

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE MEETING

February 19, 2007 (11:45 a.m.)
Dunsmuir Lodge
1515 McTavish Road, Sidney, B.C.

Executive:

Kathryn Danchuk
John Foxgord
Pat Giommi
Tom Gore

Sean Holland
Bill McGhee
Gerald Reichenback
Jim Russell

Regrets:

Brian Chow
Marie Kardash
Daphne Laboucan
Julie Orban

Staff:

Tony Bute
B. Rasode

Observers:

Monica Gaucher
Guido Vanderheyden

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m. with K. Danchuk in the chair.
- 2. Adoption of Agenda:** M/S/C to adopt the agenda as presented.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** M/S/C to adopt the minutes of January 8, 2007 as circulated.
- 4. Secretary-Treasurer's Report:** T. Gore reported that for the month of January dues revenue totalled \$118,335. Expenses included negotiation costs for the Law Society Lawyers Chapter of \$6,626 and Convention speaker deposits of \$5,000. Operating expenditures totalled \$107,158, for an excess of revenue over total expenditure for the month was \$11,177.

M/S/C to adopt the Secretary-Treasurer's Report as presented.
- 5. 4th Quarter Investment Report:** T. Gore reported that as of December 31 the total PEA investment portfolio was valued at \$7,600,794, for an increase of 3.44 % over the previous quarter and 7.04 % over the 12 month period ending December 31

M/S/C to adopt the 4th Quarter Investment Report as circulated.
- 6. Member Appeal:** T. Bute reported on the Association's successful defense of an appeal at the BC Court of Appeal regarding allegations of unfair representation initiated by a former PEA member. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal in a unanimous decision.
- 7. Grants and Donations Committee Report:** No report.
- 8. LTD Denial Assistance Plan Update:** T. Bute reported that two law firms had been confirmed to provide service to eligible members under the new policy 3.16 *Long Term Disability Benefit Disputes*. He reported that the policy would now be implemented and members would be notified of the program.
- 9. Policy Review Committee - Insurance Coverage Update:** T. Bute reported on the details of coverage of the travel insurance protection included in the policy covering PEA members and staff who travel on Association business.

- 10. Convention Update:** T. Bute reported on continuing Convention preparations including confirmation of the two speakers for Friday afternoon. He also reported that delegate selection was well under way in all chapters, including the GLP where an election was in progress.

M/S/C that the Association Executive observers attend convention by right and be considered as Association Executive members for the determination of chapter delegate entitlements.

- 11. Future Executive meeting Dates:** T. Bute reported that Convention timeline requirements and a wish to avoid unnecessary travel by executive members warranted a change of dates for the next two scheduled executive meetings.

M/S/C that the next executive meetings be held on Tuesday, April 10 at the Coast Airport Hotel in Vancouver at 11:30; and Friday, May 25 at the Laurel Point Inn in Victoria at 9 am.

- 12. Finance and Investment Committee Report:** T. Gore reported on discussions of the Finance and Investment Committee regarding the parameters governing Association investments. He reported that the committee recommended the following two resolutions be submitted by the Association Executive for debate at Convention:

- Whereas, the PEA investment resources are now valued at over seven million dollars;

And whereas there is a recognition that socially responsible investing is a positive way to respond to the social and environmental issues that face our members as a part of the greater population;

Be it resolved that the PEA explore and implement policy that would eliminate investments in companies that engage in war profiteering; abuse human rights; utilize exploitive labour practices; or contribute excessively to carbon emissions (such as coal-powered energy production).

- Whereas, the PEA recognizes that global warming and other environmental challenges are creating a threat to the planet;

And whereas the PEA recognizes that it has the opportunity to respond to this issue by altering the criteria of its investment policy;

Be it resolved that the PEA actively pursue investing a greater portion of its equity investments into renewable and alternative sources of energy and companies that are committed to reducing carbon emissions.

M/S/C to adopt the recommendations of the Finance and Investment Committee.

- 13. Negotiations Report:**

PGSD: T. Bute reported that discussions were ongoing regarding the implementation of some clauses included in the 2006 collective agreement between Prince George School District 57 and the PEA.

LSL: T. Bute reported that the Law Society management representatives continued to say “no” to substantive collective agreement proposals put forward by the Association. He reported that bargaining remained difficult and the bargaining committee was considering actions that may be necessary to move the process forward.

ORL: B. Rasode reported that the Okanagan Regional Library Chapter recently held a general membership meeting to discuss bargaining, and that Georgia Mckay and Monica Gaucher would be the representatives on the bargaining committee. She also reported that the committee would be surveying members in the near future.

14. Chapter Delegate Reports:

GLP: G. Reichenback reported that the GLP executive would be meeting in Richmond on Thursday February 22. He also reported that the chapter was intending to use its resources to allow GLP members to seek individual retirement planning advice.

SMS: S. Holland reported that the executive members had elected a bargaining committee which included a representative from the kitchen staff and the committee was currently updating the bargaining survey for distribution to members.

ORL: M. Gaucher reported that a general membership meeting was held on January 29 and that the bargaining committee would be meeting in the near future.

UVIC: B. McGhee reported the chapter executive was working on organizing a summer pond party for the benefit of chapter members.

15. Further Business: None.

16. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

BR/jp