

Minutes of the VSTA Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2022 – 4:00 pm – VSTA Office – Room B

Attending: Michael-Don Borason, Shannon Less, Lindsay Donaldson, Carl Janze, Omar Kassis, Rod Ofreneo, Bal Panesar, Alyssa Reid, Carmen Schaedeli, Sarah Ng, John Silver, Matt Sinclair, Terry Stanway, Jesse Taylor, Kathryn Walks, Jonathan Wynn.

Regrets: Paul Falardeau, Nikitha Fester, Treena Goolieff, Rohit Kumar Spirit Lavallee, Katharine Shipley

Office: Liz DeLong

Chair: Jesse Taylor

The VSTA acknowledges that we work and live on the unceded joint traditional territory of the ʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔt (Tseilif -Waututh) Nations.

1. **BCTF Commitment to Solidarity (2021-12-10, EC)**

2. **Agenda**

Janze/Reid

THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED

3. **Minutes of March 10, 2022, March 28, 2022, April 4, 2022, and May 2, 2022**

Ofreneo/Panesar

THAT the minutes of March 10, 2022 be approved..... CARRIED

Janze/Ofreneo

THAT the minutes of March 28, 2022 be approved..... CARRIED

Kassis/Wynn

THAT the minutes of April 4, 2022 be approved..... CARRIED

May 2nd, 2022 Change: Lindsay Donaldson from absent to attending.

Reid/Ofreneo

THAT the minutes of May 2, 2022 be approved. CARRIED

4. **MOA 2022 – local bargaining**

Schaedeli/Sinclair

THAT EC move into committee of a whole.....CARRIED

Janze

THAT EC move rise from committee and report discussion on MOA 2022.....CARRIED

Schaedeli/Stanway

THAT the EC recommends that the membership endorse the MOA 2022.....CARRIED

5. **Administrative Policy feedback**

C. Schaedeli presented the two documents below

- 1. Extra-Curricular Activities.
- 2. Social Media Guidelines and Procedures.

There is a working group that is in charge of all policy and administrative procedures. This group meets as needed. The following documents have already been signed off however, modifications can still be made. Specifically, the field trips and social media policies have attracted some attention. The new policies and procedures have had lawyers' approval.

EC went into discussion on which areas are of concern. EC brought forth questions for the IHTOs to seek answers on.

For any additional questions and concerns please email Terry Stanway, terry@vsta.ca.

Reid/Janze

THAT agenda be amended so item 10 be a timed item at 6:50pm.....CARRIED

6. **Registration deadline for virtual meetings**

This motion is to support an already occurring practice. Members have been asking for the reasoning behind registration requirements. Registration is needed to ensure members attending are active VSTA members. For larger meetings, this allows office staff time to prepare and manage their workload.

EC went into discussion on how there is no current policy on virtual meetings. Additionally, there is an issue of the workload this would bring regarding Standing Committees.

Original Motion:

THAT the following be added to the VSTA Policies & Procedures manual:

14.E.01 When meetings are held virtually, a registration deadline may be required.

Amendment:

THAT the following be added to the VSTA Policies & Procedures manual:

14.E.01 When meetings are held virtually, a registration deadline ~~may~~ **will** be required.

Amendment to Amendment:

THAT the following be added to the VSTA Policies & Procedures manual:

14.E.01 ~~When meetings are held virtually, a registration deadline may~~ **When general meetings or annual general meetings are held virtually, registration will be required.**

The chair states this is out of order.

L. Donaldson challenges the chair

Schaedeli/Ofreneo
THAT the chair be sustained.....CARRIED

Donaldson/Ng
THAT the motion be tabled.....CARRIED

7. **Building update**

VESTA is taking a motion to their AGM to sell their portion of the building. VESTA's intent is to sell the building. A General Meeting will be needed in the near future.

EC acknowledges all the people who have worked hard on the redevelopment.

6:00 **DINNER BREAK**

8. **Standing Committees**

- a) **Indigenous Education** – *Spirit Lavallee sends regrets*
- b) **Working/Learning Conditions & Bargaining** – *Jesse Taylor*

C. Schaedeli takes over the role of chair.

WLCB Reps were recently given a sheet for the lost prep time. This information was due May 11, 2022. The information recorded is from 2018-19 to the end of Feb. 2020. The cutoff date is specific to Feb 2020 because of a current VESTA grievance. The hope is for the payouts to come very soon. There are still a few schools that have not sent in their lost prep time information. J. Taylor will be following up.

J. Taylor takes over the role of chair.

- c) **Health & Safety** – *Michael-Don Borason*

TTOC survey regarding rapid tests shows that communication still needs work. TTOCs may need to travel to get documents. The lack of new teacher training needs to be addressed.

With restrictions lifting, there is a rise in violence in workplace issues.

- d) **Professional Development** – *Kathryn Walks*

The last Pro-D meeting was on Monday, May 9, 2022. The committee would like to see a joint planning session. This would be helpful for members to have support in the Pro-D Chair position, empower them to take their release time, and have key information to be able to assist other members.

- e) **Social & Environmental Justice** – *Sarah Ng*

The SEJ Committee did not meet quorum for the past two meetings. EC went into discussion on the motions below.

Ng/Less

THAT the VSTA endorse the following motions

Original Motion: Ng/Less

That the Federation endorse the Save Old Growth campaign and demand that the government draft legislation to immediately end all Old Growth logging in the province of British Columbia.

It was brought up that the Old Growth Company has had issues with violence within the workplace.

Amendment:

Motion: Ng/Less

That the Federation ~~endorse the Save Old Growth campaign and~~ demand that the government draft legislation to immediately end all Old Growth logging in the province of British Columbia.....CARRIED

Motion: Ng/Borason

That the Federation request an urgent meeting with the Minister of Education, Jennifer Whiteside, to outline our pressing concerns in light of the most recent IPCC* report and call for decisive and immediate action from the Minister to address the climate emergency and take steps to reduce carbon emissions including retrofitting all schools to net-zero no later than 2030 and providing renewable bussing/walking/cycling options for all staff no later than 2025.....CARRIED

f) **Technology – Carl Janze**

The Technology Committee recently sent out a survey to members regarding technology use and how accessible it is in their school.

Summary of results:

- 163 members participated
- 62% wanted a lab, 33% wanted a laptop cart, and no one wants iPads
- 50% said they are rarely able to get what they want. 60% can't get computers because it's not available.
- A reoccurring problem is not being able to use the equipment. At times only a portion of laptops work.

Management is not aware of these problems. It's up to your administrator to ensure there are enough laptops. There should be 1 for every 4 students.

Goals for next year:

- More computer-friendly spaces
- More devices in general
- Regular upgrades and maintenance
- Communication with parents

g) **TTOC** – *Paul Falardeau sends regrets*

12. **Unfinished Business**

6:50pm

Donation to the History of African Descent in BC 12

This is the inaugural year of this course being taught in the VSB. The students across the district have had an exceptional year learning with Nikitha Fester, who committed to running the class off time table and in a hybrid model so that as many students as possible could attend. Nikitha has organized an end of the year showcase for students to bring in their families to celebrate their learning, and there is a desire to include food in the celebration from a traditional Trinidadian restaurant. A. Reid seeking that VSTA show support for celebrating the success of this course by helping to fund a portion of the celebration.

Reid/Schaedeli

THAT the VSTA donate \$200 to the History of African Descent in BC 12 end of year showcase celebration.....CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Peer Mentorship Grant

Currently, B. Miller and J. Liew have been dedicating their time to the Peer Mentorship Program. There is a balance of 2 blocks of teaching time. Seeking advice from EC on what to do with the funds. There was discussion on how to allocate these blocks. One possibility would be to use these blocks for tech support. Suggestion to offer this to J. Liew and B. Miller as needed.

Orders were called at 7:00pm.

Next Meeting: June 9, 2022 – Carmen Schaedeli in the Chair