

Action items are highlighted

CFU executive meeting

Wednesday, November 17, @ 2 p.m. EST

Held by Google Hangout

Present: Ethan Clarke, Suzanne Gallant, Trevor Beckerson, Leslie Dyson,
Regrets: Nora Loreto, Roxanne Dubois

Serving as Secretary: All, collectively over Google drive

Approval of the agenda

Moved by: Suzanne, seconded by Trevor, carried

Approval of minutes (as amended):

[2015/10/21](#) -

President's Report

- 186 members, 121 expired members, 1 grace period
- Renewal notice out in English to 134 members (Nov. 3) and in French to 6 (Nov. 5).
- Forwarded message in English to 121 (Nov. 5). Did not send in French because I didn't have the translation.
- Sent email to 314 people in our database about the site, survey and directory. (Nov. 17)
- Participated in the Ontario Workplaces Review meeting with Ethan, Suzanne, Roxanne, and Fred Wilson from Unifor. U's presentation is a good fit for CFU. The federal Status of the Artist Act is a good model for us to work with. It allows sectoral and geographic customization. All we have to do is get the OLRB to recognize the CFU as the bargaining group for freelance communication workers. It's a message that resonates with all the members, media workers, and activists that I've talked to.
- Received 3 packages from former exec member which contained:
 - The Charter
 - Lenovo laptop computer and case
 - a few office supplies (file folders)
 - the Creative Arts credit union bank card
 - blank cheque book
 - binders of minutes
 - receipts
- Cancelled cellphone and conference call account
- 7 press cards have been requested and are being processed as documentation arrives:
- Spreading the word:
 - Interview with CCPA Monitor and King's Journalism Review
 - Shmoozed at BC NDP convention
 - Spoke at the CFU pub night for Media Democracy Day organizers/presenters
- Hope to have time this week to call:

- 9 members that I know who haven't yet renewed
- 5 members I know who've offered to volunteer
- Potential members to get them to sign up

Vice President Report

- Spent almost a week straight building the new nationbuilder nation (website / email list / membership processing / etc)
- Spent some time setting up the tracking flow for incoming messages. Responded to a number of messages.
- Arranged for a delegate credential for the CFU at the OFL convention. Tried to negotiate Unifor paying for a table but it was deemed too expensive. Campaign Gears will be lending a part of their table in support.
- Attended Broadbent Institute and discussed the CFU with two former members of Parliament. One is considering becoming a member.

Treasurer Report

- Due to life circumstances, Trevor hasn't been able to do much with this.
- Trevor will do a year end report for December 31st

Committee Reports - Communications

Suzanne wants to enable committee members to take on small projects that they can take on, and have full ownership of, and not use the committee as a sounding board for everything the union does communications-wise as that would create bottlenecks and inaction.

- Suzanne to touch base with volunteers for Comms committee soon to say hello, set expectations and get them to think of small projects they could take on that would improve comms in the union, and then come back after holidays with first formal meeting.
- Ethan will create NB filters for:
 - Active members EN and FR, nationally
 - Active members in Toronto area

Committee Reports - Growth

- Haven't met yet.
- Members of the executive should be using their recruiter link
- Ethan will reach out to the growth volunteers to get the committee started

Committee Reports - Bylaws

Nothing to report at this time

Committee Reports - Education

Nora is not in attendance

Committee Reports - Happy Warrior (Cmttee on hiatus until 01/2016)

Reports of Regional Directors

1. Atlantic

- Due to life circumstances, Trevor hasn't been able to do much with this.
- Working to send out a membership notice
- Co-work sessions are being organized

2. Quebec

- a. Nora is not in attendance

3. Ontario

- A lot of work done on the new website, particularly on the French side.
- Providing translations for new web content / emails on ongoing basis and happy to continue to do so (using the "Email drafts" folder in Google drive works well).
- Participated in the Ontario Workplaces Review meeting with Ethan, Leslie, Roxanne, and Fred Wilson from Unifor (see President's report above). Coming out of this:
 - A petition supporting Unifor's proposed changes in the Ontario labour law review as it impacts freelancers is in the process of being created and put up on website. Will be available on tablets for OFL delegates to sign at the CFU table.
 - A half pub night/ half information session will be hosted by Suzanne/Ethan the first week of December in Toronto for members and non-members alike to come find out about the proposed labour law changes and how it affects them. They will be asked to sign the petition in person and pass on the word.
 - We will also ask a few CFU writers to attend the information session and encourage them to pitch stories to various publications about these proposed changes. Possible money incentive if story is published in major daily.
 - Invite to be sent out to Ontario membership asking them to participate in lobby days at Queen's Park with Unifor's Ontario Region Director on Dec 7 & 8.
- Organized the staffing of the CFU table at the OFL convention and organizing shifts for the CFU delegate on the floor. Total of 7 members participating thus far.
 - Will have flyers at the CFU table saying -- Want to hire a freelancer? You can still hire union! And directing them to the CFU website -- > directory.
 - I will be on the floor for the vote of the new OFL president on the Thursday afternoon.
- Talked to one Ottawa-based member about why they should renew and what the new exec has in store.
- Got one Toronto-based member to commit to plan a co-working day in the coming months that will be open to members and non-members alike.
- Schmoozed at the Broadbent Institute Press Gala.

4. Prairies & BC

- a. No reports at this time. Positions vacant

Organizing report from Roxanne

- Halifax co-work events on November 18 -- One morning session and one evening session
- OFL tabling coming up next week in Ontario
- Vancouver event being planned but date to be confirmed
- Organizers have all the materials

- If there is interest in a national call to evaluate how organizing efforts are going, we can work to schedule it in coming weeks.
 - Leslie and Ethan would like to be involved in a conversation with Roxanne and the other organizers to check in.
- The executive asks that Unifor post for the organizer position in Prairies and QC again.

Approval of Motions by Email

The following motion(s) were passed by a majority of the executive via email since the last meeting:

1. (Moved by Nora, seconded by Ethan) Be it resolved that Ethan investigate whether or not the Nation Builder site can be purchased for the 12 month package after having been purchased for a few months, while executive circulate the RFP for a new website design,

Be it further resolved that both the main domain and the jointhecfu domain be changed to pointed to the new site built by Ethan,

Be it further resolved that Trevor work with a Stripe account to set up the collection of member dues.

- Trevor and Leslie to find the CFU business number (check Paypal, Creative Arts Credit Union and talk to Penney Kome)

2. (Moved by Ethan, seconded by Suzanne) **BIRT** the CFU pay the \$400 delegate fee so we can have a delegate at the convention.

BIFRT Suzanne, as the Ontario director, coordinate a schedule of interested members to share the responsibility of representing the CFU.

BIFRT Nora examine the resolutions package and make a proposal of positions that our delegates will take on the issues up for voting at the convention. The executive will review the proposal and our delegate will be expected to follow our recommendation.

3. (Moved by Ethan, seconded by Leslie) **BIRT** Ethan be authorized to initiate a domain transfer of all the canadianfreelanceunion.* domains from their current registrar to the same registrar he used to register the syndicatcanadiendespigistes.ca domain

4. (Moved by Suzanne, seconded by Ethan) **BIRT**: The CFU will never contact members by email for any commercial activity or fundraising activity after they are no longer members. If we need to contact former members for commercial activity, we will do so by telephone.

Unfinished Business

1. Informal online meeting (arising from AGM) Try it in November. Details to be worked out in an email conversation.

- Ethan suggests meetups of ten (so use Google Hangouts) by line of work, e.g. a meetup for writers. First ten to sign up get to take part. To be taken on by Comms committee.

New business

1. Membership cards
2. Website
 - What are each exec member's individual responsibility for checking in incoming emails/communications?
 - In terms of the "paths" on NationBuilder:
 - Ethan checks Inbox
 - Trevor checks paid by E-Interac
 - Suzanne checks Media request
 - Leslie checks Press pass and Become a member
 - Nora to check Become a volunteer path?
 - Ethan will figure out how to delete the 'become supporter' path
 - The minutes of executive meetings should be posted on the website

Next meeting:

Dec. 15, 2 p.m. EST

Adjournment at: 4:30pm