being met; now five offices across Canada are amalgamating to one with, Toronto's new office of less than 1yr old and employing 700 employees is being cut. The locals must restructure with a focus on communication with several members who are hours away from each other; total of 124 members, located in several very small locals.

Nancy Richter is the editor for her employer's biweekly newsletter and always ensures there is up-to-date information in the "PSAC Corner", including links to keep her members informed. Sister Dorothy outlined current issues at the research centre which include – the employer keeping such a close eye on term employees to ensure their terms do NOT go over the 18 month limit, intimidation tactics are being used regarding classification concerns – employees are told to withdraw grievance and their positions will be reclassified to one level up with pay retro to only 1 year as opposed to 2001! Snow days were also an issue; the employer is saying the employee must continually attempt to get in 3-4 times in the day otherwise must use vacation leave!

Sister Nancy attended the London District Labour Council (LDLC) meeting June 11/08 meeting held expressed the importance of members having an NDP membership. Take Back the Night Sept 13/08 was mentioned in that zero tolerance of younger workers, < 24 yrs, and the concern for their safety. The Ministry of Health's new H&S office is 796 York St. The Regional office requested interest regarding a PSAC Riding Co-ordinator, a job description will be sent out Nancy; this would involve working in the community, handouts, all political, unions being visible.

Melanie Jessup mentioned that an open letter on behalf of PSAC members was sent to TB coordinators expressing their disappointment in lack of bargaining process. Every member of the bargaining team signed this open letter.

**ACTION ITEM:** This should be plant-gated on Aug.21/08, take pictures and inform the regional office how it went.

Ken Boone also toured USGE parole offices and handout notes of Quick Points for Team Members Summer/Fall 2008. This was a definite encouragement for the members of the PA group.

## 8. Date for Next Meeting

Thursday, October 23, 2008  
5:30 p.m.  
PSAC London Regional Office

Annual Labour Day BBQ – will be held Thursday, August 28, 2008  
Chair –Jan – will send out a call letter for the initial meeting

7:15 p.m. – adjournment  
M/S Nancy/John/Carried