

**Agriculture Union
National Executive Meeting
April 6-7, 2013
Sheraton Hotel – Montréal QC**

1. Call to Order

National President Bob Kingston called the meeting to order; also in attendance were Fabian Murphy, Glenn Miller, Raphaël Tarasco, Larry Budge and Meraiah Krebs.

2. Opening Remarks

Bob greeted everyone to the meeting. In his opening remarks he talked about Harper's continued attacks on the public service.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted unanimously.
M/S/C – Krebs/Miller.

4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session were adopted unanimously.
M/S/C – Tarasco /Murphy

April 6, 2013	9:00am to 5:00pm
April 7, 2013	9:00am to completion

5. Approval of the January 2013 National Executive minutes

The Executive reviewed and corrected the draft minutes; they were then unanimously approved. **M/S/C** – Krebs/Murphy.

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

From item #6 – Employment Equity /Classification Reform: Meraiah stated that the major issue right now is the lack of collaboration from Employers; committees are being set up and union reps are being ignored. Meraiah will contact Employers and remind them that the E.E. Act requires that they must collaborate with us; if that doesn't work we will raise the issue at the next NUMC meetings. From item #6 – Cost Sharing with PSAC on Political Action: Bob made a presentation to the Alliance Executive Committee and we're waiting to hear back. From item #6 – Jack Layton memorial: Fabian will contact the OFL and enquire if we can make a donation. From item #9 – Communication: Fabian reported that Jim Thompson is now responsible for posting and updating our Web site; as per contract the hourly rate is \$50/hour. From item #10 – CFIA's Student Policy: At a meeting on January 30th, the Agency agreed that it will draft its policy as per Treasury Board's; once drafted we will have an opportunity to provide feedback. From item #10 – CFIA, regarding National Inspector Training Program: Raphaël provided an update on

training session he attended in Rigaud (QC) stating that it went well and that all good. From item #11 – Violence in the Work place; Glenn stated that this issue was brought up at the NOSH meeting and the matter was dealt with. From item #20 – Violence in the Work place - CFIA: HRSDC Complaints were filed and the Agency is presenting appeals in several locations; the expectation is that the appeals will be denied.

7. Financial Report

Financial Statements

The Executive reviewed and approved the draft audited financial statements for 2012, provided by Ted R. Lupinski, C.A. **M/S/C** – Krebs/Miller – carried unanimously

Supplemental Pension Plan - Investments

M/S/C – Miller/Krebs – That \$200,000 be transferred to the SPP investment fund (as required, 50% will be sent to the Canada Revenue Agency) - carried unanimously.

Investments

M/S/C – Murphy/Tarasco - That the investments coming to maturity before the next Executive meeting shall be reinvested at the best possible rate of return - carried unanimously.

8. National Office

A progress report was given by Bob and Fabian. CFIA PI/EG review: Sylvia Prowse provided a written update for the Executive; Fabian reported that the work that remained has been sorted out but so far no meetings have been scheduled as CFIA is not getting back to us with dates. Communication: the high number of general questions from members (email and phone calls), have gone down as members are starting to contact their local reps directly. Office filing: Fabian reported that we have a shortage of filing space; active files are currently sitting in boxes as the old metal cabinets can not accommodate our needs; therefore new, more efficient filing cabinets will be ordered to make room for all of our filing needs.

9. Communication

Fabian provided progress report. Web site: as per Council decision, the responsibility of posting content to the web site has been transferred to Jim Thompson. Web Site Analytics Report provided by Jim: Fabian discussed the Feb 7th to March 21st report with the Executive; an overview of the data shows that: our website was visited 2727 times with 51.6% of the visitors are “returning visitors”; almost 80% of referred visitors arrive from a PSAC site; 42% of the visitors visit one page and leave; 56% of visitors live in the Ottawa area; 81% visit the English site and 19% visit the French site.

Globe and Mail, Sylvain Charlebois article supporting cuts to CFIA: We will get Alan to draft a reply which we will the post to our website.

10. CFIA Update

Progress report. Organoleptic Inspection: Raphaël is trying to get answers from Cam Prince to address rumours that cuts are coming but it's been 2 weeks and still no response. Talent Management: this is the new name for employee appraisals and Sam Barlin contacted Raphaël for him to discuss with the Executive; he wants this issue raised at UMC meetings. Violence in the work place: the CFIA has agreed to have a list of competent people; have agreed to provide training for union and employer reps on how to conduct joint investigations; they've also agreed that once they've been made aware of a situation to try to resolve matters with the employee, as per section 20.9(2); there is however no agreement on where to send the complaints. Work Force Adjustment (WFA): all updates were sent via email on regional basis and nothing new to report.

11. AAFC update

Progress report. The Terms of reference were renewed with AAFC; The Administrative Investigation Directive was signed off. NUMCC: the next meeting is tentatively set for June 14th. WFA: updates were sent via email on a regional basis and nothing new to report.

12. CGC Update

Bob gave a progress report. The CGC has been decimated; positions are not being backfilled and protection for the producers is gone. NUMC: a meeting is scheduled for mid-April and we will discuss staffing issues and complaints. Violence in the work place: the process was set up and everything looked good to go however two recent investigations were mishandled. WFA: our members have been asked to train their replacements but they have concerns with security, which we will discuss with the CGC.

13. CSPS/ PSC update

Meraiah provided a progress report for the PSC. WFA: in short, the Employer did a poor job of handling this; in Edmonton, the office closure was difficult as members had to justify some of their choices. Corporate Services: The rumour is that the PSC did not meet its budget target and cuts could be on the horizon. OHS Complaint: we're looking at filing a complaint with HRSDC for failure to meet. CSPS progress report provided by Bob; he will contact Jean Papineau and get him to provide us with a Reg. 20 final report.

14. DND update

Bob and Fabian provided progress reports. WFA: everyone that was declared surplus has been taken care off; those that took option A, two remain undecided. HRUMCC meeting: Fabian attended a recent meeting where he discussed staffing issues with casualls. OSH: Bob attended Policy Committee meeting last week; he talked about DND's goals. Exclusion List: we're thinking of challenging DND's exclusion list; we will have better idea once we finish looking at job descriptions and org charts.

15. Negotiations update

CFIA: we are still waiting for the Public Interest Commission (PIC) report. TC Group: The PSAC has a Mobilization Action Plan underway; it's an awareness campaign for members and meetings are taking place across the country.

16. Social Justice Fund

Progress report provided by Fabian. Since the last Executive meeting, the SJF Committee has received 4 applications: two were denied, one was approved and one is currently being processed.

M/S/C – Krebs/Miller – that the SJF Committee review its decision on application sent in from the Alberta Seminar (which was denied) to see if it fits within the anti-poverty mandate. Carried Unanimously.

17. Political Action

Progress report. Community Pastures Program: a presentation will be made to MP Frank Valeriote who is the Standing Cmte on Agriculture and Agri-Food Vice-Chair; so far we 30 groups that have signed on. Food Safety: nothing new to report at this time.

18. Agriculture Union 2014 Triennial Convention in Winnipeg

Bob and Larry did an on-site inspection and everything looks good. Sam will take care of setting up the host committee.

19. Supplemental Pension Plan

Progress report.

20. PSAC Constitution: Interpretation of Section 4(2) (g) and Section 4(2) (c)

The Executive discussed the XO document sent out by PSAC National President Robyn Benson; the proposed changes will be discussed at the next NBoD meeting in June.

21. Agriculture Union Structure

Raphaël informed the Executive that he plans to discuss our structure with his committee later this week; he wants to have a discussion with all Council members on possible changes.

22. PSAC Exclusion report

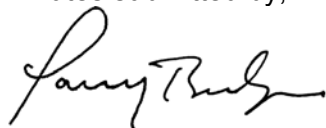
Fabian wants to have a discussion with the Labour Relations Officers to see if we can use new criteria to challenge certain exclusions. He will report back at next meeting.

23. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 27-28, 2013, in Ottawa.

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 written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Larry Budge
Administrative Officer