

**Agriculture Union
National Council Meeting**

**October 25-26 & 28-29, 2021
Video Conference**

MINUTES

In Attendance:

National Executive	National Council
Milton Dyck, National President Patrick St-Georges, 1 st NEVP Randy Olynyk, 2 nd NEVP Dorothy McRae, 3 rd NEVP Audrey St-Germain, 4 th NEVP	Jan Pennington, RVP Eastern Atlantic Tammy Carter, RVP Western Atlantic Jannick Beaurivage, RVP Eastern Quebec Stéphane Scaramella, RVP Western Quebec Sylvie Jubinville, RVP NCR Stewart Spence, RVP Manitoba, NW Ont. Nunavut Curtis Veale, RVP Saskatchewan Dave Pearson, Alt RVP Southern Alberta Christine Austin, RVP Eastern BC Todd Smith, RVP Western BC and Yukon Gus Mardli, National Director Human Rights
	Absent: Sherry Hunt RVP Southern Alberta RVP Southern Ontario; RVP Northern Alberta & NWT

	Staff
	Larry Budge, Administrative Officer

1. Call to Order

Milton Dyck called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m., Ottawa local time.

2. Opening Remarks

Milton welcomed everyone to the first Council meeting since the August convention; there are lot of new faces, and he looks forward to working with everyone; yesterday's training

day went well, and Milton hopes that it was helpful for everyone. Also, with Sherry Hunt away on bargaining, her alternate David Pearson is here to replace her.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Item 18 *Convention 2021 Outstanding Resolutions* was added to the proposed agenda; Milton stated that this was to deal with unfinished business from the August convention; once this has been done the Bylaws Committee will be tasked to update our Resolutions of Record.

M/S St-Georges / Pennington - THAT the agenda be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED – By show of hands.

4. Hours of Session

The following hours of session (Ottawa local time) were proposed by the Chair

October 25: 11:00am to 5:30pm – Training Day

October 26: 11:00am to 5:30pm

October 28: Standing committee meetings

October 29: 11:00am to 5:30pm – Committee Reports and

M/S McRae / Pearson - THAT the proposed hours of sessions be adopted – the motion **CARRIED – By show of hands.**

5. Approval of April 2021 National Council Minutes

M/S St-Germain / St-Georges - THAT the April 2021 draft minutes be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED Unanimously – Recorded Vote #1.

6. Business Arising out of Previous Minutes

There was no business arising out of previous minutes.

MOTION McRae / Veale

To refer the hospitality policy to the appropriate committee with the direction to include the necessity to obtain a liquor license for any agriculture union activity that the purchase or usage of alcohol or intoxicating substances is desired.

The motion was debated; Milton explained that if this passed it would be referred to the appropriate committee to bring back a recommendation to Council. The **QUESTION** was called **M/S** by Pearson/ Mardli. The **MOTION FAILED – Recorded Vote #2**

7. National President's Report

Milton submitted a written report to Council; he turned the chair over to Pat took questions from Council members. He noted that he will be dealing with item 8 on the agenda at the same time; Milton's report also touched on item 9 of the agenda.

M/S Jubinville / Olynyk - THAT the President's report be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED – Unanimous - Recorded Vote #3.

Pat turned the chair back over to Milton.

8. Employer Updates

Milton provided Council members with a written update on behalf of the National Executive; the reports were discussed with Council (see attached). Regarding CFIA and other employers, Tammy wanted to more details regarding Pay Equity Act, and more specifically, who will be on the committee; Milton responded that union members with experience on this file will be assigned to the committee; the committee must be comprised of at least 50% women and each bargaining agent will be represented (the employer will have reps and there will be non-union members as well). Todd had a question regarding DND and the transfers of LAT members; Milton responded that we have list, and we hope to finalize this by the end of November after the DND convention. Regarding PSC, Audrey mentioned that our members are in favor of working remotely however the employer hasn't been very accommodating; she's hopeful that the PSC will revise their position on this; on that front, Milton and Pat both mentioned that all employers will have revise their telework policies.

9. National Office Update

In addition to the President's report (attached), Pat stated that he was happy that Council got to meet the LRO's - Sylvie Rochon, Nathalie Cale and Bruno Loranger - yesterday; the LRO's and the Admins – Lianne Bonneville and Isabelle Tardif - have been extremely busy managing the influx of emails from members regarding the latest developments with Covid and vaccines.

Tammy had questions regarding our website updates, and whether it was possible to have a shared drive for Council members; Milton responded that Larry is responsible for posting new items to the website; maintenance and upgrades are done contracted out; Milton agreed with Tammy that we must do better at updating the website; with regards to the shared drive; we can't use the PSAC network but we will look at using google drive. Regarding our office rent, Tammy wanted to know if it's still a good idea to pay for office space if staff will continue to work remotely; Milton responded that our current rent with PSAC Holdings expires at the end of 2023, and that might be a good time to review.

10. Agriculture Union Social Justice Fund

A progress report was provided by Pat; the new SJF committee members will be Tammy Carter, Jannick Beaurivage, Larry Budge and Pat; in addition to that, if the outstanding resolution D-16 from convention (see item 18), an additional member from the Human Rights committee will be added the SJF committee. NOTE: resolution D-16 did in fact pass; the Human Rights committee now needs to elect a member. Once that process takes place, Pat will schedule a meeting with the SJF committee.

11. Collective Bargaining

Item was referred to the Collective Bargaining, Occupational Health and Safety Committee. See attached report.

12. Standing Committee Reports – See Attached

- Bylaws and Education Report

Randy read the committee report (attached).

Motion: M/S - Olynyk / Smith

That the Committee's report be adopted by Council.

Unanimous - Recorded Vote #4

- Collective Bargaining, Health and Safety Committee report

The members of the committee took turns to read the report (attached).

Motion: M/S - McRae / Austin

That the Committee's report be adopted by Council.

Unanimous - Recorded Vote #5

- General Committee Report

The members of the committee took turns to read the report (attached). As the report was read, the following motion came made:

Motion: M/S - Olynyk / St-Germain

That we share the application process and templates for awards with Council.

Unanimous - Recorded Vote #6

Motion: M/S - St-Germain / Mardli.

That the Committee's report be adopted by Council.

Unanimous - Recorded Vote #7

- Finance and Communication Report

Pat read the committee report (attached).

Motion: M/S - St-Georges / Pearson.

That the Committee's report be adopted by Council.

Unanimous - Recorded Vote #8

13. Political Action

A progress report was provided by Milton; he stated that there's not much new to report; we might have to look at doing something for our members at the CGC, all depends if the review of the Canadian Grain Act has a negative impact on our members.

14. Vaccine Mandate

There was an extensive discussion with Council on this item and Milton gave an update on the latest from the PSAC's position; many questions are being raised by members regarding the upcoming deadlines imposed by the government; the more complicated questions are being shared with the PSAC. There's a NBoD's meeting next week, and Milton will bring with him the many concerns raised today by Council; it's very clear that the PSAC must address the uncertainty that is out there. Here's a shortlist of some of the concern raised today: What are we doing for members that will be struck off pay, what type of recourse will they have? Members that are against vaccinations feel they are being bullied; others feel that the Union isn't listening to them.

15. Training for National Council (October 25)

There was a training session on day 1; members of the Executive facilitated the day and the LRO's got to meet and discuss with Council members.

16. Local Finances – Regulation 15

Larry provided an update to Council; we have a handful of locals that are struggling, and we hope that it's an isolated issue; however, since Covid, we're finding it harder to get members to step up and take control of their local. Regulation 15 states we can withhold local rebates if a local falls behind on filing its financial statements; it's not something the Executive wants to do so we're trying to these locals get up to speed. Curtis asked how many members does a local require to be viable and Milton responded that 3 members is the minimum.

17. Lifetime Membership for Terri Lee

The Council debated the Agriculture Union Lifetime membership for Terri Lee. It was proposed by Todd Smith; he talked about Terri's long career withing the Agriculture Union and stated that she's the reason he became a Union activist; he hopes everyone on Council will supports this. The lifetime membership was **Carried Unanimously – Recorded Vote # 9.**

18. Convention 2021 – Outstanding Resolutions

The Council debated the remaining 4 resolutions the were left outstanding from the August 2021 convention. The convention resolutions **D-13, D-16, D-22 and D-11** all had a recommendation of concurrence from the General Committee at Convention (see attached); all four were debated by Council and all four resolutions were **Carried by Show of Hands.**

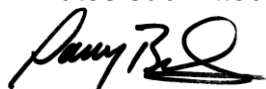
Milton noted that resolutions D-20, D-21 and D-23, all have costing attached to them and therefore Council could not deal with them as only convention can approve changes to dues.

19. Next Council Meeting

Dates to be determined.

Having dealt with all agenda items the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by,



Larry Budge
Administrative Officer

National Council

Oct 2021

Recorded Votes

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Austin, Christine	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Beaurivage, Jannick	3	2	1	1	4	1	1	1	1
Carter, Tammy	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hunt, Sherry	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jubinvillie, Sylvie	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mardli, Gus	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
McRae, Dorothy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Olynyk, Randy	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pennington, Jan	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scaramella, Stéphane	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smith, Todd	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Spence, Stewart	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
St-Georges, Pat	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
St-Germain, Audrey	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
VACANT, N. Alberta	4								
VACANT, S. ONT	4								
Veale, Curtis	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dyck, Milton	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

1=yes/pour 2=no/non 3=abstain/abstention 4=absent