

REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – VICTORIA LABOUR COUNCIL – OCTOBER 17, 2018

Greetings,

Here is my report of the meeting highlights. I was the only CUPE 2081 delegate present.

- The meeting started at 7 pm and ended at ~7:50 pm.
 - o Mike Eso, President sent his regrets
 - o Quorum was reached eventually
 - o Sergeant-at-arms-Sam Montgomery
 - o Reading of Credentials – 2 new representatives

Everyone was encouraged to see CUPE BC website for municipal elections endorsements

<https://www.cupe.bc.ca/>

GUEST SPEAKER:

The guest speaker was Randall Garrison-NDP MP for Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke and Critic for National Defense and LGBTQ2 issues

Highlights;

- o Thanked labour council and trade unions for their support!
- o A federal election could be called next spring
- o Nov 17 is his nomination meeting for the next campaign at Royal Oak Neighbourhood House, 4525 West Saanich Rd
- o He is going to the UN in 10 days
- o Pot is the topic of the day. He plans to decline to answer any questions about smoking pot.
- o Criminal Records; NDP is working on expungement while Liberals only working on pardons which can still impede someone from getting a job
- o He is working on getting the term 'self-harm' removed from the Canadian Armed Forces/National Defence Act regulations as keeping it in as a disciplinary offense is actually a barrier to getting help. Included in Bill C-77 amendments. Suicide attempts are considered self-harm. There is 1 suicide per month. Conservatives support the amendment. Waiting to see if Liberals will.
- o As the LGBTQ2 critic, he reported that there were ~2000 people kicked out of the military and they received a dishonorable discharge. He is working to ensure they receive an honorable discharge instead so they can receive benefits such as a pension.
- o Working on changing the 1-year blood ban for gay people. It was 5 years. The Liberals promised to eliminate the ban.
- o A pension's bill, Bill C-27 is being proposed. Employers would be allowed take a 'defined benefit pension plan' and change it into a 'target benefit plan'. This equates to the employee only getting out what they put into the plan.

Canada Labour Council Report;

- Pacific Region Winter School brochures arrived and will be sent out to locals soon. See the website; <http://canadianlabour.ca/union-education/workshops-and-courses/2019-clc-pacific-region-winter-school-registration-open>

REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – VICTORIA LABOUR COUNCIL – OCTOBER 17, 2018

- New course on Human Rights; Human Rights: An Introduction
- New course 'Investigating Bullying and Harassment'
- CLC rep Orion Irvine;
 - Proportional Representation Rally on Tues. Oct 23rd.
 - He encouraged everyone to vote in the municipal election
 - He spoke about tariffs and trade agreements then asked Randall Garrison to update us further on these issues.
 - Randall said 'Check your milk' as we are now allowing United States dairy products into Canada but they do not have the same regulations/restrictions as we do in Canada.
 - There are some issues with the TPP, Trans-Pacific Partnership as Canada could end up paying when a business feels as if it has lost opportunities. It just passed third reading in parliament.

Union Reports;

- HEU; Charlotte Millington
 - Annual convention in 2 ½ weeks, she is running.
- Queen Alexandra Hospital Union;
 - Shortages of funds for early intervention for children
 - Won a 6 year long grievance over parking issue
 - CUPW;
 - Rotating strike notice given Oct. 17th, 2018 means they could be on strike as early as Mon. Oct 22nd, 2018
 - Will be needing local union support
 - Board of Governors?? meeting will be at the Victoria International Airport on Tues, Oct 23, 2018
 - Looking for union/community members for support by attending this meeting
 - Compass Group wants to lower minimum wages of Local 40 members

United Way Report;

- Workplace campaign kicked off 1 month ago
- United Way has a new executive director
- Explained connections between funds donated to United Way and how they are directed toward poverty and homelessness with union support

Unfinished Business;

- HEU rep did the 2.5 km walk Defeat Depression walk/run on Sept 22nd
- It was well organized by Ryan and there was a good turnout

Kelly Speak
Correspondence Secretary
VLC Rep
CUPE 2081