

# CFU Executive meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m. PST

Held by Google Hangout

Present: Ethan Clarke, Leslie Dyson, Suzanne Gallant

Regrets: Roxanne Dubois, Nora Loreto, Trevor Beckerson

Serving as secretary: All, collectively on Google drive

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Leslie Dyson

Seconded by: Suzanne Gallant

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (as amended)

## MOTIONS PASSED VIA SLACK

November and December minutes approved.

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- George Watters is offering his merch branding services at cost
  - Ethan will ask George how to organize it
  - **Ethan needs to follow up**
- Can we get wage indemnity insurance for our members?
  - Nora will look into it.
  - **Nora is absent**
- Statement about Access Copyright
  - It was agreed that information about our support for AC be more prominently placed on the CFU website. Nora will look into the former statements that were made on behalf of the CFU.
  - **Nora is absent**
- Nora will send the letter to Minister Mihychuk re. NDP MP Andrew Cash's National Urban Worker Strategy.
  - **Nora is absent**

## REPORTS

### President's report

- 224 members (+10), 1 grace period, 107 expired (+1)
  - BC: 50
  - Prairies: 14
  - ON: 97
  - QC: 16
  - ATL: 18
- Letter to members

- Unifor will have a mock up of the new membership cards available soon. The envelope should include a letter from the CFU executive.
- Possible content:
  - something graphically interesting (i.e. Unifor's graphic)
  - benefits of membership
  - how to stay connected
  - who to contact
- **Leslie will keep other E-brd members apprised.**
- Communications with members
  - welcomed new members and renewing members and informed them about their regional rep
  - processed 2 press cards
  - emailed and called several lapsed members
- The [January edition](#) of *The Monitor*, published by the CCPA, includes the article "How do we protect 'gig' workers by Stephen Dale (Pg. 23). Leslie quoted. **Leslie will request republishing permission.**
- [Shopunion.ca](#) – Leslie has not yet talked to member John Lynn about this website that is available free of charge to CFU members who want to advertise their services. **(Leslie)**

### Vice President's report

Maintained and monitored some communications via NB

### Treasurer's report

Not present

### Organizing report

- Work plans are being developed for January-May 2016 in the Atlantic and BC
- They will include one outreach/public event per month, detailed information about leads being followed, as well as efforts to find new leads in the community
- Will also consider options for publications in which to place ads in early 2016 targeting freelancers -- any ideas can be sent to Roxanne.
- For the other regional organizing positions, one application was received for Québec, one application was received for Ontario and no applications were received for the prairies.
- **DECISION NEEDED:** move forward with current applications or extend the deadline for 2 more weeks.
  - **Executive wants Roxanne to get started with those who have already applied but keep the posting for the Prairies open.**
  - **Advertising**
    - **Email blast to Prairies members (Leslie)**
    - **Ask the AFL and SFL for suggestions (Ethan)**
    - **We don't think we should waste money on national advertising (ie Rabble) for a single position**

### COMMITTEES

**Nominations/Election** (Penney Kome and Marco Procaccini)

- David Hogben, member since July 2014, has put his name forward to run as the BC rep in the election on Jan. 31. Richard Gilbert, member since Oct. 2015, has also written to the Nominations Committee to say he's available if no one else comes forward.
- Jamie Parkinson, member since September 2014, has put his name forward for the Prairies rep in the Jan. 31 election.
- **Ethan will**
  - **ask Penny and Marco to present the nominees**

### Communications

- First meeting of the "Communications Project" will be held online later this month
  - Goal is to have a series of small projects various members can take on and run with--one bigger piece would be to come up with a CFU branding package, including images or illustrations we can use again and again across materials, events.
- The news section of the website is now accessible to logged in users to post news to. Incoming messages will be put to the "Inbox" path.

### Education

Nora is not present

### Growth

Growth committee will be meeting before the GM

### Happy Warrior

- Leslie talked to Penney Kome and Lorie King about potential nominees.
- Suggestion from the executive for a nominee: Andrew Cash. **Leslie will forward to committee.**

### Bylaws

- Leslie has contacted the other members of the committee inviting them to look through the [changes](#).
- 3 notices of motion were presented at the September AGM re. changes to the bylaws. These will be presented to the members at the Jan. 31 general meeting.
- **Leslie will work with Nora** to develop a motion for how to handle the other changes that are required for consistency, typo corrections, and syncing with current practice.

## REGIONS

### BC

- Derrick O'Keefe is planning an educational evening on Jan. 20 in Vancouver

### Prairies

- Nothing to report

### Ontario

- Suzanne had a meeting with Andrew Cash and his former constituency assistant/campaign manager, Stephanie Nakitsas.
  - The two are forming a freelance workers/precarious workers advocacy organization whose goal it will be to lobby for legislative change in favour of freelancers. The org will launch sometime in March.
  - They want to work issue by issue, focusing on pushing for specific changes that have legs, support, or a particular opening at a given time.

- They want to work with the CFU and be a formal coalition partner--or perhaps like our lobbying arm. Demonstrating that we're fighting for change might help our recruitment efforts by strengthening our value proposition. They would like to be able to tap into our grassroots membership from time to time to be able to determine which issues are most salient with actual freelancers and, for instance, to invite them to events they would host.
- Andrew is interested in pushing for legislative change in the context of the Ontario Changing Workplace Commission. We talked about the need for crafting a more accessible narrative focusing on freelancers specifically, in contrast to the legalese of our current demands of [our petition](#) and in order to make sure that freelancers' issues don't fall between the cracks of this larger labour review process. This will not only help with outreach to members about this issue but also in getting the media to bite.
- A co-working day in Toronto is in the works for late January / early February.

### **Quebec**

Nora is not present

### **Atlantic**

Trevor is not present

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Structure of general meeting
  - President's report (work to date)
  - Bylaw changes
  - Elections
  - Budget (FYI)
  - Survey results (15 questions, 74 responses)

### **Set up the gotowebinar account (Ethan)**

- January messages:
  - Nominees for BC, Prairies reps - Done
  - General meeting instructions
  - Bylaw motions
  - Precarious/freelance workers campaign
    - CFU letter to federal Minister of Labour
    - News links Andrew Cash's actions, CCPA Monitor
  - Member survey results
- Translation of press card process (Suzanne)
- Freelance directory: what do we need to finish it and then move to promote it?
  - Unresolved. We need a skilled coder in Nation Builder themes.

**NEXT MEETING**

**Trial run of Gotowebinar on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. EST**

**Regular executive meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. EST**

**ADJOURNMENT at 12:57 PST**