



Inaugural Meeting of Okanagan Human Rights Committee on January 21, 2011

Executive & PSAC:

Annette Hale USGE 20153
Kelly Megyesi CEIU 20915
Maria-Luiza Romano AGR 20027
Martha Johnson UVAE 20035
Regina Brennan, PSAC Regional Rep & Human Rights Portfolio

The meeting began with a sharing of ideas and the start of the formation of the Committee. Three letters have been submitted to the National Presidents and although not required the fourth will be submitted in the next week.

USGE – submitted to John Edmonds on November 15, 2010. Confirmed that it was sent to John Gordon on November 17, 2010

CEIU – submitted to Jeannette Meunier-McKay on November 15, 2010. Confirmed that it was sent to John Gordon on November 21, 2010.

AGR – submitted to Bob Kingston on January 11, 2011. No confirmation received as of yet.

Regina agreed to follow-up on our behalf.

Structure of the committee was agreed to as follows: 4 executives – each taking lead for one quarter. Other duties, such as secretary, treasurer, communications, media and others would be divided up between the executive. Quarters assigned are Martha Jan/Feb/Mar, Kelly Apr/May/Jun, Maria-Luiza Jul/Aug/Sep, & Annette Oct/Nov/Dec.

Martha is thinking of tackling the foreign worker issue at Denny's. Everyone is in agreement that she will formulate her idea and then call on us to help her carry it out. Each lead will be responsible for the organization of their event, enlisting people to do the work and reporting out all within their quarter. This is a system that should work well as all of the executives are highly engaged in union work.

Discussion on type of activities - Suicide prevention demonstration, travelling as a group to a lower mainland function, booth at May day picnic, Gakhal vigil, Sisters in Spirit walk or vigil, movie nights, etc etc.

Maria-Luiza will prepare terms of reference and at our next meeting we will draft our vision and mandate. Meetings will be open to all area council members and we will encourage participation and growth. Next meeting March 26, 2011.

Prepared by: Kelly Megyesi