

**Agriculture Union  
National Executive Meeting  
November 4-5, 2013  
National Office**

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Opening Remarks**

Bob greeted everyone; in his opening remarks he stated that Meraiah has decided to resign from the National Executive, she informed him late last week just before coming to Ottawa.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

The proposed agenda was adopted unanimously.

**M/S/C** – Miller/Tarasco

**4. Hours of Session**

The following hours of session were adopted unanimously.

**M/S/C** – Murphy/Miller

November 4, 2013	9:00am to 5:00pm
November 5, 2013	9:00am to completion

**5. Approval of the August 2013 National Executive minutes**

The Executive reviewed and approved the draft minutes **M/S/C** – Miller/Tarasco.

**6. Business Arising Out Of the Minutes**

From item #11 – AAFC : we've met with Mark Eyking, the Liberal MP from Nova Scotia, we will be providing him with briefing notes on our ongoing issues and he stated that he looks forward to working with us. From item #20 – Vacancies in Union Leadership Positions: regarding Brother Rob MacDonald (Alternate RVP), he's still in John Langs' region however, if/when he's transferred out we will have to conduct an election to replace him; regarding Tracy Gowan (in Nappan); he was informed that he could not stay on as Local President and that he'll be transferred to Local 2 in Halifax. From item 13 – PSC: The NUMCC meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup>, was moved to November 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. Financial Report**

### By-Laws / Finance Structure Committee update

Fabian and Raphaël provided a progress report; the priority is to present a balanced budget at our next convention without increasing dues. There are no easy solutions as we've lost close to 1500 members since the last convention and so the next budget will be based on 7000 members. The committee was presented with many ideas but could not reach consensus on all of them. Based on the work done by the joint committee, several motions will be presented to the National Council later this week.

### Financial Statement

The Executive reviewed the unaudited financial statements for the period ending October 31, 2013. The cost saving measures that were implemented in June are proving to be beneficial, spending is down and it looks like we will break even in 2013.

### Investments

**M/S/C** – Murphy/Tarasco - That the investments coming to term between now and Jan 22, 2014, be reinvested 3 to 5 years at the best possible rate - carried unanimously.

## **8. National Office**

Bob provided a progress report. Since the last meeting, Elaine has taken a leave of absence; initially it was for the month of October but her leave has now been extended to the end of November. To help us deal with this, Sylvia Prowse came back to work for us on September 30, working 21 hours a week, (this was her last week); she was to help close some files while Elaine was away. As for Sylvie Rochon, her term at the Gatineau Regional Office has been extended to the end of January 2014. That said, Erick Martel's term with us will be extended once his leave with PSC is approved. An LRO competition poster will be posted to establish a pool of candidates should we need an LRO to come in on a short term basis. The Executive discussed workload issues with the Labour Relations Officers; Bob and Fabian will continue to monitor our internal process with regards to handling of grievances. Regarding Debbie Ramsay's position, a competition poster is now out and the deadline is November 15, 2013; we expect to conduct interviews in December.

## **9. Communication**

The Executive worked on 2 releases on Workplace Health and Safety Protections that will be posted to our web site later this week. With regards to the web site itself, Fabian stated that the redesign is taking shape; we should have a first draft of the new design by early December.

## **10. CFIA Update**

Bob gave a progress report. We still have not met with Bruce Archibald (new CFIA President) but we hope to have a meeting date set up soon. With regards to Violence in the workplace, some progress has been made and the employer is considering some of our recommendations; that said we still have issues regarding competent persons. Regarding Rona Ambrose and the Health portfolio, we're still not sure what the budget implication are yet.

**11. AAFC update**

Progress report was given. Bob gave an update on grievances and the consultations framework. On December 12<sup>th</sup> the Executive will attend the NUMC meeting and they will discuss the lack of consultation on policy grievances.

**12. CGC Update**

Bob gave a progress report; looks like more changes are to come at the CGC; we are told that inspection will not be affected. We will contact Liberal MP Mark Eyking and to discuss our ongoing concerns at the CGC. Regarding WFA, an email update will be sent to the National Council.

**13. CSPS/ PSC update**

This was Meraiah's portfolio; going forward, Bob and Fabian will take over and they provided updates on the CSPS and the PSC. Issues at the CSPS have stabilized; the Violence in the Workplace policy is good, not great, and there are no issues with competent persons. At the PSC, no more cuts are coming and the new President is labour friendly; in the area of Health & Safety, the PSC is more progressive than other employers.

**14. DND update**

Bob and Fabian provided progress reports. Regarding WFA, 2 members in Borden received work extensions. Bob gave a progress report regarding ongoing issues at the local in St-Jean.

**15. Negotiations update**

Progress report. On December 4<sup>th</sup>, we will return to the negotiating table with CFIA. Regarding Treasury Board, elections are underway for all tables.

**16. Social Justice Fund**

Progress report provided by Fabian. The SJF committee did not approve the request for High River (Alberta flood relief) as the request called for funds to be directed directly to members. That said the SJF committee suggested that a new request be made for funds to be directed to a recognized charity.

**17. Political Action**

Progress report. The Executive will be setting up a media event on Bill C-4; we will have Rob Ellis attend our press conference; Mr Ellis's son died as a result of unsafe working conditions.

**18. Agriculture Union 2014 Triennial Convention in Winnipeg**

Progress report.

**19. Supplemental Pension Plan**

Progress report.

**20. Vacancies in Union Leadership Positions**

Glenn announced that he plans to retire and that he will not run for re-election come August 2014. Later this week we will have elections to replace Raphaël and Meraiah.

**21. PSAC XO 28**

This was referred to the Finance committee

**22. Local Reports**

The Executive read the reports; Bob will have a discussion with Barb Kristjansson regarding Local 57.

**23. ROP Bursary**

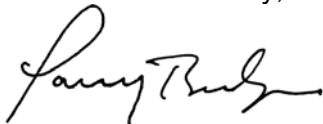
We received one application and unfortunately it did not meet the requirements.

**24. Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 30-31, 2014

Having dealt with all agenda items the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by,



Larry Budge  
Administrative Officer