



The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada
Atlantic Regional Executive Meeting Minutes
Zoom Conference – September 14, 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Kim Skanes

EXECUTIVE:

Gerald Hill
Carolyn Hynes
Marcel Journeay
Matthew Lee
Scott McConaghy
Christine LeDrew
Mike Pauley
Phil Wilson

REGRETS: Jennifer Cantwell

STAFF: Catherine Pinks, Recording Secretary

Welcome

Kim thanked participants for taking time to join the call and welcomed everyone back.

1. Approval of Agenda

There was one addition to the agenda – 8. New Business: Regional Executive Positions.

Motion #1 Christine **moved** and Carolyn **seconded** that the agenda be approved as amended. **CARRIED**

2. Approval of Regional Executive Minutes – June 19, 2020

Motion #2 Matt **moved** and Phil **seconded** that the minutes be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

3. Action Items – June 19, 2020

Action Items Atlantic Regional Executive June 19, 2020 Zoom Conference

#	Action	Item/Completion Deadline	Completed/Progress	BF
1	Kim	Bring forward a request for PIPSC sponsorship for the Canada Student Leadership Conference 2021 in the amount of \$XXXX to the Board for consideration.	ONGOING	
2	Christine, Carolyn and Jen	Finalize the deck and speaking notes on Health and Wellness and forward to Catherine.	ONGOING	
3	Mike, Scott and Phil	Complete the NB Portion of the deck and speaking notes on OSH Basics and forward to Catherine.	ONGOING	
4	Kim	Prepare deck and speaking notes on topic of your choice and forward to Catherine.	ONGOING	
5	Catherine	Post the completed Lunch and Learn decks to the Google Drive for the Executive's review.	ONGOING	
6	Kim	Arrange for the Executive to review the Lunch and Learn decks on a future video conference.	ONGOING	
7	Resolutions Sub Committee	Complete the resolution on Vice Presidents and distribute to the Executive for review.	DONE	
8	Catherine	BF to the first Executive meeting in 2021, discussion on Halifax's offer to extend an AGM delegates seat to the Kentville Branch.	DONE	
9	Kim	Email Debi regarding Carolyn's concerns with ESDC and return to work.	DONE	

#	Action	Item/Completion Deadline	Completed/Progress	BF
10	Catherine	Advise Branch Presidents to send AGM alternates and order they are to be selected to her on the Alternate form provided.	DONE	
11	Executive	Refer CS survey concerns to Kim and she will bring them to Debi's attention.	DONE	
12	Kim	Email Debi outlining the Executive's concerns with the CS Survey.	DONE	
13	Catherine	Reach out to the Atlantic AGM Delegates and Provincial Group Delegates, Regional Executive for sizing.	DONE	
14	Catherine	Place order for AGM Delegate hoodies with Fundy Textile.	DONE	
15	Executive	Send any concerns or recommendations regarding the Online Basic to Carolyn.	DONE	
16	Carolyn	Bring forward Atlantic's concerns/recommendations regarding the Online Basic to the June 29 TEC meeting.	DONE	
17	Catherine	Book Regional Executive meeting at the Lord Nelson Hotel for October 23-24, 2020.	N/A	
18	Kim	Send out a Doodle survey to determine the date for the next Executive meeting.	DONE	

Action Item 7. Kim reported the BC Yukon and Prairies Northwest Territories have indicated they are supporting the Atlantic's resolution on Part Time Vice Presidents.

Action Item 10. Kim reported the results of CS survey are not being shared with anyone not even the BOD.

4. Regional Director's Update

Kim noted there has not been a Board meeting since the last update she sent out. She stated it is time to get back to written reports for our Executive meetings, so for the next meeting we will endeavor to have written reports available for review in advance.

Members of the Executive asked since PIPSC will have a year of no events where is all the money saved being directed. Kim responded the last Financial Report the BOD received was as of the end of March and it did indicate a surplus. Normally, surplus funds are directed into investments which is also our strike fund.

5. Financial Report

Phil indicated BMO suspended all PIPSC passwords and it took some time to get back into the account, so he was unable to prepare an up-to-date report for this meeting. It looks like all the 2019 AGM related expenses have been removed from the account by the Finance Section. We currently have a healthy bank balance as a result of no expenditures during COVID.

Kim asked if the Executive had any ideas of what we could do to support our constituent bodies. She noted that the Dominion workers with UNIFOR in Newfoundland have been on strike for over two weeks – more than 1400 workers at 11 locations across the province. A discussion ensued on the value of contributing to their strike. The Executive encourages members in the vicinity of the striking workers to support the striking workers.

ACTION: Kim email the Branch President's in Newfoundland to contribute or support the Dominion workers as they see fit.

6. Training Committee Chairperson's Update

Carolyn stated there isn't a lot to report as we haven't held any training recently. Scott asked if the training budgets still belong to the regions. Kim responded currently there is discussion over the interpretation of where the allocated regional training money can be spent. The Prairies and BC regions are holding virtual café sessions similar to those we hold at Steward Council and they will be delivered by staff. They are also doing a Leadership session being delivered by an outside provider. At next week's Board meeting they will be entertaining a motion to allow all regions access to their Steward Council budget to provide virtual sessions.

Virtual Basic Selection Criteria: Kim reported the two Virtual Basic Pilots will launch late October early November with 25 English participants and 25 French. It will be a four week format with a mixture of Zoom sessions and assignments. A survey was sent to all stewards in waiting to gauge interest in the Virtual format. As of July 31, 2020 there are 269 Stewards in waiting across the country. In Atlantic we had 37 in waiting as of the end of July – 21 responded to survey. Overall 81% of respondents were in favour of doing the training virtually with 4 weeks in length being the most popular time frame. The Training and Education Committee (TEC) will endeavour to determine the selection criteria for selecting the Pilot participants at its upcoming meeting. If the ERO's are comfortable delivering the virtual session going forward, then the regions may hold Virtual Basic for their own regions.

Kim asked if anyone is aware of stewards who should receive the training sooner than later, to let TEC know. Marcel noted that RCMP stewards should be a priority. Kim asked the Executive if they have any thoughts on the selection criteria. Marcel mentioned depending how long you have been in the que you should get in before someone who just signed on.

ACTION: Executive send Virtual Basic selection criteria ideas to Carolyn so she can bring them forward to the TEC meeting on Thursday.

Kim stated that the Board will revisit their decision on suspension of in person meetings going forward into 2021 prior to the December AGM.

Discussion ensued on the Board's motion to suspend all in person meetings. Kim suggests we hold this discussion again prior to the Board addressing this for 2021. The consensus of the Executive is that PIPSC allow regions to comply with provincial guidelines.

ACTION: Catherine add discussion on face to face meetings in the regions based on provincial guidelines to the agenda for the Executive meeting prior to the AGM.

Training Committee Meeting: Carolyn indicated she is planning to hold a Training Committee meeting on October 17, 8:30 am – 12:00 noon Atlantic Time.

ACTION: Catherine set up Training Committee meeting October 17, 8:30 am – 12:00 noon Atlantic Time.

7. Regional Executive Positions

Kim noted that at its May meeting the Atlantic Regional Executive passed a motion stating that Regional Executive terms due to expire in 2020 be extended to 2021 and those due to expire in 2021 be extended to 2022. Positions on the Executive were not addressed at that time so Kim asked if the Executive wanted to maintain status quo with the positions or hold elections.

Phil indicating he was winding down his participation and would like to resign from the Training Committee. The majority of the Executive felt status quo was the way to go for the time being. As we did have to replace Phil on the Training Committee, Kim asked who was interested in participating on the Training Committee. Both Matt and Gerald indicated they were interested. Catherine conducted a vote in Zoom and Gerald was elected the new Training Committee representative.

8. New Business

Plan to Move Forward: Kim suggested the Executive set meetings every 4 weeks for two hours going forward. The following dates and times were agreed on:

October 16 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Atlantic

November 6 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Atlantic if resolutions are available

December 17 – 7:00 pm Atlantic Executive Seasonal Social

ACTION: Catherine set up Executive meetings for October 16 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Atlantic, November 6 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Atlantic if resolutions are available and December 17 – 7:00 pm Atlantic Executive Seasonal Social.

Steward of the Year: Kim reported she did have a conversation with the President regarding Steward of the Year and it was the President's opinion that we do not do anything for 2020. At this time no decision has been formally made on the award. There will not be any recognition at the 2020 Virtual AGM, so the recipient will miss out on the opportunity to travel and attend the AGM. Kim indicated it is up to the Executive as to how we would proceed as it is our award regionally. Following a discussion the consensus was to hold off until after the Board meeting next week to see if the topic will be discussed.

ACTION: Kim advise Catherine of the Board's decision on Steward of the Year after the Board meeting.

Steward Check In: Kim asked if the Executive would like to hold another Steward Check In. As the last one was well received. It was decided to schedule a Steward Check In for October 20, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ACTION: Catherine set up the Steward Check In for October 20, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ACTION: Catherine ask if an ERO will be available to participate in the Steward Check In.

Branch and Provincial Groups Check In: The Executive agreed it was beneficial to host a second Branch and Provincial Group President's Check In. It will be scheduled on October 20 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

ACTION: Catherine set up the Branch and Provincial Groups Check In for October 20 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

ACTION: Catherine and Kim draft agenda for Branch and Provincial Group Check In.

AGM Resolutions Executive Review: The Regional Executive will review the AGM Resolutions at their November meeting pending the resolutions availability. Christine agreed to take notes and prepare the bilingual spreadsheet.

Gerald noted we had agreed to include speaking notes for the Regional Executive on the spreadsheet.

ACTION: Christine take the notes on the AGM resolutions at the Regional Executive meeting and prepare the spreadsheet for Catherine to distribute to the Atlantic AGM Delegates.

Atlantic AGM Delegate Meeting: Kim suggested the Executive schedule a virtual meeting with the Atlantic AGM Delegates to review the AGM resolutions. It was decided to hold the meeting on December 3, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ACTION: Catherine set up the Atlantic AGM Delegate meeting for December 3, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

ACTION: Kim determine if observers are permitted to attend the AGM and let Catherine know.

ACTION: Catherine communicate with Atlantic AGM Delegates to advise of Resolution review meeting and indicate receipt of hoodies to be worn by Atlantic delegates during the AGM.

Atlantic Newsletter: Kim inquired whether the Atlantic region should be preparing a newsletter this fall. As there have been no events during the reporting period, the Executive felt we should postpone the Newsletter. Kim suggested she could do an Executive report and have it posted and emailed out to the membership in Atlantic.

ACTION: Kim prepare a Regional Executive report to be distributed to the members in the Atlantic Region.

Tree Planting: Kim was made aware of a PIPSC tree planting initiative. It was her understanding that coordination with the regions on where trees were to be planted would take place. The company contracted was going to plant in the proximity of the regional offices.

Regional Executive Goals 2020-2021: Kim noted that typically at its September meeting the Executive would review its goals and establish priorities for the upcoming term.

ACTION: Catherine distribute copies of our current goals to the Executive for review.

ACTION: Executive think about possible goals for 2020 and 2021 for discussion at next Executive meeting.

9. Round Table/Adjournment

Scott asked Marcel for an update on the CS Public Interest Commission (PIC) report. Marcel responded he thinks it was only released to the bargaining team and is currently at translation.

Marcel commented the timing for the CS Group is poor as the government's position will receive a lot of weight due to the current economic status.

Christine asked Kim about the PSAC \$2500 settlement indicating members are questioning if the settlement will benefit PIPSC members. Kim responded PIPSC is evaluating the PSAC settlement to see how it compares to the PIPSC settlement.

ACTION: Kim follow up on PIPSC's position on the evaluation of the PSAC \$2500 settlement and report back to the Executive.

Carolyn advised her department will have 15 new hires and she would like to have onboarding packages for them. She will get their home mailing addresses and provide Catherine with them.

ACTION: Carolyn provide Catherine with the home mailing addresses for the new hires in her section.

Kim thanked everyone for their participation and the meeting was adjourned.