

**Agriculture Union
National Executive Meeting
September 25, 2005
Ottawa, Ontario**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Opening Remarks

President Ducharme mentioned the following:

- thanked everyone for their input and hard work at the convention in St-John's
- welcomed Howard to his first Executive meeting
- that he was looking forward to the next three years with the new Executive

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:

September 25/05: 9:00 a.m. – Noon 1:30 p.m. to completion

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

Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of the April 2005 National Executive minutes

- **M/S** – Forsythe/Kingston – Adoption of the above mentioned minutes.

Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising from the April 2005 Minutes

From item 14 – Canada Border Services Agency

Regarding members that were transferred over, it was pointed out that if a member is re-elected as local president then that member would be allowed to stay as long as they were paying dues to this Union.

From item 9 - CFIA

Regarding The Harassment Awareness Program, Debbie noted that it must be jointly developed and delivered (by Union/Management) in order to satisfy the collective agreement.

7. Financial Report

- **M/S – Kingston/Howard** – 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 Larry gave progress reports. There was nothing new to report regarding Beverly Wellon's situation. Regarding Gerry Blondin, he officially informed Yves that he will be retiring November 1/05.

9. Standing Committees - nominations

Based on suggestions received by the Council members, Yves and the Executive formed the committees:

Collective Bargaining

Bob Kingston – Chairperson

Fabian Murphy, Céline Préfontaine, Glenn Miller, John Langs and André Grégoire.

Finance

Debbie Forsythe – Chairperson

Allan MacRae, Barry Payne, Brenda Baergen, Bob Jackson and Larry Budge.

By-Laws & Education

Denis Sicard – Chairperson

Ron Filteau, Raphaël Tarasco, Idelta Vieira and Sam Barlin.

General

Howard Willems - Chairperson

Marianne Hladun, Michele Coe, Curt Elash, Mike Vanson and Darell-Lee McKenzie

10. Canadian Food Inspection Agency Update

NUMC

The next National UMC meeting is scheduled for December 5/05 where both parties will discuss the Agency's proposed terms of reference.

Meat Inspection Reform Committee

Howard discussed a situation regarding a Lilydale Plant in Wynyard, Saskatchewan. He will inform Bob Jackson, the MPIP technical team member, of the situation.

11. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Update

Classification Review

Yves and the Executive discussed the document that was delivered to all Research Branch employees; it was noted that we did not agree with April 1, 2003 implementation date. With Phase 1 of the reclassification exercise now complete, participants will be taking part in a conference call on October 6/05. It's expected that Phases 2-4 will be done by March 2006.

UMC's

Regional structure updates were given by the Executive. A National UMC meeting will be scheduled for the week of December 5/05.

Contracting Out

Denis discussed with the Executive a situation in Lennoxville where contract workers are being brought in to do administrative work. This matter will be brought up the Council meeting later this week.

12. Canadian Grain Commission Update

NUMC

The next meeting is scheduled for October 6th, and one topic of discussion will be the idea of having one bargaining unit for the PI's and GL's; this is a decision that came out of the Cross Training Program.

13. Public Service Commission and the Canada School of the Public Service

Progress report; Céline Préfontaine is the new PSC-CSPC Director.

14. Department of National Defence Update

Progress report; Idelta Vieira is the new DND Director.

As a follow up from convention, a MOTION **M/S/C** by Sicard/Forsythe stated that the following local mergers take place:

- That DND members in Shearwater join the PSC Local 80323 in Halifax;
- That DND members in Valcartier join Local 8 in Québec;
- That DND members in Winnipeg join the PSC local 50328 Winnipeg;
- That DND members in Esquamalt join Local 64 in Victoria.

In each of the mergers, the Director and a member of the Executive shall visit the concerned Locals to explain the decision.

15. Regional Seminars

The Executive discussed what their level of participation would be for regional seminars. If invited, the four Executive Vice-Presidents will decide if their attendance is warranted.

16. Strategy Planning Session

General discussion on Wednesday's upcoming session.

17. Public Service Modernisation Act and the Public Service Employment Act

The Executive wants all Council members to take PSMA/PSEA training; the Component will cover costs but in most cases expenses should be minimal as attendance should be covered by leave with pay from employer.

18. Committee on AU Structure

The By-Laws will need to be revised as a result of the changes that were adopted at this year's convention; 14 of the committee's 16 recommendations were adopted.

19. Communications

The web site is in the process of being updated; bio's and pictures of new Council members will be posted as soon as possible. With the web site now up and running, the Executive also discussed Alan Pryde's employment with the Union; everyone agreed that his contribution continues to be essential however we must prioritize our needs.

20. Roles and Responsibilities of Executive VP's

Yves and the Executive discussed their roles and responsibilities. In the event where Council members must be contacted urgently, Bob will contact Alberta and BC; Debbie will contact the Atlantic; Denis will contact Québec; Howard will contact Manitoba and Saskatchewan; and Yves will contact Ontario.

21. Agriculture Union Convention 2008

The Executive decided that in February 2006, Council members will get to decide where the next convention will take place. Interested locals will have until that February Council meeting to send in their proposal.

22. E.O issues

Progress report on EO issues given by Denis Sicard.

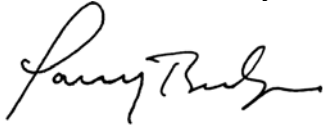
23. PSAC Convention & Committees

In February 2006, the PSAC standing committees will be in Ottawa to work on convention resolutions. The Constitution, Bargaining and General Committees will arrive on February 12, and the Finance Committee will arrive on February 10th.

24. Next National Executive meetings

December 6 & 7, 2005	Ottawa, ON
February 5 & 6, 2006	Ottawa, ON

End of agenda items.
Minutes submitted by,



Larry Budge
Administrative Officer