

**Agriculture Union
National Executive Meeting**

**April 16-17, 2011
Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver BC**

1. Call to Order

National President Bob Kingston called the meeting to order; also in attendance were Debbie Forsythe, Denis Sicard, Fabian Murphy, Howard Willems (via Skype / conference call) and Larry Budge.

2. Opening Remarks

Bob greeted everyone to the meeting.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted unanimously.
M/S/C – Sicard/Forsythe.

4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session were adopted unanimously.
M/S/C – Forsythe/Sicard.

April 16	9:00am to 5:00pm
April 17	9:00am to completion

5. Approval of the January 2011 National Executive minutes

The Executive reviewed the draft minutes; they were then unanimously approved.
M/S/C – Sicard/Willems.

6. Business Arising Out Of The Minutes – Tracking Report

From item 10 CFIA, re: Train the trainer sessions – some of the comments that Howard received was that the course had a pro-management slant to it, even though it was co-delivered. It was noted that none of the participants provided any feedback to the National Office which Bob and Debbie found disappointing.

From item 19 Food Safety Summit – in their post-conference analysis the Executive agreed that their attendance is beneficial and decided that they will attend at least one more Summit and continue to build a constructive relationship with industry participants. On the Tracking report – the Executive reviewed the items that will be discussed at Council and made note of new items that need to be added to NUMC meetings.

7. Financial Report – Convention budget

Debbie presented the 2012-2014 draft budget, which is based on 8500 members in each of the three years. Each section, line by line, was explained in detail. The Executive also discussed the possibility of introducing a special levy that would allow the Union to rebuild the contingency fund. The draft budget was approved unanimously and referred to the Finance Standing Committee for approval, **M/S/C** – Sicard/Murphy. The Finance committee will discuss the merits of a special levy.

Regarding the 2010 Audited Financial Statements – the Executive reviewed the statements that were prepared by Ted Lupinski, CA; they were approved unanimously. **M/S/C** – Forsythe/Willems.

8. National Office

A progress report was provided by Bob and Debbie.

9. Communication

Regarding the Key Info Kit, it's now posted on our web site and we're in the process of notifying the locals by email; as per our green policy we're no longer providing hard copies. Regarding the RVP/Directors Handbook, Debbie informed the Executive that she received input from Council members and the updated version will be finalized this week. Regarding the web site, as part of its regular review of the website the Executive unanimously approved a decision to consider new options regarding webmaster services, **M/S/C** – Forsythe/Willems.

10. CFIA Update

Regarding the PI/EG review, Bob provided a progress report. Regarding Irregular Hours of Work, our team of Raphaël Tarasco, Rick Cormier, John Langs and Randy Olynyk met with Cam Prince; they were told that consultation would be part of the solution however that still not the case; Bob will discuss with Martine Dubuc. Regarding Harassment and Violence in the workplace; Bon and Denis are working on a draft which will be discussed at Council. Regarding the Classification System, Debbie provided a progress report stating that she's having a hard time getting in contact with Nancy Darling.

11. AAFC update

Regarding the EG Review, we are trying to schedule final level hearing dates with the new ADM. Regarding GL Review, the classification mapping committees are scheduled to meet on April 28. Regarding AESB, the situation over there has stabilized and issues have been looked after.

12. CGC Update

Progress report provided by Bob; nothing new to report regarding One Operational Group (OOG).

13. CSPS/ PSC update

Debbie gave a progress report regarding ongoing issues at the CSPS and at the PSC. The reorganization at the School is creating a lot of problems with regards to the reporting structure; overall, our working relationship with them isn't where it should be. Over at the Commission, labour relations have improved and the move to Gatineau is scheduled for 2013; Meraiah sits on the relocation steering committee. As for Maria Barrados, she plans on retiring soon but still no word on who will take her place.

14. DND update

Bob and Debbie provided progress reports; there are still ongoing problems with regards to consultation in several locations and mediation sessions in St-Jean are being set up to deal with the policy grievance that was filed in October 2010

15. Negotiations update

Fabian and Bob provided updates; the Collective Bargaining committee reviewed all the CFIA demands that came in; the National Bargaining Conference is scheduled for May 17-20. With regards to Treasury Board negotiations, bargaining teams are ready to meet and are waiting for dates to be scheduled.

16. Social Justice Fund

Debbie gave a progress report. As per the 2008 convention, the Executive must provide a recommendation to Council on whether the Union should continue with the SJF. After a review of the Social Justice Fund the Executive unanimously agreed that we maintain the status quo, **M/S/C** – Willems/Sicard; the recommendation will go to Council.

17. Human Rights Conference

The Executive discussed the report that was prepared by Terri Lee and Marianne Hladun. Howard will also discuss the report with his committee later this week.

18. Local Updates

Progress report.

19. Triennial Convention - Committees

Based on recommendations received from regional seminars the Executive appointed delegates to the convention standing committees.

20. PSAC Supplemental Pension Plan (SPP) for elected officers

Bob provided information regarding the SPP and how it came about; there is a major financial implication for the Union and this will be discussed at Council.

21. Next Meeting

The next Executive meeting will be on August 12, 2011, in Vancouver, for Convention.

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 long horizontal stroke at the end.

Larry Budge
Administrative Officer