

PSSP Committee Reports for AGM 2015

Constitution Committee

Finance Committee

Pension Workshop Committee

Political Action (District 12) Committee Report

PSSP CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE 2014 -2015

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO JUNE 10, 2014 PSSP CONSTITUTION

- The following proposed amendments in the form of “On-Time” Motions to be presented at the PSSP Annual General Meeting, June 18, 2015, are the outcome of a thorough review of the June 10, 2014 PSSP Constitution by the 2014 – 2015 PSSP Constitution Committee:
 - Rowena Maclure – Chair
 - Richardo Harvey
 - Paulina Monlouis
 - Harjinder Mundi
 - Renee Philips
 - Lucy Somer - Secretary
- Meetings were held on the following dates: Jan. 20, 2015; Feb. 17, 2015; March 02, 2015; March 31, 2015 (unofficial meeting due to lack of quorum); April 20, 2015.
- Olga De Melo, PSSP President and Suzette Clark, Director of Education Services and PSSP liaison for OSSTF, attended two of the meetings - Feb. 17 and March 02.
- The original drafted amendments / Motions compiled by the Constitution Committee were presented to the PSSP Executive for approval at the Executive Meeting, May 13, 2015. What follows are the Motions that were subsequently approved by the Executive to be presented at the AGM.

“ON-TIME” MOTIONS:

“DEFINITIONS” page - BIRT – The definition of the term “Article” be added to the list of definitions prefacing the Constitution, to read as follows: *“Article” shall mean the regulations governing an entity.*

By-Law 7 – Duties of the Bargaining Unit Executive:

Pg. 8 - 7.7 BIRT – By-Law 7.7 is amended to read as follows: *Any vacant position on the Executive shall be filled in accordance with By-Law 5 and By-Law 10.*

Pg. 9 - 7.13 BIRT – By-Law 7.13 is amended to replace “Executive and / or Executive Committee” with *Executive.*

By-Law 8 – Duties of Executive Members:

Pg. 11 - By-Law 8.6 – Duties of Executive Officers:

Pg. 11 - 8.6.3 – BIRT – By-Law 8.6.3 is amended to read as follows:

Arrange and attend membership meetings as directed by the Executive.

Pg. 11 - 8.6.5 – BIRT – By-Law 8.6.3 is amended to remove “This duty is given as a safeguard; all Members are requested to report to the Grievance Committee any possible violations of the Collective Agreement.” to read as follows:
Report possible violations of the Collective Agreement to the Grievance Committee.

Pg. 12 - 8.6.7 – BIRT – By-Law 8.6.7 is amended for as follows:

clarification of the type of meetings and committee to read

If an Executive Officer misses two consecutive standing or ad hoc committee meetings, without just cause, the Executive reserves the right to remove that Executive Officer from that committee.

Pg. 18 – By-Law 18 – Standing Committees

BIRT – By-Law 18 is expanded to include three additional By-Laws as follows:

18.2.2 – All PSSP Standing Committees must keep a record of Minutes of each meeting.

18.2.3 – All documentation from all Standing Committees is overseen by the Executive and must be returned to the President at the final Executive Meeting of each school year or no later than June 30.

18.2.4 – The President must pass on all Standing Committee documentation to the chairperson of the respective committee at the time they are appointed to the position of chairperson, usually at the first Executive Meeting of the school year.

Respectfully compiled and submitted on behalf of the Constitution Committee and the Executive by Rowena Maclure, May 14, 2015

FINANCE COMMITTEE 2014 – 2015

Committee Members:

Chair, Veronica Montague

Michelle Pagnello, Sarah Ramer, Lino Demedeiros, Sheida Shahramian, Richardo Harvey, Olga De Melo, Nancy Vogel

The finance committee met five times this year. As a committee we had a very successful year, as we were able fulfil our mandate that was set at our first meeting, which was to either find a more cost effective lease property or purchase a property. After visiting several properties and making the decision to purchase instead of renting the finance committee conducted a telephone town hall were the members that participated gave us a clear direction to go ahead and purchase the property. Our president then consulted with the provincial finance department so that they can be made aware of the purchase the committee were looking to make and to find out what was needed to be done to ensure that PSSP could secure the property. After the Easter break we received some news that we had waited too long to make an offer on a property we thought looked perfect for our needs, but in a twist of faith the first bid had fallen through; once again giving PSSP an opportunity at securing the property. Our president and finance committee was given the permission to purchase a property located in the business building at 255 Duncan Mills Road. This purchase will give our bargaining unit a stable place to do business and is accessible to all our members. The purchase will also allow PSSP to save money on the year-to-year cost of renting, as the bargaining unit will no longer need to pay rent. Needless to say, the committee was able to project an operating budget for the next year that will be lower than the current budget.

Pension Workshop Committee

Chair, Peter Mallouh

On Tuesday, April 7, 2015 the Pension Committee introduced guest speaker, Dev, from OMERS. This engaging speaker discussed central issues related to OMES and pension-linked items. The presentation was well attended and provided valuable information to all PSSP members. This workshop is put on annually each spring at Provincial OSSTF office, 60 Mobile Drive.

D12 POLITICAL ACTION (PAC) COMMITTEE REPORT

Sarah Fairweather

The District Political Action Committee generally meets monthly at the District Office at 1482 Bathurst Street. Meetings are open to all interested members.

This year the Committee has focussed on a number of initiatives.

In the fall, members of PAC worked on the campaigns of Trustee candidates who were endorsed by OSSTF and The Campaign for Public Education. Ten of the endorsed candidates were successful.

In December there was a joint meeting with members of Elementary Teachers Federation to explore ways in which the two groups can support each other in areas of common interest.

One member is working on developing a handbook for members to guide them in difficult conversations they may encounter at social settings. The handbook is written primarily for teachers, but much of the background information is relevant to PSSP members as well, as it covers some of the history behind the benefits, which have been negotiated over the years. The Handbook is currently being reviewed by the District Executive for approval.

The committee is looking at mapping the membership in order to better engage them. A sub-committee was established to take on this task.

Information is given to Committee members about different initiatives in the community to support pro-labour initiatives, such as the campaign for raising the minimum wage.

OSSTF is preparing to be involved in the upcoming Federal election in October 2015. This is a departure from normal practice, but it is felt that many of the issues are important to our members. The primary concerns are retirement security, jobs, healthcare and child care.