

REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – VICTORIA LABOUR COUNCIL

November 15, 2017

Greetings,

VLC President Report (Mike Eso):

- Commented on a busy fall for VLC with a noticeable increase in attendees at various meetings in the community and provincially.
- VLC running a deficit due in part to party donations during the provincial election
- VLC affiliation member numbers: 20,914 with the largest affiliates being: BCGEU, CUPE, HEU, Unifor, UFCW & BCTF
- A number of unions are in arrears with their VLC fees. These need to be paid by the January 2018 meeting. Dues must be up to date in order to be on the VLC executive.
- Commented on the importance of being work-safe in our jobs with particular mention of a recent death of a correctional officer in BC. The officer was apparently working alone and it was unclear if proper worksafe procedures were in place or followed.
- Donation made to TAPS by VLC

TAPS (Together Against Poverty Society) support - **TAPS** is the only organization in Victoria providing free, face-to-face legal advocacy for people with income assistance, disability benefits and tenancy issues.

TAPS assists over **5,000** people in Victoria each year from professionals who have just lost their jobs to people who have seen their health decline from living on income assistance

TAPS advocates help people in the Victoria area with matters that involve any of the following:

- Disability benefits applications and appeals
- Social assistance (welfare)
- Employment standards disputes
- Landlord/tenant disputes
- Income tax for low-income earners

A representative of TAPS will be attending the January 2018 meeting to expand on the work done within the community.

United Way Labour Coordinator Report (Gayle Nye)

- President of United Way Victoria coming to January 2018 meeting.
- Creating a new campaign "Tampon Tuesdays" which will be launched early in 2018. Gayle said the campaign would run from March 6-20, 2018. The purpose of the campaign is to provide feminine hygiene and menstruation products to women in the community that are unable to afford these necessities. The United Way is looking for union participation in the following capacity:
 - o Donation locations
 - o Looking for suggestions of community groups who are in need of these products



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- Coordination/logistics for collection and distribution
- Contact: gayle.nye@uwgv.ca

Met the Regional Vice-president of CUPE BC – Kirk Mercer

Reminder: Nominations for the VLC Executive are required by the January 2018 meeting.

VLC: Christmas Party: December 13 at the Guild (upstairs) on Wharf Street @ Yates from 7-9 pm., Bring a friend!