

**CMG/CBC Branch Executive Council  
Conference Call  
July 28, 2008  
7:30 – 8:30 PM EDT**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. **Call to order/roll call:** Marc-Philippe Laurin (chair), Elaine Janes, Harry Mesh, Fiona Christensen, Michael D'Souza, Xavier Brassard-Bedard, Annick Forest, Tim Neesam, Carrie May (joined at 7:50 pm), Michael Santianni (joined at 8:00 pm), Barbara Saxberg (recording secretary)  
**Regrets:** Gaynette Spafford, Helene Dupre-Espeut, Ralph Legare  
**Absent:** Kaveri Bittira, Jeff Mitrow, Russ Knutson  
**Staff:** Dan Oldfield
  
2. **Approval of agenda:**  
**MOTION:** to approve agenda  
M/S Mesh/D'Souza  
Carried unanimously
  
3. **Swearing in of new officers:**  
Timothy Neesam was sworn in as Director of New Media and welcomed to the BEC.
  
4. **Approval of past minutes:**  
**MOTION:** to approve the minutes of June 16, 2008 conference call  
M/S D'Souza/Brassard-Bedard  
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 **PENDING**

- b. **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. **PENDING**

- c. **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. **PENDING**

- d. **ACTION:** Saxberg will check with Glen Seymour in the CMG National office about the possibility of adding an automatic advisory to the phone system to note when people come and go from the calls.

- **July 28/08:** Saxberg reports that the new conference call system has been implemented with new call-in numbers and an automatic notification of arrivals and departures. **DONE**

#### 6. President's remarks:

Marc-Philippe Laurin reported on the most recent "relationship" meeting with the CBC, held the week of July 15, 2008. Much has been accomplished regarding the issue of temporary employment and a memorandum of agreement has been signed. Dan Oldfield explained that the MOA addresses a number of long-standing issues and a plan is now being created to inform location unit presidents of the details of the MOA. The MOA will also be shared with members of the Branch Executive Council. The temporary

arbitration has also been folded into the relationship process. A sub-committee of the National Grievance Committee will continue its work to resolve the many issues from the arbitration in a series of meetings scheduled into September. Overall, the feeling is that the CBC now recognizes the significance and value of the temporary workforce. Oldfield is encouraged by the work but says there is still much to be done. The next meeting is scheduled for the week of September 15, 2008.

**7. Treasurer's report:**

Several BEC members raised concerns about the failure of the treasurer, Ralph Legare, to attend BEC meetings and to send in financial reports. MPL explained that he had spoken with Legare in early May about the issue. It had been agreed that Legare would commit to attending every second meeting and would provide reports to all meetings. This has not happened. Janes felt this situation was unacceptable because of the importance of the treasurer's role in the branch's ability to make decisions. Mesh noted that it violates the branch bylaws. Saxberg felt that these points needed to be made clear to the treasurer so that the situation wouldn't continue indefinitely with no resolution.

**MOTION:** That the BEC President and Vice-President meet with Legare to discuss the treasurer's continued absence from BEC meetings.

M/S D'Souza/Forest

Carried unanimously

**8. Bylaws resolutions referendum update:**

MPL reported that all convention resolutions passed the referendum with the required two-thirds majority, including the resolution that would merge the BEC positions of the Director of New Members and the Director of Temporary Employees. (This resolution failed on the convention floor.) MPL asked the election committee whether it was possible there was any misunderstanding in what people were voting on and was assured that the documentation was clear. Michael Santianni, as the current Director of New Members, becomes Director of New Members/Temps, effective immediately.

Several BEC members commented on the cumbersome nature of the online voting system. Voter turnout was very low – 112 members participated, fewer than attended the convention. It was agreed that this issue must be addressed before a vote of a similar nature takes place.

**9. Selection of the bargaining committee:**

MPL informed BEC members that he intends to call a conference call of the Presidents' Council as early as next week to determine which 2 location unit presidents will sit on the Recommending sub-committee. (This committee will review all applications for the bargaining committee, measuring them against the criteria approved by the BEC and make recommendations to the BEC for discussion and approval.) MPL noted that the Memorandum of Agreement regarding temporary employees (see President's remarks #6) would also be discussed on this call.

The Branch council discussed the selection of two BEC members who would also sit on the Recommending sub-committee.

**MOTION:** that Michael D'Souza and Gaynette Spafford be appointed from the BEC to sit on the Recommending sub-committee.

M/S Forest/Christensen

Carried unanimously

MPL updated the BEC on the bargaining boot camp proposal that was submitted to CWA for funding. It has been determined that the money is available but MPL expressed concern that there was no longer time to run the boot camp. There was consensus on that point. It was agreed that best efforts would be made to have the bargaining committee selected and in place in time for the next "relationship" meetings with the CBC, scheduled for the week of September 15, 2008.

**10. Policy sub-committee** – to be established - **PENDING**

**11. Date for next face to face meeting:** **PENDING**

**12. Committee/Directors reports:**

- Human Rights report attached. D'Souza reported on a case of a reporter in Toronto who filed reports on his own time, outside of his regular working hours, and was not paid for the reports which aired. D'Souza has taken the issue up with management and has been assured it will be resolved. To date, there has been no action. D'Souza will follow up and will file a formal complaint if necessary.
- SRC West: Forest reported that a local joint committee meeting was held recently in Winnipeg. It went well

and good communication has been established, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for the fall.

- Atlantic report attached. Mesh reported that the St. John's local joint process has a long way to go, that there is little cooperation from management on resolving issues.

**13. Next conference call: Monday, August 25, 2008 – 7:30 PM ET.**

**14. Quorum lost at 8:50 PM - Meeting adjourned.**