

EDUCATION WORKERS STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Saskatoon November 5 & 6, 2010

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2010

- Executive attending: Brigitte Scott, Omar Murray, Sheila Bindig, Rona Tyson, Earl Booth, Jackie Christianson, Gwen Murphy, Glenn Douglas, Lori Sutherland, Brenda Anderson.
- EWSC Staff Reps attending: Lois Lamon and Elaine Ehman
- Vice Chair, Omar Murray called the conference to order, welcomed everyone, and introduced the committee members.
- *Equality Statement* was read by Jackie Christianson & Earl Booth.
- Jackie explained the draws and announced that the proceeds would go to *Camp Easter Seal*.

GREETINGS FROM TOM KNUTZEN

- Omar introduced guest Tom Knutzen from the Library Steering Committee, who brought greetings on behalf of their 650 members and wished us a successful conference.

GREETINGS FROM PAT ATKINSON, EDUCATION CRITIC

- Pat Atkinson – Education Critic Minister of Education, talked about the School Boards' ability to tax being taken away. The Province is trying to determine financing regimes and its implications. School boards are forced to take funds out of their surplus for ongoing operations. She expressed their government's concerns about capital projects and how they are going to be financed. Pat also talked about the EAs in Sask and that various types of students have various types of needs. "CUPE has just cause when it comes to EA concerns and it is a philosophy that the Ministry of Education has moved to, that EAs provide dependency to the students. The province is looking for money and the EAs are an easy place to cut money." Pat spoke about November 17th at the Legislature when there will be questions put to Minister Harpauer regarding this issue, and the importance of having students and parents along with EWSC to put a face to a policy that is wrong. Pat wished us a successful conference and answered questions from the floor.
- Omar thanked Pat and presented her with an "I support Provincial Bargaining for CUPE Education Workers" button, and announced that we will be donating \$50.00 to *Camp Easter Seal* in her name.

GREETINGS FROM EWSC CHAIRPERSON BRIGITTE SCOTT:

- Brigitte Scott, Chair, welcomed the delegates to the conference and talked about the busy time the EWSC has had over the last year. She showed a power point presentation on the work done with history, EA campaign, and provincial bargaining campaign. Brigitte thanked everyone for attending and stated that without the support of the members across the province we wouldn't be here today. We need to keep working towards provincial bargaining. Brigitte wished everyone a great conference.

CREDENTIALS REPORT – SHEILA BINDIG, SECRETARY TREASURER

- 72 delegates, 2 guests, 6 Reps, for a total of 80 people.

NOMINATIONS

Judy Henley, CUPE Sk Vice President, explained the elections process following the bylaws, for the following executive positions: Chairperson, Recording Secretary, and 3 members at large, each for a 2 year term:

- Nominations for Chairperson
 - Jackie Christianson Local 3766 nominated by Omar Murray Local 4754
 - Brigitte Scott Local 2268 nominated by Patricia Gausman Local 4875
- Recording Secretary

- Pat Gausman Local 4875 nominated by Elaine Carriere Local 2268
- Brenda Anderson Local 4195 nominated by Tracey Beaven Local 4195
- 3 Members at Large for Rona Tyson, Earl Booth, and Jackie Christianson
 - Earl Booth Local 5506 nominated by Doug Kinzel Local 2268
 - Marie Moore Local 4799 nominated by Brenda Dufault Local 4799
 - Carol- Anne Wilson-Hough Local 8443 nominated by Dianne Young Local 8443

BARGAINING ACHIEVEMENTS

- Cheryl Stadnichuk reported on Bargaining Achievements in the school board sector over the last year. The report can be found in the folder.

OCCUPATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- Caretakers and maintenance workers
- Bus drivers
- Clerical, Library Workers, Its
- Teacher Assistants, Interpreters, and Social Workers

Draws were made and the conference was adjourned until Saturday. Members were invited to attend the social which took place at “The Top of the Inn” featuring the *Spirit Flyers Dance Troupe* from Saskatoon.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2010

- Omar Murray, Vice Chair, welcomed everyone back to the conference.
- Lori Sutherland and Brenda Anderson read the *Equality Statement*.
- Brigitte Scott, Chair, explained she and Gwen Murphy will be leaving the conference for the morning to attend the funeral of Rita McKaig’s husband Brad. She turned the meeting over to Omar Murray, Vice Chair, until her return.

JUDY HENLEY – REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

- Judy Henley RVP brought greetings to the conference. Judy gave an overview of the work being done by their committee including support to improve the Canada Pension Plan, anti-privatization, National executive board allocated funding for the Provincial Bargaining and the Educational Assistants campaigns. She noted that Dwain Lingenfelter committed to making provincial bargaining a reality. She encouraged us to keep pressure on and convince public of the value of provincial bargaining and educational assistants. Elections are in one year and we need to start now. Judy reported that the two resolutions on Educational Assistants and Provincial Bargaining that were brought forward at CUPE Sk Convention and were passed unanimously. She also spoke of the Sparkle Tour project that will visit communities and schools across Saskatchewan defending racism and bringing pride to Metis and Aboriginal people. She talked about building bridges, and signing partnership agreements with these organizations. Judy thanked the committee for their hard work and wished us a successful conference.

BILL ROBB – YEAR OF THE SHOP STEWARD

- The Strategic Directions Program adopted by CUPE National stated this would be the *Year of the Steward*. We need to show appreciation for the stewards and have come up with new programs to support Shop Stewards. Bill wished us a successful conference.

REGINA RIOT VIDEO

- Omar gave a moving account of events leading up to the Regina Riot, followed by the Regina riot video.

AGM REGULAR BUSINESS

- **M#43** M/S/C Brenda Anderson Local 4195/ Del Augustine Local 1125 motion to accept 2009 EWSC Conference minutes.
- Sheila Bindig Local 4799 – Credentials report: 81 delegates 2 guests 8 reps for a total of 91.
- **M#44** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/ Monica Neale Local 4254 Treasurer’s report as presented.
- **M#45** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Debbie Lorenzen Local 4195 Trustees report as presented.

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

- Bylaws Committee: Rona, Sheila and Omar.
- **M#46** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Diane Rasmussen Local 5506 motion to accept changes to the wording of Article 7 – Executive Board d) to read: Out of Pocket Expenses \$50.00 per day out of pocket expense shall be paid.
- **M#47** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Carmen Graham Local 4254 article 7 e) to accept changes to the wording of Article 7 e) “Recognition to the Table Officers (Chairperson, Secretary, Secretary Treasurer). To acknowledge the value of the work involved, the Table Officers (Chairperson, Secretary, and Secretary Treasurer) shall receive \$50.00 per month. To be paid at the Annual Conference and then six months after that. Opposed by 3 members.
- **M#48** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Brenda Hutton Local 3766 Addition of f) Good of the Union – That we give a gift to vacating Executive Members and vacating Staff Reps who have sat on the EWSC for at least a year in the value of \$50.00. For those who have held the position for less than one year should receive a thank you card. That we give a gift to Executive Members and Staff Reps of the EWSC who are experiencing or having family members who are experiencing serious illness and/or death, or other situations in the value of \$50.00. Definition of these situations would be at the discretion of the EWSC members. Diane Young Local 8443/Patricia Gausman Local 4875 amended this motion that the word **members** should read **executive**. The motion to the amendment was carried. Motion defeated.
- **M#49** M/S/C Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Rona Tyson Local 4747 motion Article 8 – General Provisions, 1) that all expenditures shall be made by cheque signed by two of the three signing officers. Pat Gausman Local 4875 refer this back to the committee, 2nd Dell Augustine 1125. Carried. Opposed none.

KEEP THE EDUCATION ASSISTANTS WORKING IN SASKATCHEWAN CAMPAIGN

- Committee members Lori Sutherland, Jackie Christianson, Marie Moore, Gwen Murphy.
- Lori, Jackie & Marie gave a power point presentation on the EA campaign using a timeline to show the activities over the last year. Jackie spoke about what this all means and where this campaign is headed. There were questions from the floor answered.

ELECTIONS

- **M#50** M/S/C Pat Gausman Local 4875/Earl Booth Local 5506 to replace Jessy Barabas Local # 3730’s ballots which have been lost so he is able to vote.
- Brigitte and Jackie both accepted their nominations to run for Chairperson.

CHAIRPERSON FOR A 2 YEAR TERM: Jackie Christianson

- Brenda Anderson and Pat Gausman both accepted their nominations to run for Recording Secretary.

RECORDING SECRETARY FOR A 2 YEAR TERM: Brenda Anderson

- Nominations for Members at large:
 - Jessy Barabas Local 2268 nominated by Debbie Dufoe Local 4875
 - Brigitte Scott Local 2268 nominated by Jackie Christianson Local 3766
 - Rona Tyson Local 4747 nominated by Cheryl Zunti Local 4747
 - Pat Gausman Local 4875 nominated by Elaine Carriere Local 2268

- Accepting nomination to run for Members at Large: Pat Gausman, Rona Tyson, Carole-Anne Wilson-Hough, Marie Moore, and Earl Booth. Declining were Brigitte Scott and Jessie Barabas.

3 MEMBERS AT LARGE FOR A 2 YEAR TERM: Earl Booth, Rona Tyson, and Marie Moore.

- **M#51** M/S/C Pat Gausman local 4875/Sheila Bindig Local 4799 motion to destroy ballots.

OCCUPATIONAL WORKSHOP REPORT BACKS

- Bill Robb – introduced the occupational workshop report backs given by each group.

KEEP THE BALL ROLLING WORKSHOP

- Most important issues facing you for the next 12 months which takes us to our next conference and provincial elections. Divided into 5 groups to come up with 3 issues, 3 hope, and 3 actions.
- Issues: representative workforce, job security, cuts in EAs, equality in wages and benefits, collective agreements differences.
- Hopes – Friends, aboriginal conference, friendly groups identified and attend their conferences, candidates running in the next provincial election.
- Actions – education of member and public, sustain support for students, common job titles and classifications, provincial bargaining for wages and benefits, better language for contracting out, continue the EA campaign, solidarity as locals, support candidates who are sympathetic to our causes, keep issues in the media and raise public awareness.
- **M#52** M/S/C/ Sheila Bindig Local 4799/Diane Rasmussen Local 5506 motion to reaffirm the committee’s commitment to the members of the education workers to actively pursue Provincial Bargaining.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

- Bylaws amendment by Elaine Ehman referred back to the committee:
Signing officers ARTICLE 8 – GENERAL PROVISIONS
- 1. **There shall be four signing officers of the EWSC. The signing officers shall be the four table officers of the EWSC. The Secretary-Treasurer and one other signing officer shall sign each cheque. The Chair shall be the second officer to sign each cheque unless he/she is not available.**
- **M#53** M/S/C Pat Gausman Local 4875 /Seconded by Monica Neale 4254.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER HELEN HORSMAN

- Omar introduced Dr Helen Horsman.
- Dr Horsman thanked us for the invitation to speak and said that the Ministry of Education recognized many positive contributions education workers have make and that they strongly value many positions we fill and recognized that CUPE represents a lot of people who contribute to the school operations in the province. “The contributions you make is vital to the success of our schools and students.” Dr Horsman recognized that the Ministry has been meeting with the EWSC on the EA issue. She stated that the SSBA wishes to maintain their autonomy and continue their role in controlling the finances of the education workers in Sk. Question and answer period followed.
- Omar thanked Dr Horsman and presented her with a CUPE pin, button to support Provincial Bargaining, and stated that a gift of \$50.00 will be sent on her behalf to *Camp Easter Seal*.

CLOSING REMARKS

- A total of \$825.00 was collected from the draws to be donated to *Camp Easter Seal*.
- Brigitte’s closing remarks included thanks for her years in office and the conference was adjourned.
- Solidarity forever 4:36.

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