# Agriculture Union National Executive Meeting

# July 5-6, 2010 National Office

# 1. Call to Order

National President Bob Kingston called the meeting to order; in attendance were Debbie Forsythe, Denis Sicard, Howard Willems, Fabian Murphy and Larry Budge.

# 2. **Opening Remarks**

Bob greeted everyone to the meeting; hopes everyone had a nice fête de la St-Jean and Canada Day.

# 3. Adoption of Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted unanimously, **M/S/C** –Willems/Forsythe.

# 4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session were adopted unanimously, **M/S/C** – Murphy/Sicard.

July 5 9:00am to 5:00pm July 6 9:00am to completion

# 5. Approval of the April 2010 National Executive minutes

The Executive reviewed the draft minutes and made a few corrections; the April 2010 minutes were then approved unanimously, **M/S/C** – Sicard/Willems.

# 6. Business Arising Out Of The Minutes – National Council Tracking Report

#### Business arising from previous minutes

Item 17 – Local reports to National Executive: A draft template was presented to the Executive for feedback and approval. The approved template will be sent to RVP's and Directors which they will use to provide local status reports to the Executive.

#### Business arising from tracking report:

The Executive reviewed the tracking report from last April's National Council meeting; Fabian will look at item 16 & 18, re: Harassment Training; regarding issue of members acting in excluded positions (as per item 21, re: OOG at CGC), we will revive/circulate web article that covered this issue in the past.

# 7. Financial Report

# **Investments**

M/S – Willems/Murphy – That the investments coming to maturity before the next Executive meeting shall be reinvested at the best possible rate of return. UNANIMOUS.

Note: the term deposit with Caisse Desjardins de Hull - set to mature on October 28 – will not be renewed; funds will be returned to our operating account with CIBC.

# 8. <u>National Office</u>

Bob and Debbie provided a progress report; they noted that bargaining with AEU is set to begin on July 7; Fabian, Debbie and Larry will be at the table for the employer.

#### 9. <u>Communication</u>

<u>Regarding web site</u>: Debbie, Sylvie and Larry will be meeting next week to begin review of website; they will then provide information to Alan Pryde regarding cosmetic changes that are required.

<u>Info Key</u>: a review of the info key document is the works and a draft will be presented to Council in November.

#### ROP Bursary

The Executive received and reviewed three applications. The winning applicant was Justin Kristjansson; both his parents, Barbara and Ron are members of Local 50055 in Brandon, Manitoba.

# 10. CFIA Update

Denis expressed his frustration regarding lack of communication at CFIA where managers are not being informed on latest NUMC decisions, re: 7 day work week. Bob is aware of the problem and has communicated this to the Agency's senior managers. Howard gave an update regarding the Joint Learning Initiative: the Agency is noncommittal on moving forward on outstanding issues and would rather concentrate on E-Learning. The Executive however will work on identifying high risk/problem areas that require classroom training first and once they commit to that only then will we look at E-Learning. Fabian informed the rest of the Executive the he received a complaint that managers in the Atlantic appear to have access to confidential medical evaluations; for the moment it appears that this is a regional issue and he will follow at Regional UMC.

# 11. AAFC update

On the GL review it was noted that not enough members were returning the questionnaires that were sent out. To counter this we've agreed with the employer to participate in joint worksite visits where we hope members will show up and take time to fill out the questionnaires. Regarding AESB, we were told at the last meeting that the questionnaires would be going out by the end of June or early July; with regards to bargaining and Health & Safety issues, Fabian stated that we're currently examining existing policies.

#### 12. CGC Update

Bob gave a progress report; he's concerned with the Thunder Bay local, more specifically the manner in which it's dealing with Health & Safety procedures; further discussion with the local will be required. Out West, Bob attended a retirement party for long time activist and Local president Rod Oliver.

# 13. CSPS/ PSC update

Debbie gave a progress report; after much time and effort she reported that Local 70139 has a new local executive. At the last NUMC she and Meraiah met the new President, Guy McKenzie and also many of the new VP's. Regarding the PSC, later this month she and Meraiah will attend a special NUMC meeting to discuss the PSC's move in 2013.

### 14. DND update

A progress report was given regarding several changes at the senior management level.

#### 15. Negotiations update

Call for Treasury Board demands has gone; bargaining team reps that were elected at regional seminars will be contacted and Fabian will finalize list of participants that will attend the regional bargaining conferences.

# 16. <u>Social Justice Fund – Haiti</u>

Debbie gave a progress report; so far in 2010 the SJF committee has approved \$22,200 in funding; this amount includes \$10,000 to Canadian Red Cross for Haiti earthquake relief fund.

# 17. <u>Human Rights Conference</u>

Howard provided progress report; the call out letter will be going out soon. Marianne and himself are in the process of finalizing the agenda.

# 18. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 31 to November 1.

Having dealt with all agenda items the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by,

Larry Budge

Administrative Officer