

**BC GOVERNMENT & SERVICE EMPLOYEES' UNION
COMPONENT 6 EXECUTIVE ZOOM MEETING
SOCIAL, INFORMATION & HEALTH COMPONENT**

December 3 & 4, 2020

File No. 1006-002

Attendance: Judy Fox-McGuire – Component 6 Vice President and Local 610 Chair (PSSG Probation)
Veronica Barlee- Acting 601 Chairperson (MAH)
Desiree Cabecinha - Local 601 Treasurer (CLBC)
Judi Porter – Local 601 Member at Large (Min of Citizens Services)
Daryl Marceau – Local 602 Chairperson (SDPR)
Darryl Flasch – Local 603 Chairperson (MCFD)
Stephen Anderson – Local 603 1st Vice Chairperson (PSSG Probation)
Kayla Woodruff – Local 603 Young Worker (MCFD)
Lisa McDonald – Local 603 Member at Large (SDPR)
Harbinder Gill – Local 604 Chairperson (SDPR Youth PWD)
Andrea Mitchell – Local 604 1st Vice Chairperson (PSSG Probation)
Cynthia Mephram-Egli – Local 605 Chairperson (AG Family Justice)
Alex Miller – Local 606 Chairperson (PSSG Probation) in attendance Dec. 4
Christina Baird – Local 606 2nd Vice Chairperson (CLBC) in attendance Dec. 3
Wil Gilchrist – Local 607 Acting Chairperson (SDPR)
Karen Kenney – Local 608 Chairperson (SDPR)
Anna Depretto – Local 609 Chairperson (CLBC)
Deb Burns – Local 611 Chairperson (MCFD)
Teri Goodrick – Local 612 Chairperson
Mike Eso – Regional Coordinator & staff assigned to Component 6

Regrets: Shirley Kay – Local 601 Chairperson (IT Min of Ed)
Terra Plut – Local 607 Chairperson (MCFD)

Acknowledgement of First Nations Territory – given by Darryl Flasch

1. Call to Order by Chairperson, Judy Fox-McGuire
2. Introductions of new members and guests:
 - Stephanie Smith, President at 3:00 pm
 - Paul Finch, Treasurer at 3:30 pm
3. Review and Adoption of Agenda as amended. M/S/C
4. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:
 - Reminder of expectation to submit written local reports to Andrea (Secretary) by tomorrow afternoon.
 - Motion to adopt previous minutes (September, 2020). M/S/C



C6 Executive
Minutes September

5. Business Arising from Minutes: None

6. Local Reports:

Local 601 – Veronica Barlee:

1. Covid-19: Many members in direct government very concerned with being directed to return to the workplace, including essential workers e.g. social workers.
 - a. Members and activists' main concerns:
 - i. being directed back to the workplace with rising case numbers;
 - ii. aerosolization of Covid-19 and the risk from poorly ventilated indoor workspaces;
 - iii. no mask mandate and then a partial mask mandate;
 - iv. confusing, changing and sometimes contradictory information on safety protocols.
 - b. Employer generally not responsive to member concerns at Article 29 meetings and JOHS meetings. Outcomes for members' meetings with supervisors seemed to vary by ministry.
 - c. IT workers seemed more able to work from home.
 - d. Currently, a lot of relief about being able to work from home, would like more certainty from the employer.
 - e. Activists appreciated the BCGEU cheat sheets on Duty to Accommodate (DTA) and Right to Refuse Unsafe Work (RRUW). Also the emails from Stephanie including the November 8 email and the short clear briefing note on RRUW.
2. Local 601 meetings (all via Zoom):
 - a. Stewards meetings, September 29 and November 24, both went really well. Pleasure to have Paul Finch at the November 24 meeting.
 - b. October 28, 2020 General Meeting: great turnout, some lessons learned.
 - c. Executive meetings October 20 and November 17: member and activists concerns about returning to the workplace. Next local executive meeting will be January 19 and will be prepping for convention resolutions and then bargaining resolutions for the Public Service Main Agreement.
 - d. December 8 Zoom Holiday Social: sharing successes.
3. November meeting with 1201 Chair and Component VP, Maria Middlemiss to discuss common concerns for 1201 and 601 members and activists.
4. Local Executive update:
 - a. Shirley Kay has resigned as 601 Local Chair as she is acting as a staff rep at the Victoria Area Office. Souie Group has also resigned as second vice chair. Both will continue in other BCGEU roles and a sincere thank you for their many years of outstanding service on the 601 local executive. Local elections will be held in January.

- b. October 601 executive elections acclaimed two new members at large, Sandra Pitroff and Alexa deAquino who is also the equity member; both are outstanding activists.
- 5. Steward recruitment and retention: Some 601 executive members and other activists are holding regular small meetings with stewards to build community and solidarity. We're going to try some lunch hour steward recruitment at MCFD in January. Just to flag that 1201 holding a December 9 steward meeting: steward plus one. 601 will give that a shot too in January. Zoom steward training is going well and continuing to recruit new stewards.
- 6. Building solidarity and shared understanding: informal regular activist meetings to build solidarity and share key actions and messages.
 - a. Staff reps piloted a multi-ministry worksite meeting connecting JOHS, MAH Article 29 reps, stewards and local chairs 601 and 2001.
 - b. Zoom outreach to NTT staff for bargaining reps, joint labour management and stewards.
- 7. Local Chairs for 01 meeting October 2020.

Thanks to SDPR Article 29. SDPR Justin Bodnar (601 Member at Large) had noted concerns with MOU and flex days, lack of transparency and reported a great outcome and very appreciative.

Local 602 – Darryl Marceau:

- 1. Number of active local grievances and any patterns noted - Staff rep reports she has four grievances that are disciplinary related and two from different employers that are rejection on probationary (MCFD & 2 CLBC). Plus two new grievance CLBC related to a RTW from LTD. No pattern other than the many delays in investigations launched and roll out of their findings to members involved.
- 2. Worksite issues, if any:
 - Staff rep reports that worksite issues appear to be COVID safety concerns, mask wearing, others related to safety in regards to clients in the worksites without mask wearing and home visits, plus the mandate to return to office work to which appears to have slowed a bit with the new Public Health restrictions and suggested directives to support working from home where possible.
 - MCFD - teams continue to be busy with complex cases including the impact of Covid of families mental health. Some offices continue to ask for plexi glass and await the outcome of their requests. Local areas concerned about the return to work plans and requests to be accommodated were being managed individually generally in the members favour. The recent Public health orders have reigned in that initiative and in general comp 6 staff feel quite well protected and supported.
 - SDPR - continue to await the findings of the classification review. Members appear happy with the mask order from the Prov. Health Officer.
 - Probation - no updates at this time.

- CLBC - workers feeling the pressure of COVID including being worn out and stressed. Some workers want to work from home, but under operational requirements they have to stay to keep the doors open. Counselling encouraged for members who are struggling.
 - IT - The IS21 is the position looking for reclassification. Concerns have been shared that there are additional duties above and beyond what's listed in the job description currently and they haven't had a Job Description review since 2009. The IS24 was recently created and classified. Many of the duties in the IS24 are also being done by the IS21. Members are asking if they move forward with the classification appeal procedure as outlined in 28.3 or is there another process to follow to go about requesting a reclassification? This applies to a group of 11 staff.
 - CCC is a decision to send out small swag to local activists in lieu of banquet, not sure when that will arrive.
3. Education/Training, Local Meetings - held or upcoming - hope to have further virtual steward training. OHS Committee training also well received.
- July 22 was my last local meeting. There has been no local enhanced steward or other local training held. Area office has held steward webinars and some have cancelled and rescheduled due to less than five participants.
4. Good and welfare acknowledgments - long time union activist from MSDPR mother passed away. In lieu of flowers of gift, I contacted the member and had a good check in and conversation with her.

CCC allocated funds to the local food bank and legion.

Local 603 – Darryl Flasch: Verbal report provided.

PSSG (Report from Stephen Anderson): Probation Officer-focused Zoom meeting hosted on September 16, 2020. Most of discussion centred around workplace COVID safety plan concerns and how this will evolve. Each office in region has different safety plan tailored to factors such staffing, office layout, and operational requirements. Requirement to work at office remains a concern to some staff. When brought to my attention, concerned staff are encouraged to discuss their concern with their Local Manager and informed that, where suitable, they can talk to their doctor about an accommodation. A further PSSG-focused meeting is being considered for the new year: no current specific plans.

Local 604 – Harbinder Gill:

Grievances and Appendix 4's:

No change from last report

19 active grievances in total.

Issues: vandalized vehicles, proper pay and accommodation, others mostly deal with discipline.

OSH:

Return to work plans were temporarily paused. Worksite assessments were done for all worksites.

Covid protocols in place for all worksites.

Member/Worksite issues:

MCFD: Nothing to report.

SDPR: Covid exposure at a worksite. Nine CS EAWs and CSWs impacted. Most self-isolated as per Fraser Health protocol and worked virtually from home. Contact tracing took eight days. All have returned to worksite. Incident investigation completed and recommendations adopted.

PSSG (Probation): Zoom Meeting – October 20th, we hosted a zoom meeting with 604 PO's, Harbinder and Judy to discuss return to work Covid protocols. Few PO's attended and Andrea will send out invites to any subsequent meetings through Union email instead of relying on stewards to inform members.

Covid response – PO's are reporting status quo regarding in-person client reporting and number of staff on site. This is garnering anxiety and frustration with PO's, who feel the PHO has clearly stated that in light of the large number of Covid positive cases, specifically focused on the Fraser Health Region, the employer should be directing offices to roll back in person client reporting and decrease number of staff on site. PO's who have been in communication with the Union are stating that the employer is asking us to take on more risk than is necessary to balance public safety with worker safety. Employer's stance is PPE and Engineered Controls are adequate safety measures. The employer has stipulated that there should be no more staff on site than needed to manage the number of clients reporting in person and any related file work.

WES 2018/2020 - 2020 WES Results have been released and both Probation's Org Health Committee and Article 29 Sub-Committee will begin to look at the areas of challenge and how to address them. We are still waiting on summary of what progress has been made stemming from the 2018 WES Results.

WES Community Corrections - overall



WES_2020_PSSG_Community
Corrections Branch_Co

WES Community Corrections – Fraser Metro Region



WES_2020_PSSG_Community
Corrections Branch_Co

WES Community Corrections – Interior Region (Abbotsford/Chilliwack offices)



WES_2020_PSSG_Community
Corrections Branch_Co

Local 605 – Cynthia Mephram-Egli:

I've had one Local Executive Zoom meeting since last Component meetings. Only a few executive members attended and we did not have quorum; it was a short meeting. I have another Zoom meeting

scheduled for Thursday, the 10th with President Stephanie Smith attending as a guest.

MCFD in Salmon Arm has had two nominations for the two vacant steward positions there.

My 2nd Vice-Chair, Andrew Miller is still doing all the OSH Appointments in this area. There is a new appointment at CLBC in Kamloops.

There are five grievances in this area and all of them are MCFD: two are at Advocacy – one is disciplinary and one is an accommodation grievance. Three are still at the Area 05 Office, two disciplinary and one adverse report in personnel file. There are no active OSH issues registered with the Area 05 BCGEU office or Staff Representative, who had very general questions about returning to the offices, which stopped since the latest PHO orders.

I continue to try to keep all my members as informed as I can during this COVID-19 pandemic and I am continuing to work from home or live at work as I like to call it.

The biggest frustration from my members has been the government directing members back to the worksite and government's refusal, until recently, to make the wearing of masks in worksites mandatory. My local executive is very good at informing me of emerging issues and even proof of certain issues, which I forward up to Judy and everything to date seems to get dealt with, albeit sometimes not immediately (return to work at the worksites and accommodations being one example). Overall, I would say that all my members are stressed and anxious.

MCFD – As an employer, continues to not support plexiglass in the worksites, which likely effects C12 members more individually, but I suggest effect C6 members also as they are all "teams." When the PHO mandated masks in healthcare facilities, CYMH SWs here asked their employer if they would mandate them all wearing masks with the logic that they work in "health care" as well. However, the employer would not, but now has thanks to Dr. Bonnie Henry's recent order.

MSDPR – In general members are waiting for the results of the reclassification review. There seems to continue to be confusion with members in regard to picking flex days and seniority around the work from home project before COVID and with those who are working from home due to Covid.

CLBC – no report from CLBC – they will be on my list for doing some virtual M2Ms, which I will now be planning for the spring of 2021.

Probation, IT & Communications Officers – quiet in this area this time.

AG – Until Dr. Bonnie's recent "mandatory mask" order, this was the only Ministry in this area that seemed to fully support members working from home if they wanted to, and even went so far as to say that it may be until 2021.

October 27th I attended an Area 05 CCC meeting via Zoom. We aren't going to have any sort of Activist Appreciation event, virtually or otherwise. We decided to write a "thank-you" letter to all of our Activists. We asked HQ (Finance) if there was any way that we could get funding to send out small gift cards, but our request was met with a hard "no" and we are meeting again December 6th to finalize the letter and discuss logistics for mailing out, amongst other things.

November 20th – Chair + 1 Training – invited 1st Vice Chair Andrew Miller.

October 30th, 2 - 4:30pm I attended a PE Women's Committee Meeting via zoom.

Local 606 – Tyler Bennicke:



Grievances and Appendix 4's: One active member grievance (Social Worker attempting to get cost of driver's license covered). Five employer filed grievances. No Appendix 4's filed.

OSH: Nothing to report.

Member/Worksite issues:

Williams Lake MCFD: Restructuring with Directors of Operations. Two vacancies, currently in process to be filled.

Quesnel MCFD: Verbal report provided.

SDPR: No issues to report.

Probation/Community Corrections: No issues to report.

CLBC: No issues to report.

IT: No issues to report.

Good and Welfare: Good and welfare approved for one 100 Mile MCFD staff and one Williams Lake SDPR Office.

Activism Highlights: Nothing to report.

Local 607 – Wil Gilchrist: Verbal report provided

Local 608 – Karen Kenney:

Grievances and Appendix 4's:

IT: Dismissal during probation still ongoing.

OSH:

Concerns surrounding the return to work mandate. Members who were contacting local stewards were redirected to connect with their office OSH reps as a first step. All staff wanting to have returned to working from home.

SDPR Major concern: When SBC took over our front counter duties at this office, SDPR staff no longer had any emergency alarms/notification. OSH asked for a blue emergency notification light to be installed in the SDPR office areas so those staff who working enclosed offices in the back would know when an emergency was taking place in the front of the building without having to leave their office to be put in harms way or have a SBC employee come and advise the SDPR staff. This was denied at the PSA level. Will follow up with Article 29 members.

Member/Worksite issues:

MCFD: Concerns were brought forward over staff meeting clients in small office spaces where recommended social distance measurers were not able to be adhered to.

SDPR: Covid exposure confirmed at the Service BC office in Cranbrook. Staff were notified but Interior Health determined that the exposure was not enough to warrant any staff to isolate. Office supervisor had a virtual check in/debriefing with all staff.

Activism Highlights:

Virtual Steward Training held in November.

Chair Plus 1 held on November 24, 2020. My second vice chair Dara Plotnikof attended as plus 1.

Attended two virtual 601 meetings (a steward meeting and general meeting). It was great to see how an engaged local's meetings run and plan to discuss with other local chairs in area 608 to enhance our local meetings.

Other: Next CCC Zoom meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday - December 8, 2020.

Local 609 – Anna Depretto: Verbal report provided.

Local 610 – Judy Fox-McGuire:

Grievances and Appendix 4's: Two grievances and no Appendix 4's.

OSH: OHS committees continue to work on the issues arising from office and workplace safety. To date, the Ministries in Area 10 have been fairly good other than the issue noted below.

Member/Worksite Issues: MCFD was not providing masks to workers or clients in the office in Dawson Creek. That has now been rectified.

Other: We are continuing our CCC meetings by Zoom monthly.

Local 611 – Deb Burns: Verbal report provided.

7. VP Report – Judy Fox-McGuire:

Collective Agreement Issues

The PHO orders that requires masks in all public spaces has been requiring a lot of attention to ensure that all workplaces are covered. In addition to this, are concerns that members put their safety at risk by enforcing mask rules. It is better to have plexi in place. MCFD is still lagging on that.

The new cabinet announced last week has two new Ministers that are significant. The new MCFD Minister is Mitzi Dean and the new SDPR Minister is Nicholas Simons. We will be setting up meetings with them as soon as possible. There have been some other minor changes in Ministries including the retirement of the head of the Public Service Agency who was replaced by Lori Wanamaker.

Article 29 meetings have been dealing with most of the Covid issues and have been meeting regularly. I would like to see the minutes of the Article 29 meetings posted on the member portal as they are still not. I continue to meet weekly with MCFD due to the large numbers of members safety issues and will resend the plexi request process.

Bargaining prep is underway for ISM and NTT for the New Year. NTT has demonstrated that they are not a good employer so we want to ensure that we go to the table well prepared.

Organizing and the Megan Scott from OHS has started the work of following up with all of the OHS committees. We are starting with Probation officers and hoping to move it to other Ministries and build networks of OHS committees.

In her role as C6 OSH Rep, Cynthia is encouraging all C6 Local Chairs to send the Violence and Harassment Survey being conducted by the CLC in partnership with researchers at Western University out to all their members. This is the first ever survey on violence and sexual harassment in the workplace with a national reach in Canada, and should help us as a union and policy makers create safer workplaces for everyone. She will be sending the link to all.

Shirley Kay has now resigned her position as local chair of 601 and that of Component treasurer. She will be missed by all of us but has decided to pursue the staff rep opportunity that was given to her. We wish her the best and will be having the election for Component treasurer on Friday morning. (UPDATE: Harbinder Gill was elected as new treasurer).

EFT is now working and members who signed up will receive their honorarium that way. All other Honorariums have been sent by regular mail.

The 2021 convention will be held June 9 - 12. The Convention call has gone out by mail. We will be reviewing convention resolutions in the new year and submitting. If anyone has new Honour roll and life memberships, they need to be to the Convention department by February 8, 2021. Resolutions must be submitted by April 9, 2021.

PE Business:

OHS – Cynthia: I'll be circulating the last PE OSH Draft Minutes from our October 19th and 20th, 2020 meeting to all Component 6 Executive Members as it is very thorough and full of COVID-19 issues/concerns/ideas/resolutions.

I will forward you all a Violence and Harassment Survey put out by the Canadian Labour Congress in partnership with research experts at Western University. I asked my Area 05 Office to send out to all my

605 members. It is the first ever survey on violence and sexual harassment in the workplace with a national reach in Canada, and will help union, employers and policy makers create safer workplaces for everyone. I had my Area05 Office send it out to all my 605 members and I encourage you all to have your Area Offices do the same. The online survey between 10 to 30 minutes to complete, and responses will be anonymous.

Component Business

OHS Presentation – Megan Scott



C6 OHS Update.pdf

8. Article 29 Reports:

AG-FJ – Cynthia Mephram-Egli:

October 28th via Zoom, I attend the first ever province-wide Article 29 Committee Members and Public Service Bargaining Committee Meeting regarding government offices reopening. The next one is scheduled for January 12th, 2021.

Our last A29 meeting was November 10th, 2020. Specifics of importance from this meeting for Component 6 members (keeping in mind this meeting was before the mandatory mask order from the PHO) were:

1. COVID-19:

We, the union had two concerns for employees returning to the office:

- 1) Duty to accommodate. Stewards are working with members on these within worksites. Three categories: Employees with chronic health condition, family members with chronic health condition and family status (children, daycare and school).
- 2) We made a request for the BCGEU to have active role within all JOSH committees along with employer. Employer agreed to involve the BCGEU on safety protocols and be updated on these. We requested for Ministry-wide COVID safety plan and all workplace plans (over 170 locations within the sector). We asked to review plan documents to ensure compliance. Sandy reiterated that branches have been asked to post these plans on their local intranets for easy access of all employees. The employer told us that with the ongoing updates from the PHO, branches will revise their workplace plans as required and we asked and were promised to be involved and communicated with during revisions.

We asked the employer to encourage and recommend messaging from PSA and management for employees to wear masks.

The employer reiterated that they are not discouraging mask use within the workplace as it is up to the employee as to their comfort level. Court Services Branch (CSB) and BC Prosecution Services (BCPS) have been provided messaging that encourages mask wearing in public facing areas. Justice Services Division (JSB) was refraining from encouraging mask wearing, saying that social distancing should be enough, however, they have embraced the recent order of the PHO and have basically mandated mask wearing and working from home if possible.

We asked the employer to send out positive messaging for health and wellbeing of employees experiencing low morale and how they can seek supportive resources. The employer will follow up for positive messaging inclusive of health and wellness and bring forward to the AG/PSSG Strategic HR Governance Committee.

The employer also circulated the BC Public Service COVID-19 Response FAQ (Updated November 8th) to all Ministry of AG members.

CLBC – Anna Depretto: No report

SDPR - Harbinder Gill/Lisa McDonald:



SDPR Article 29
agenda November 1

MCFD – Verbal Report from Judy re Appendix 4's (Sonja Haig Co-Chair): Verbal report provided

PSSG – Judy Fox-McGuire: Verbal Report provided

PSSG Subcommittee – Community Corrections (Judy Fox-McGuire/Andrea Mitchell): Minutes to past meetings can be found on Corrpoint.

https://corrpoint.jag.gov.bc.ca/sites/operations_A29/Documents/Forms/Doc%20Type.aspx

September 25th, 2020

10:00 am – 11:30 am

Skype meeting

IN ATTENDANCE:

Bill Small, Judy Fox- McGuire, Miles McGuire, Andrea Mitchell

ITEMS

1. Review of minutes

- Minutes passed and posted on CorrPoint

2. Additions:

- BC Corrections change of ADM's – Elenore Arend moving to Min of Environment; new ADM Lisa Anderson (coming from Community, Safety and Crime Prevention Branch). This move was sudden but planned. Bill does not anticipate any change to operations and looks forward to providing information about the ins and outs of Community Corrections and the people working within the organization.
- BC Corrections – virtual town hall held last week to increase staff engagement focusing on Covid business restart; this will be an ongoing opportunity to engage in dialogue on other focused topics. Bill is soliciting feedback on how to move forward.
- Pandemic Pay – not being held up at PSSG level; all the numbers were submitted to PSA and the delay is at that level

STANDING ITEMS:

3. Work from home/ Business recovery

- Cell phones – no longer available; feedback from PO's they are disappointed at losing this business tool; Employer explained they were a temporary measure until computer tools/software were in place for client reporting
- Sourcing sanitizing wipes that do not have prominent English language information on the packaging- new wipes have been sourced locally and are in English; Rick Gill is in charge of sourcing/ordering supply and sending out to RD's for regional distribution
- The union noted reports that PO's have been given direction at the office level to begin to increase client traffic in offices starting now and were given a prescriptive list of how this is to be achieved. This has been received by line staff as a departure from the last message that there would be no appreciable change in client traffic in the near future.

Bill clarified that we are beginning to move towards providing more complete supervision of our higher risk clients; however, the employer did not provide the specifics to RD's/LM's that determine how that is executed in offices. There is no expectation that this happen by a certain deadline; this can ramp up over time; and there is no expectation that we return all clients to in-person only reporting. Bill committed to revisit this messaging at CMC, clarifying that reintroducing client traffic is gradual, risk-based and can be used as *part-of* the modes of supervision for each client. The slow reintroduction of client traffic allows offices to monitor how the office safety plans are working and what adjustments might be needed to ensure staff and client safety.

Bill reiterated that the branch will not be returning in full to pre-Covid ways of doing business (i.e. allowing for more creativity, flexibility and discretion around case management and on-site/work from home staffing options - as operations and policy allow). Bill underscored the focus on attending to the physical and mental health of our staff and a recognition of the anxiety these changes can bring. There was also a recognition that staff are simultaneously trying to protect home and family health; concerns over child care and so on.

- Concepts groups still moving forward with TLC coming out next; in-person Core moving forward with very small groups for clients who are in need of more intensive programming

4. WES scores (2018)

- Looking for how to start unpacking areas noted for improvement; Barb Cull and Lindsay Gordon could be invited to speak to the work being done and their understanding of the issues raised by these results. Agreement this is a good place to start.

NEW ITEMS:

5. OHS project - Union will be providing information on the new organizing project that they are undertaking around OHS. Trying to set up a network of OHS committees and making it easier to access information/resources for local OHS reps. Bill voiced support of this development and recommitted to follow through on joint employer/OHS conference that includes all Local Managers when it is possible to meet.

Citizens Services (provided by Judi Porter):

September, 2020 Meeting

- Working with SHR to obtain a list of auxiliaries by seniority
- Working with SHR to obtain list of Component 20 by seniority
- Walk through of WES scores (presentation attached)

- Managed staffing continues
- No joint communications planned for the ministry newsletter



December, 2020 Agenda

- Update on Workplace Safety Plans – when are they going to be revised?
- Repatriation of staff from ESIT to BC Mail Plus – why was Article 29 not informed?
- Repatriation of staff from BC Stats and Network BC – why was Article 29 no informed?
- Video Authentication at Service BC and classifications
- OSH Program development for Ministry – why was Article 29 not informed?
- New Deputy to come meet us

MAH – Veronica Barlee

1. Article 29 for Municipal Affairs now down to one BCGEU member as the two Housing staff members have moved to the Ministry of Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing. We had a transition meeting last week and there are lots of good possibilities for new members including the 1203 activist who had been in JERI. The remaining Article 29 601 member is very strong.
2. MA Article 29 meeting every 4 to 6 weeks during the pandemic.
3. Key member issues are focused on COVID-19 and discussed at Article 29:
 - Most members strong preference to continue working from home.
 - Aerosolization of Covid-19; indoor air quality, wearing masks and the strong desire for virtual meetings only.
 - Duty to accommodate: medical; family status.
 - Catch 22: supervisors telling staff to go to the Public Service Agency, MyHR telling staff to go to supervisors.
 - MA Article 29 members supporting JOHS members and tag teaming issues at Article 29 and JOHS meetings.
 - Worksite plans not being updated (now being updated by employer).
 - Members self-organizing and reaching out to activists.

JEDC now JERI: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation – Veronica Barlee

- No stewards in Victoria offices, no Article 29 for three years, no JERI representation on JOHS committees in Victoria.
 - In September, two 601 members stepped forward in Victoria, trained as stewards. One appointed to Article 29 and as well as a great 1203 activist. Now all three leaving JERI for other jobs.
 - Have identified another excellent 601 activist to the staff rep and who may be willing to be on Article 29 on a temporary basis.
 - Employer's misuse of expressions of interest (EOIs) also identified as an issue for members.
9. Young Workers Report - Kayla Woodruff (YW Local 603): No report
10. Good and Welfare: None
11. Next Meeting – TBD; will be held via Zoom.