

# PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

## EXECUTIVE MEETING

May 1, 2009 (9:00 a.m.)  
The Coast Harbourside Hotel  
146 Kingston Street, B.C.

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**Executive:**

Paul Albu  
Bruce Barnewall  
John Foxgord  
Tom Gore  
Cliff Haman  
Sean Holland  
Mike Jobke  
Kathy Kendall  
Frank Kohlberger  
Linda Lucier  
Susan Randle  
Jim Russell

**Staff:**

Ernie Gorrie  
Teresa Humphries  
Jodi Jensen

**Regrets:**

Brent Hird

**Observers:**

Shel Harris  
Joanne Montgomery

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- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. with M. Jobke in the chair.
  - 2. Adoption of Agenda:** M/S/C to adopt the agenda as circulated.
  - 3. Approval of Minutes:** M/S/C to adopt the minutes of March 30, 2009 amended to reflect K. Kendall's attendance.
  - 4. Secretary-Treasurer's Report:** J. Foxgord reported that for the month of March revenue totaled \$127,568. Operating expenditures totaled \$144,905 and other expenditures totaled \$22,490 for combined expenditures for the month of \$167,395. The shortfall of revenues over expenditures for the month was \$39,826.

T. Humphries reported on her work to improve the financial systems, including adoption of accrual based accounting, implementation of new accounting software and a revised chart of accounts, and drafting of new financial policies to be brought forward at a future meeting for executive approval.

M/S/C to adopt the Secretary-Treasurer's Report as presented.

T. Humphries absented the meeting.

- 5. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Investment Report:** J. Foxgord reported that investment fund performance in the first quarter was -0.36%, which compared favourably to the benchmark of -0.89%.

M/S/C to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Investment Report.

6. **Grants and Donations Committee:** J. Foxgord reported on the committee's recommendations as follows:

Kidney Foundation of Canada: \$1000 donation  
BC Paraplegic Foundation: \$1000 donation

M/S/C to accept the recommendations of the Grants and Donations Committee.

7. **Scholarships Committee Report:** C. Haman reported that the committee had received 16 submissions from high school applicants and 17 submissions from post-secondary applicants, and recommended that scholarships be awarded to the five high school applicants and the five post-secondary applicants whose submissions were scored highest.

J. Jensen reported on the names matching the committee's recommendations for awards as follows:

<u>High School:</u>	<u>Post-Secondary:</u>
Laura Nelles	Caroline Baldwin
Daniel Penny	Lauren Chor
Erin Palmer	Craig Dedels
Megan Rennie	Heather Gorder
Paige Weismiller	Laura Willis

M/S/C to accept the recommendation of the Scholarships Committee.

Executive members suggested that winning essays be posted on the website at the committee's discretion.

8. **Bursary Committee Report:** P. Albu reported that the committee had received three applications for bursaries. He reported that the committee had determined all applicants met the eligibility requirements and recommended that each be awarded a bursary.

J. Jensen reported that the three bursary applicants were Brandy Assoon, Kelda Sholdice and Laura Haskell.

M/S/C to accept the recommendation of the Bursary Committee.

9. **Convention:** J. Jensen reported that the University of Victoria Chapter unfortunately had vacant delegate seats.

J. Jensen reviewed the schedule of events, as well as the convention rules and procedures for the election of officers.

10. **Membership Survey:** J. Jensen reviewed the report produced by Viewpoints Research providing analysis of the membership survey conducted in March. She noted that:
- A strong majority of members report satisfaction with the PEA and prefer to be represented by the PEA rather than another union.
  - A strong majority report satisfaction with their collective agreement and with the PEA's approach to bargaining.
  - Approximately 85% of members agree the PEA communicates well with members.

Executive members agreed that the summary results should be available in *The Professional* and on the website, with details available upon request.

11. **Legal Aid Campaign:** J. Russell reported on the town hall meeting held on April 27 in Vancouver with approximately 125 to 150 people in attendance. The meeting adopted a resolution calling for the government to hold public hearings on the legal aid system in B.C.
12. **Bennett Class Action:** J. Jensen reported on the briefing note circulated with the meeting materials regarding the legal action launched by the B.C. Government Retired Employees Association, and reminded the Executive that she had reported at the previous meeting that the BCGREA had filed writs against other employers in the Public Service Pension Plan, including the PEA. J. Jensen also noted the request from the BCGREA for a financial contribution to assist with funding the law suit. No motion arose.
13. **Strike Pay Policy:** T. Gore noted that the policy had not been revised since 2001 and proposed that the daily maximum support for members be raised from \$100 to \$125.
- M/S/C to amend Policy 6.4 *Strike Pay or Picket Line Pay* to increase the daily maximum salary reimbursement from \$100 to \$125.
14. **Executive Representation:** J. Jensen reminded the Executive that at the next meeting the observer/executive representation for small chapters would rotate, so that the voting representatives would be those appointed by the Health Science Professionals, Family Maintenance Enforcement Group and Prince George School District Chapters.
15. **Executive Meeting Schedule:** J. Jensen provided two possible schedules for consideration.

Executive members agreed to hold the next meeting on June 22 at the Coast Vancouver Airport Hotel in Vancouver, and to determine the meeting schedule at that time.

- 16. Collective Bargaining Reports:** J. Jensen reported that the bargaining committee for the Okanagan Regional Librarian's Chapter had consulted with chapter members regarding the timing of collective bargaining, and that no bargaining dates had yet been set.

E. Gorrie reported that a bargaining committee had been established for the Law Society Lawyers Chapter and was expected to forward proposed bargaining dates to the employer in the coming weeks.

**17. Chapter Reports:**

**UVic:** C. Haman reported that the chapter has been very busy both serving individual members and working on issues with the employer.

**SMS:** S. Holland reported the chapter executive met recently, was planning for a social event for members, and had begun discussing issues related to bargaining.

**CHSS:**L. Lucier reported that the chapter executive continued to focus on recruitment of local representatives.

**LSS:** K. Kendall reported that as of that date, chapter membership has been reduced 50% by layoffs.

**HSP:** J. Montgomery reported that the chapter executive had been holding regional meetings, most recently in Victoria.

**GLP:** K. Kohlberger reported that the chapter executive had established a bargaining preparation committee; and the GLP strategic plan's final wording would be sent to members. He also reported on discussions about "flexible benefits" and expectations that the bargaining committee would be appointed following the AGM in October.

**18. Further Business:**

- a) **Staff Relations Committee Report:** M/S/C to go *in camera*.

M/S/C to come out of *in camera*.

- b) **Acknowledgement:** M/S/C to thank J. Russell for his years of service on the Association Executive.

- 19. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

EG/rb