

**CMG/CBC Branch Executive Council
Conference Call
August 25, 2008
7:30 – 8:30 PM EDT**

FINAL MINUTES – Approved Sept. 9/08

- 1. Call to order/roll call:** Marc-Philippe Laurin (chair), Elaine Janes, Harry Mesh, Michael D'Souza, Xavier Brassard-Bedard, Annick Forest, Timothy Neesam, Michael Santianni, Gaynette Spafford, Helene Dupre-Espeut, Ralph Legare, Kaveri Bittira, Barbara Saxberg (recording secretary)
Regrets: Fiona Christensen, Carrie May, Russ Knutson
Absent: Jeff Mitrow
Staff: Dan Oldfield
- 2. Approval of agenda:**
MOTION: to approve agenda
M/S D'Souza/Brassard-Bedard
MOTION TO AMEND: agenda to be limited to the single item of the selection of the bargaining committee.
M/S D'Souza/Brassard-Bedard
Motion failed when put to a vote
MOTION TO AMEND: move the selection of the bargaining committee to the first item for discussion and limit the conference call to one hour. Any business not covered will be pended to the next meeting.
M/S Spafford/Legare
Carried unanimously
- 3. Selection of the bargaining committee:**
MPL reported that the sub-committee selected to review all applications for the bargaining committee and make a recommendation to the BEC and the Presidents' Council met today. The committee consisted of Marc-Philippe Laurin, Gaynette Spafford, Michael D'Souza, Kevin Shaw, Michael Robert and Dan Oldfield. (elected as per the CBC Branch by-laws)
MOTION: the CBC Branch sub-committee recommends that the following people be appointed to serve on the CBC bargaining committee (in alphabetical order):

- Brendan Elliott
- Annick Forest
- Elaine Janes
- Harry Mesh
- John O'Connor
- Barbara Saxberg
- Chris Turner

M/S D'Souza/Spafford

Discussion:

It was noted that the collective agreement allows for seven people to be released to serve on the committee. MPL will also serve as ex-officio in his capacity as Branch President. D'Souza explained that the sub-committee's deliberations were held in camera so as to allow for full and honest discussion. It was the sub-committee's view that the names put forward would constitute the most effective committee to meet management and the decisions were based on the criteria approved by the BEC and the Presidents' Council. No alternates were selected. Oldfield reported that a strategy for freelance issues has been developed by members of the Freelance Branch and will be addressed through a sub-committee which will report directly to him as chief negotiator.

Motion carried.

One abstention.

ACTION: Saxberg to notify Location presidents of a conference call for Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at 8:00 PM ET for discussion and ratification as per the Branch bylaws.

ACTION: MPL will put release requests in motion immediately to allow time to meet the release timelines of the collective agreement.

ACTION: MPL will notify immediately those candidates who were not selected. They will be asked if they wish to serve on sub-committees.

Forest thanked the sub-committee for its work.

It was recommended by several that the appointment of the new bargaining committee should be announced to the membership, following ratification by the Presidents' Council.

7:50 PM Oldfield left the call.

4. Approval of past minutes:

MOTION: to approve the minutes of July 28, 2008 conference call
M/S Forest/Neesam
Carried unanimously

5. **Business arising:**

- a. **ACTION: February 26`08:** Fiona Christensen has requested a detailed spending report in line with the budget as of Dec. 31, 2007 – Ralph Legare to provide.
- **March 10`08:** Legare absent from call.
 - **May 12, 2008:** Legare is still working on it. He will provide for the May face to face meeting in advance of the CMG convention.
 - **May 21, 2008:** Report not ready.
 - **June 16, 2008:** Legare absent from call
 - **July 28, 2008:** Legare absent from call
 - **August 28, 2008:** Legare will attempt to have this report for the next meeting. **PENDING**
- b. It was agreed that the BEC President and Vice-President meet with Legare to discuss the treasurer's continued absence from BEC meetings.
- **August 28, 2008:** MPL reported the meeting was held. Legare is committed to staying on as treasurer and will evaluate the work that needs to be done. The Branch management sub-committee will meet to determine a framework for future budgets with a sub-committee conference call to be scheduled for early September. **DONE**
- c. **ACTION:** CCSB members will draft criteria for sitting on the CCSB and seek applications to fill the remaining seat.
- **March 10`08:** MPL, haven't started to work on profile, will be done when Dan comes back from holidays.
 - **April 14/08:** still to be done
 - **May 12/08:** MPL has discussed this with Dan. Some preliminary work has been done by CCSB member Jon Soper to develop criteria. MPL and Dan along with the rest of the CCSB will review in the next few weeks.
 - **June 16/08:** document is still being drafted. Criteria will include knowledge of pensions & investments.
 - **July 28/08:** MPL apologized for the delay in getting this completed and will attempt to have it for the next meeting.

- **August 25, 2008:** MPL explained that with summer vacations, this item is still to be addressed. **PENDING**

d. **ACTION:** The BEC President will present a motion to the NEC at its next meeting to request full funding for an additional seat on the CBC National Grievance Committee for developmental purposes.

The issue of whether to rotate the seat or leave Forest in the seat for the remainder of the term will be left pending till the next branch meeting, once a decision on funding is made.

- **July 28/08:** NEC has not yet met.
- **August 25, 2008:** MPL has discussed the issue with CMG National President Lise Lareau who has agreed to support the concept of two alternates who will participate regularly. Effort should be made to fill the seats with members of equity-seeking groups. Forest should remain on the committee given her work to date. It was suggested that future alternates be asked to commit to a year on the NGC. Next meeting of the NEC is scheduled for Sept. 3, 2008.

ACTION: Janes and D'Souza will prepare a short proposal to go with the proposed motion for funding. They will work out details.

PENDING

6. Treasurer's report:

Legare reported that the Branch has just surpassed \$200K in spending for 2008. That does not include all of MPL's wages. Legare predicts the branch will be slightly over budget at year end because of the cost of the "relationship" meetings with the CBC.

MPL explained that he had discussed the cost of these meetings with CMG National VP Scott Edmonds who had agreed to split the costs incurred to date, with half going to the negotiations line item in the national budget and the other half being billed to the branch. All future costs of the "relationship" meetings will be billed to negotiations.

Legare noted that the National Finance Committee is scheduled to meet next week to begin the preliminary budgeting process.

7. CCSB seats:

MPL explained that there is currently one vacancy on the CCSB which is being filled temporarily by staff rep. Gabi Durocher. This

seat cannot be filled until such time as the job description in item #5.c is completed.

MPL also reported that Carrie May has committed to attend all future CCSB meetings after absences of the past two years, now that her work schedule will be consistent. The next meeting of the CCSB is scheduled for September 3-4, 2008.

8. President's remarks:

MPL thanked the BEC for its patience and the work done over the summer.

He reported that the next set of "relationship" meetings with the CBC will take place the week of September 15, 2008. The newly-appointed bargaining committee (pending ratification by the Presidents' Council) will now attend these meetings in place of the previous committee. The meetings are intended to resolve interpretation issues of existing contract language in the current collective agreement. These meetings will lead into regular bargaining for a new collective agreement later in the fall.

9. Policy sub-committee:

The committee will consist of Mesh, D'Souza, Spafford and Saxberg.

10. Date for next face to face meeting:

Likely October. Suggested dates to be sent to BEC via email.

PENDING

11. Committee/Directors reports:

- Temp review: Janes reported that a number of conversions to full time status have taken place. Santianni asked that as director of temps, he be plugged in to the work of the temp. review committee. Janes will provide him with dates of future meetings and arrangements will be made for him to attend and to be kept up to date.

12. Next conference call: Tuesday, September 9, 2008 – 7:30 PM ET.

13. MOTION: to adjourn at 8:30 PM.

M/S Legare/Mesh

Carried unanimously.