

Report for Sunday, September 12, 2010

Credentials Report – Call to report.

Credentials Report:

Kathy Pham and Souad Soubra on behalf of the Credentials Report,

63 Delegates

8 Observers

1 Guest

Motion to move the Credentials Report.

m/s/c Souad Soubra and Kathy Pham

Chair, Sister Colleen Wice called the Resolution Committee to the front of the room. Sister Wice explained the process for the resolutions. There is one microphone at the back of the room which will eliminate the need for a speakers list. Any delegate who is not able to stand at the microphone please ask a member of the organizing committee to assist you and they will stand in line for you and when it is your turn they will bring you the microphone. There are 21 resolutions in total, 16 Concurrent, 5 non-concurrent. "Concurrent" means that the Committee recommends adoption. "Non-Concurrent" means that the Committee does not recommend adoption of the resolution. When you are voting - you are voting on the Committee's recommendation not the resolution. The order of the resolutions to be dealt with has been already prioritized by the Resolution Committee. Only delegates can speak to the resolutions. When you are at the microphone please ensure that you identify yourself by your first and last name and delegate number. A speaker will speak for 3 minutes to state their point. Lynn Meston will be the time keeper and she will advise when your time is up by flashing a yellow card means only 1 minute is left and the red card means your time is up.

Sister Melanee Jessup as the Chair of the Committee introduced the Committee members.

Members: Souad Soubra, Connie Lento, Sandra Goodick (resource staff) and Debbie St. Germain (resource staff).

Motion to ratify the composition of the Resolution Committee.

m/s/c Mary Anne Walker and Val Fargey

Resolution # 22 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Service of Canada undertake a campaign of lobbying the government of Canada to work with Indigenous women's organizations to establish a comprehensive plan of action to stop violence against Indigenous women.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #22.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 01 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that the Constitution of the PSAC be amended to allow delegate status with full voice and vote for one delegate per chartered Women's Committee to the PSAC Triennial Convention.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #01.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Recorded Against: Jennifer Phillips

Resolution # 02 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that the PSAC amend Section 15, Sub-Section (4) of the PSAC Constitution to set the quorum for regional committee meetings where financial decisions are being voted on, so that the Constitution reads:

Section 15, Sub-section (4)

(a) Regional Human Rights Committees or Regional Women's, Aboriginal Peoples, Racially Visible Persons, Pride and Access Committee meetings shall be held at least four (4) times a year. One such meeting shall occur prior to the PSAC National Women's, Aboriginal Peoples, Racially Visible Persons, Pride and Access Conferences.

(b) A quorum of three delegates, representing three separate components or Directly Chartered Locals, is required for any meeting where financial decisions are being made on behalf of the Committee.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #02.***

m/s/defeated Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 06 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that PSAC lobby the Employer to adhere to the negotiated terms for all term employees including those deemed to be under Sunset Clause.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PSAC endeavour to make sure that the time spent as employees funded by the Sunset Clause have their time spent as employees go toward their three-year term prior to indeterminacy

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #06.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 17 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PSAC consider the issue of better child care as a part of the Federal Budget Fight back Campaign and lobby for child care reform.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #17.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 15 – ORWC – 2010

Violence in the Workplace Workshop at Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) Conferences

The Action Requested:

That all PSAC OSH conferences include a workshop that addresses the issue of violence in the workplace.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #15.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 03 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that RWCs are appealing to the PSAC and National Board of Directors to raise funding by 10% of the existing budget.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #03.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 08 – ORWC – 2010

The Actions Requested:

That the PSAC continue to participate in and update the membership on Pay Equity Coalitions.

That the PSAC update the membership on highlights and campaigns through the PSAC website,

That the PSAC inform the membership of relevant action plans and campaigns in a timely manner.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #08.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 09 – ORWC – 2010

The Actions Requested:

That the PSAC develop a workshop that addresses the Feminist Process,
That this workshop be available to all RWCs.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #09.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 10 – ORWC – 2010

The Action(s) Requested:

That the PSAC develop a comprehensive and accessible document on the history of Pay Equity.

That this be an evergreen document that is perpetually updated.

That this document be uploaded onto the PSAC site within the next cycle.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #10.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 11 – ORWC – 2010

The Action Requested:

That the PSAC develop an educational module on Anti-Harassment that can be accessed by all members, so that the module could be delivered through Union-Management forums.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #11.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 12 – ORWC – 2010

The Action Requested:

That the PSAC dedicate the December issue of Union Update and the relevant issue (fall or winter, whichever is issues closest to and before December 6th) of Our Union Voice to examining the issue if violence against women.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #12.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 14 – ORWC – 2010

The Actions Requested:

That the PSAC develop a Violence Against Women workshop to include, but not be limited to, modules on harassment and discrimination and the grievance/complaint procedure.

That this workshop be developed within the next cycle.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #14.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 16 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC establish a link to each committee within their respective regional website

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT each committee within that region have means available to submit reports, events and past or upcoming activities to be posted on their respective website.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #16.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 20 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that action be taken to lobby governments to raise women's pensions earning less than \$30,000 per year, who may be at risk of being at the poverty level at their most vulnerable time to provide them with an annual supplement upon retirement.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #20.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 21 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that the PSAC be mandated to deliver at least one lobbying course per year in every regional office jurisdictions.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of concurrence to **Resolution #21.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Resolution # 04 – ORWC – 2010

THE ACTION REQUESTED:

The PSAC should increase its efforts to provide in collective agreements benefits that workers with dependent adult children with disabilities can draw on for educational interventions and medical management of autism.

More training and support is needed by families with children with autism spectrum disorder.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of non-concurrence to **Resolution #04.***

m/s/ Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Point of Order – Cheryl Lucier – unable to hear the previous speaker, it is important that she repeat her debate

Elana Gellar – friendly amendment – take out the word autism (Sister Colleen Wice – ruled out of order – changes intent)

Connie Lento – wording was restrictive to one disability and that is why the Committee voted non-concurrence to this resolution

m/s Mary Ann Walker and Renee Alexander

Point of order – Mary Ann Walker - Challenge to the chair

Mary Ann Walker – gave her explanation that it should be changed and the word “autism taken out”, does not believe it changes the intent.

Chair, Colleen Wice – provided her explanation that it is a technicality and the intent is changed and the floor cannot speak to all disabilities when the resolution speaks to one “autism”.

Will the Chair be sustained?

34 – in favour

32 - Not in favour

The Chair is sustained.

Point of Order – Renee Alexander – requested a Standing Vote

Point of Order – Wendy Pizzardi – did not vote therefore the numbers were wrong

Point of Order – Ester Burt – explained that a delegate cannot change your vote, must vote how you voted the first time, including if you sustained.

Point of Order – Mary Ann Kelly – question on clarification

Will the chair be sustained?

The Chair is sustained.

Point of Order – Elana Geller – more people than before

Point of Order – Wendy Pizzardi – how can we have more than what the Credentials Committee reported earlier.

Lynn Meston advised that the numbers don't add up, because the Credential Committee did not add up the Resolutions Committee and the Chair,

63 delegates did not include 8 Organizing Committee members – 71 delegates

71 delegates – actual count by the Credentials Committee

Vote was accurate: 34 for – 32 against.

Point of Order - Val Fargey – explained that if you are at a convention there is a list posted at the door for those with accommodations. This was a learning experience for all who have attended for their first time.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of non-concurrence to **Resolution #04.***

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

Mary Ann Walker – spoke against
Val Fargey - Standing vote

31 votes in favour
29 votes against

Point of Order – Wendy Pizzardi – change to concurrence

Chair ruled not in order as it is not a point of order and it cannot be done, the motion of non-concurrence was adopted.

A.M. Health Break

Chair, Colleen Wice advised that there is a lot of new delegates at this conference, and some very seasoned delegates. It appears that a lot of new delegates are intimidated to come to the microphone. Sister Wice asked all the sisters to show a little respect to those who want to come to the microphone to ask a question as a learning experience for everyone. She thanked all the delegates/observers/guests for their understanding and cooperation.

Val Fargey – Point of Privilege read by “Elana Geller”

“I stand requesting that a hat be passed around to support a trust fund my local has set up for a sister who died recently due to complications during surgery. Christine was a single parent who had a passion for life. She leaves an 8 year old daughter. Christine believed in education and stated an educational fund for Amanda. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated and put in the education trust fund”

Credentials Report:

Kathy Pham and Souad Soubra on behalf of the Credentials Report,

63 Delegates
8 Observers
1 Guest

This morning there were actually 63 Delegates plus 7 delegates from the Organizing Committee for a total of 70 Delegates. However when delegates come in and out of the Plenary the numbers fluctuate.

Motion to move the Credentials Report.

m/s/c Souad Soubra and Kathy Pham

Point of Order – Wendy Pizzardi – the numbers are not adding up. Maximum number of delegates is 70.

Resolution # 07 – ORWC – 2010

BE IT RESOLVED that PSAC provides up to \$10,000 to organizations in their fight to provide legal and safe abortions in developing countries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the funds come from an existing budget line.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the disbursement of the funds occur within six months.

*Motion to accept the Committee's recommendation of non-concurrence to **Resolution #07**.*

m/s/c Melanee Jessup and Souad Soubra

32

16

Elana Geller – friendly amendment – that the funds be taken out of existing funds

The Chair advised that John Gordon ruled it out of order and the floor cannot dictate how or where monies will be distributed.

Point of Order – Mary Ann Walker – wants to test the floor to see if we can stay and get the order of business done by completing all the remaining resolutions.

Ester Burt – Point of Order – Was the agenda adopted at the beginning of the Conference?
(No it was not)

Point of Privilege – Val Fargey - \$567.00 raised for Sister Christine

Emily Burbanks – Point of Order – standing vote who wants to continue and who does not want to continue debating the resolutions.

The Resolutions Committee has been dismissed.

Sister Colleen Wice hoped that the resolution process was a learning experience for all. She called the facilitators: Karen Church, Arlene Preston and Mojdeh Rahabi-Cox and thanked them again for agreeing to be facilitators at this Conference and presented them all with an umbrella. The Baby picture contest on the outside wall was won by Alison Braley.

Lynn Meston explained the process for filling in the comment form and asked that everyone kindly fill in their remarks.

Sister Colleen Wice thanked the Toronto RWC for delivery of the toiletries and delivery of the two cheques collected for the two shelters.

She thanked Brother Gerry Halabecki, REVP, Ontario for coming and addressing the Conference. She thanked Rita Cantalini for assisting in today's deliberations. Patty Ducharme for spending the day with us at the Conference. The 11 PSAC Ontario Regional Women's Committees, the Organizing Committee. Lynn Meston, Debbie St. Germain, Sandra Goodick and Colette Mann, Sister Wice couldn't thank them enough. All the Sisters present at the Conference. The Facilitators, Karen Church, Arlene Preston and Mojdeh Rahari Cox. All the Guest Speakers. Finally the Women of this 2010 successful conference, observers and guests "Thank you all for your participation and attendance" it would not have been the same without all of you.

Point of Priviledge - Ester Burt – Wanted to specially thank Colleen Wice who of all people endured so much to be here at the conference. She had a rough year and pushed through to make it happen.

Sister Colleen Wice received a standing ovation.

Sister Colleen Wice stated that it has been a lot of fun and it was a lot of work but the Organizing Committee was instrumental in making this conference happen. She thanked everyone again.

Point of Priviledge - Wendy Pizzardi – commended Colleen Wice "it takes a lot of courage to do the job that you do!"

The Aboriginal Elder Elize Hartley provided the conference a closing prayer.

Debbie St. Germain presented a token of appreciation to the Elder for being at the Ontario Women's Conference over the weekend.

Motion to adjourn.

m/s/c Ester Burt and Mary Ann Walker