

**Agriculture Union
National Executive Meeting**

**September 26-27, 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:

- The rumours surrounding the CGC and Canadian Wheat Board
- Stephen Black's departure from the CFIA

3. Adoption of Agenda

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

Carried unanimously.

4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session were proposed:

September 26/06:	9 a.m. – Noon	1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
September 27/06:	9 a.m. – Noon	1:30 p.m. to completion

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

Carried unanimously.

5. Approval of the June 2006 National Executive minutes

Omission:

Take note that the April 2006 Minutes were adopted unanimously by the Executive in June/06; however the record of this was left out by mistake.

- **M/S** – Sicard/Willems – Adoption of the June 06 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

6. Business Arising out of the Minutes

Appeal Complaint

Bob gave a progress report on the appeal complaint and stated that members on the local executive were receptive to taking joint training; right now we're waiting to hear back from Jim Chorostecki (Toronto RO) to get back to us so that we can set up the training.

Local Investigation

Denis Sicard gave a progress report regarding ongoing local investigation; so far, involved parties have been cooperative and more talks are being scheduled.

ROP Bursary

A sub committee formed of Debbie, Denis and Howard made recommendations to the Executive regarding the 2 bursaries that are available for 2006.

- **M/S – Forsythe/Kingston** – Based on the sub-committee's recommendations that Lyle Leamon and Jaycee Dolter each be awarded a \$1000 bursary in recognition of the ROP's.

Unanimously.

Honourable mention to Carole Paradis.

The two successful applicants will be notified and will be required to show proof of enrolment for 2006.

Maternity/Paternity

Howard gave a progress report.

7. Financial and Communications

Finance

The Executive discussed the unaudited financial statements prepared by Larry; cosmetic changes will be made to the report for the next meeting. The Executive also discussed the membership report prepared by Christine which shows that we continue to have over 10% of rand members; Debbie will ask her committee to come up with a contest that will help reduce the number of rands.

Investments:

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

Carried Unanimously.

- **M/S** – Forsythe/Willems – That \$200,000 be taken from our CIBC operating account and be invested at the best possible rate of return.

Carried Unanimously.

Communications

Debbie gave a progress report on the info packages that are being put together for new members; a conference call with the committee is being planned for October.

Funding requests

The Executive discussed and approved three separate funding requests that came from: Jennie Chu, Roy Russel and Fabian Murphy.

8. National Office Staff

It was noted that Sylvia will be coming back on October 23/06 and that Christine successfully completed one of two Health and Safety courses; the second part of her course is scheduled for November.

The Executive discussed case workload in the National Office.

- **M/S** – Sicard/Willems – To help with the workload that Jerry Kovacs' term be extended by 6 months.

Carried Unanimously - Yves and Bob will discuss with the Service Officers regarding portfolios.

The Executive also discussed a request from Debbie Ramsay regarding her years of service with the PSAC;

- **M/S** – Sicard/Willems – That for vacation leave purposes, the Component should recognize Debbie Ramsay's 12 years of service with the PSAC (from 1981 to 1993).

Carried Unanimously

9. PSAC Health and Safety Conference

It's not yet known how many delegate seats we will have for this conference, however the Executive did established a priority list of members that can attend the conference. First priority will be given to National Policy Committee members followed by National Council members and then workplace committee members.

10. PFRA Local Assignment Follow-up

Howard gave a progress report and noted that two locals must elect their new executive. The next step will be to locate and identify members that are in the wrong local. A full UMC is scheduled for October 16th.

11. Planning Session follow up

Progress report. Four outstanding action items remain from the planning session; they are :

- Work Life Balance issues and Tool Kit – will ask Council members for input.
- EO guidebook on creating inclusive locals – EO Committee.
- Youth Strategy “Did You Know” document – ongoing.
- Membership polls for the web – Bob Kinston and Larry

12. Negotiations update

Bob provided a progress report. The CFIA bargaining team members were elected and they are: Marlene O’Neil, Len Haldorson, Brea Lewis, Bob Jackson, Marianne Hladun, Denies Sicard and Debbie Forsythe. Regarding Treasury Board, the National Office sent out a notice to the Locals in August and bargaining demands must be in by October 27th.

13. Employer Updates

CFIA

Progress reports were given on the Inspection Reform Committee (IRC) and the Essential Services Act (ESA), or what was formerly called the designation process. Howard brought forward new developments regarding the Moose Jaw complex and the impact that shift changes will have on staffing. The NUMC is scheduled for December 8/06.

AAFC

Regarding workload and as discussed at item 8, Jerry Kovacs term has been extended by 6 months and he’ll now take over the EG portfolio. Bob gave a progress report regarding EG Health & Safety issues and stated that he hopes to have more for the Council meeting. Yves stated that he’ll be attending the leadership session on October 24 & 25, 2006.

CGC

Bob gave progress reports on National H&S and on ICMS. The Executive then discussed possible changes to the Grain Act and the impact that would have on staffing.

CSPS-PSC

Céline Préfontaine notified Yves that she’s leaving her job at the PSC and after the next Council meeting she plans to step down as Director. Her Alternate, Meraiah Krebs, will take over for Céline who will not be far away since her new job brings her to the PSAC

where she'll coordinate the Joint Learning Program. It was noted that the UMC meeting is scheduled for October 12th.

DND

Progress report. On October 3/06, there will be a UMC meeting to discuss Health and Safety as well as the Human Resources sub-committee.

14. Next Meeting

Dates for the next Executive meeting were tentatively set for January 30-31, 2007.

15. NJC Directives Review

Yves notified the Executive that he's received two input call letters. The first one is on Health and Safety (group A) and the second one is on Isolated Posts.

16. Harassment complaints – Local 15 in Hamilton and Local 70139 in the NCR

Progress reports were given by Bob and Denis, see item 6.

17. Elections for Alternate RVP's and Directors

The Executive discussed procedures on how to run the elections for the Alternate positions that are now vacant on our Council.

18. Association of Public Service Alliance Retirees - APSAR

On behalf of APSAR, Claude Parent (Life Member) gave a brief presentation to the Executive; the association would like our assistance in contacting and recruiting new members. The Executive agreed to include APSAR information in our mail outs.

19. Succession Planning – CFIA Western Area

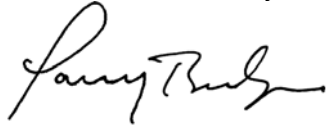
Howard talked about an email that Phil Amundson circulated in the Western area regarding succession planning. The National Executive, including Howard who works in that area, were not copied on this email. A formal response will be drafted and sent to Mr. Amundson and Pat Henderson; the letter will state reasons why we can not support this program in its current form.

20. Social Justice Fund

The Executive explored the possibility of the Union making a contribution to the Social Justice Fund. Debbie will discuss this subject matter with her Committee and develop a set of proposals for Council.

Having dealt with all agenda items the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Budge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Larry Budge
Administrative Officer