

**Agriculture Union
National Executive Meeting**

**November 5-6, 2006
National Office
Ottawa, Ontario**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Opening Remarks

Yves commented on:

- His trip to Edmonton and Northern Alberta
- The 2 day CFIA bargaining team meeting that took place last week
- The AAFC Leadership conference that he attended; he noted that CFIA officials attended this conference for the first time.
- Meetings that we're trying to set up with opposition party critics to discuss policy issues.

3. Adoption of Agenda

- **M/S** – Sicard/Willems – That the agenda be adopted.

Carried unanimously.

4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session were proposed:

November 5/06:	9 a.m. – Noon	1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
November 6/06:	9 a.m. – Noon	1:30 p.m. to completion

- **M/S** – Willems/Kingston – That the hours of session be adopted as proposed.

Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of the September 2006 National Executive minutes

Addition to Yves's opening remarks, item 2: *That we're trying to set up meetings with the Minister's policy advisers.*

- **M/S** – Forsythe/Sicard – Adoption of the September 06 minutes including above noted addition.

Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising out of the Minutes

Appeal Complaint

Bob gave a progress report on the appeal complaint in Local 15 and stated that January 17th, 2007, was tentatively set aside for Joint Training.

Local Investigation

Denis Sicard gave a progress report regarding ongoing investigation in Local 70139; Yves stated that he'll be responding in writing to the local.

ROP Bursary

One of the bursary winners informed us that she won't be attending University until next year and therefore she could not provide us with any proof of enrolment. Because of that, the Executive agreed that we could not award the bursary money to Jacycee Dolter. Instead, the \$1000 bursary for 2006 will be awarded to Caroline Paradis who received an honourable mention from the Executive at the last meeting.

Maternity/Paternity

We've received word from Marlene O'Neil that it looks like the issue has been resolved and that the grievor will be receiving official word soon.

From Item 19 – Succession Planning in CFIA Western Area

Howard gave a progress report. The concerns that were raised in his formal letter were somewhat addressed at a recent Regional UMC meeting; the Agency is now saying that the initiative was not a staffing process.

7. Financial Report

Debbie and Larry provided a progress report on the Union's financial situation.

Investments:

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

Carried Unanimously.

8. National Office Staff

Yves and Bob gave progress reports. It was noted that Elaine will be away on sick leave for three weeks and she expects to be back in November. Jerry will be looking after her files while she's away.

9. PSAC Health and Safety Conference

The PSAC has informed us that we can send 7 delegate to the conference; based on that the Executive decided to give priority to NOSH Policy committee members, they are:

AAFC : Fabian Murphy and Michele Coe;
CFIA : Bob Kingston, Denis Sicard and Bob Jackson;
CGC : Dawn Aisenstat and Francine Taillon.

Glenn Miller will be attending as a member of the organizing committee.

10. Communications

Debbie gave a progress report; last month her committee had a conference call to discuss final changes to the info kits which will be ready to be sent out shortly.

The Executive also discussed communication issues regarding the web site. Regarding NUMC and NOSH meetings, we will continue to post the minutes of these meetings once they become available but now important information, such as the meeting's agenda and major decisions will now be posted shortly after the meeting.

The Executive discussed a letter the Union will be sending Mr. Guimont to express our continued frustration regarding the PI review. The letter will be posted on our web site once Mr. Guimont has received a copy of the letter.

11. Planning Session follow up

The Executive identified the remaining items from the planning session; items will be referred to the Standing Committees later in the week.

12. Negotiations update

Bob provided a progress report. The notice to bargain will be sent to the CFIA before year's end and bargaining sessions with the employer will begin in the new year. As for Treasury Board negotiations, the PSAC is in the process of organizing regional bargaining sessions across the country; the National Bargaining session is set for the first week of February 2007. The Executive discussed the upcoming vote on dispute resolution that was triggered for the Technical Services (TC) group; the Union's position is to continue with the conciliation/right to strike route.

13. Employer Updates

CFIA

Yves gave a progress report and discussed personnel changes at the Agency; regarding the next NUMC (December 8); Yves mentioned that the CFIA once again requested to change the date but the meeting will go ahead as planned because there's no way we can reschedule. On Meat Hygiene Reform, the Executive stated that our definition of "daily presence" is for inspectors to physically go inside a plant and complete an inspection, not to sit at a computer terminal for one hour each day.

AAFC

Yves gave a progress report on the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) Program; he sits on an ad hoc committee which plans to meet in January 07 to discuss policy on the program's rehiring process.

The Executive discussed the GL Review and the rumour that it had been dropped; Mr. Tierney told Yves a week ago that this was not the case.

Regarding the EG Review, Bob stated that there's been no consultation of late and so we'll have to contact Audrey Lahaie to get it going again.

CGC

Bob gave a progress report; the recent NUMC meeting went well and minutes of that meeting will be posted on our web site once they become available. Regarding the Canadian Wheat Board, we told Chuck Strahl's Policy Advisors that we disagree with the recommendations in COMPAS report.

CSPS-PSC

Bob and Denis provided progress reports. They and Meraiah Krebs, the new Director, attended the NUMC meeting last month. Bob mentioned that he has a meeting scheduled for November 10th to set up the National Policy Committee on H&S.

DND

Bob provided a progress report; this week there's an EAP meeting scheduled and Denis plans on meeting with the Union reps. On November 14th the National Policy Committee on H&S will be meeting and on Dec 4th & 5th the National HR Sub-committee will be meeting.

14. National Council Meeting Training Session

The Executive had a general discussion on 'member vs. member' harassment cases. The PSAC is currently working on a new policy on how to deal with these difficult cases. At the Council meeting on Thursday afternoon, there will be an information session followed by a question and answers session on this topic.

15. EO Committee request

The EO committee submitted a request to the Executive. The request was turned down because of insufficient funds left in the EO budget.

16. Elections for Alternate RVP's and Alternate Directors

Progress report; the Executive finalized the election process and a letter will be drafted and sent out to concerned locals.

17. Next Executive and Council meetings

Dates for the next Executive meeting are:

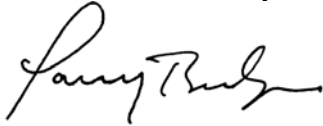
January 30th and January 31st 2007 – Travel on Jan 29th and Feb 1st
April 15th and 16th 2007 – travel on April 14th and April 20th

Dates for the next Council meeting are:

April 17th to 19th 2007 – travel on April 16th and April 20th

Having dealt with all agenda items the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by,



Larry Budge
Administrative Officer