



BCFED CLIMATE CHANGE STANDING COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date of meeting: October 12, 2022

To: Committee Members

From: Trish Garner, Director, BCFED

Present: Trish Garner, BCFED; Kerly Acosta Hitchcock, BCIT FSA; Lori Mayhew, MoveUP; Tara Olivetree (Ehrcke), BCTF; D.J. Pohl, BCGEU, FVLC (Co-chair); Sussanne Skidmore, BCFED (Co-chair); Warren Wulff, PSAC

1) Welcome and First Nations Acknowledgement

2) Agenda adopted

3) Minutes adopted

The minutes of the July meeting were adopted.

4) Review of committee report presentation process at convention (PDF in email)

- Transition from working group to permanent standing committee creates an opportunity to report directly to convention and BCFED Executive Council; good direction but still work to do; affiliates and labour councils will nominate delegates so this will hopefully ensure good representation of impacted workers
- Recommendations in report written for incoming committee; can inform discussion on floor of convention
- Terms of reference have been developed to guide work as well
- Review of report and recommendations:
 - Changing the name:
 - Took year to do terms of reference; need to move forward on action rather than spending too much time on name
 - Could have workshop or email submission on name
 - Name is important – committee not focused on climate science but economic transition so suggest Climate Justice and Economic Transition Committee; could help bring others on board
 - Sussanne has been meeting with private sector unions; Trish doing survey of affiliates; name does need to capture what this committee intends to do as umbrella org, need affiliates to see themselves in the name

The [BCFED statement on harassment](#) applies to all our events.

- Next two recommendations about not working in silos: Indigenous engagement; everyone at the table, including working people from other backgrounds
- Recommendation on education of public and affiliates – could develop campaigns and other education opportunities
- Need clarification on term, net zero economy – [Trish has added footnote to report]
- Support for recommendation on collaborating with BCFED OH&S Standing Committee – very productive in thinking about adaptation and mitigation; real-life weather events will require OS&H committees to respond
- Co-chairs will present the report and recommendations, and then resolutions; please do speak to report and resolutions from the floor
- Committee members are asked to come to the stage for the presentation
- Note: Committee members are invited to the CCSC report presentation at convention even if they are not convention delegates – this is currently scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday, November 23rd for 30 minutes but Trish will confirm when the full convention agenda is finalized.
 - **ACTION:** Trish will confirm when the full convention agenda is finalized
- However, non-delegates cannot speak or vote

5) Review of convention resolutions relevant to this committee

- Members reviewed two resolutions referred to this committee:
 - The first was amended and supported
 - The second was strongly debated and referred to the BCFED Executive Officers next meeting
 - Success at BCFED as an umbrella organization needs buy-in from affiliates and, from the other direction, needs affiliates to engage in discussions
- Members reviewed and offered support for resolutions on critical mineral mining strategy and forestry
 - Mineral mining: Canadian government is working on this; will speak in support
 - Forestry: expressed support for resolution because low-carbon future is going to need wood and wood products; no raw log export – support for secondary and tertiary industries within environmental goals
- **ACTION:** Trish will pass on final amended resolution for resolutions package and referred resolution to BCFED Executive Officers

6) Potential speaker at convention (if time on convention agenda)

- Possible options that have come up:
 - US Just Transition work is inspiring, e.g., AFL CIO or Texas SFL/Climate Jobs chapter
 - Emma Pullman, BCGEU, shareholder engagement – encouraging ethical, fair practices in investments in relation to environmental, internal solidarity, etc. goals
 - Alberta Federation of Labour on Jobs Report released today

- Health impacts: CUPW; Workers' Solidarity Network survey results; video from Hope in Shadows on impacts of heat dome on folks in poverty
- Support for specific, practical presentation, not on general climate change
- Emma will actually be away but we could arrange a presentation at a later date
- Top choice: US Just Transition speaker, then health impacts
- No budget but could videoconference someone in; reminder that this is only if time in the convention agenda opens up

7) Affiliate updates

- Update from DJ, labour representative (along with David Black) on the provincial government's Climate Solutions Advisory Council:
 - working on: implementation of roadmap; LNG Phase 2; clean transportation; GHG reduction strategy in relation to energy plan
 - Timely piece for labour – as carbon tax is being ramped up, how is revenue being used? Need to centre workers and marginalized populations.
 - Accountability report from government will come out by the end of the year
 - Good pieces in there but have to remind government about average commuter and low-income folks – policies need to encompass those realities
 - Hope to get feedback from affiliates to feed into process
- No other updates

8) No new business

9) Next meeting date

- **ACTION:** When the new committee is established after convention, Trish will set up standing meeting dates and times for the year.

10) Adjournment