

Social Justice Committee Agenda and Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 1st 2025 – 3:30 PM

Attendance: Tara McKinley, Elliot Fox Povey, Jessica Barker, Amber Grant

- a. Welcome and check in – Review progress from last meeting.
 - i. Tara has found some workshops we could try to attend and offer.
 - ii. Other items are still being worked on.
- b. Items to discuss:
 - i. Zone meeting debrief – Tara
 - 1. Tara made connections with other SJ groups, looking to Powell River for some ideas that might work for our local.
 - 2. Workshops of interest:
 - a. “Being an Ally” BCTF
 - b. “Organizing for Power” – Perhaps invite Lake Cowichan?
 - c. “How to Deal with Parents – SOGI” – zoom workshop
 - 3. Offer workshops to more members and can we make recommendations for all district staff?
- c. Think Tank on Queer and Transphobia debrief (what’s being researched relating to supporting queer members by the BCTF?) – Amber
 - i. Positive experience with many procedural takeaways.
 - ii. How to imagine better circumstances for queer staff and students. What would a perfect situation look like? How could we make that happen?
 - iii. Recognition of trauma and a continued push for inclusion and representation.

- iv. Special training for reps on how to best represent minorities with the employer.
- d. Transparency for members, who is on what committees and our CVTU website needs updating.
 - i. Perhaps CVTU needs more recruitment for union postings, as many seats were left empty
 - ii. Who updates and maintains the website?
 - iii. For transparency and union information, we should have a list of all CVTU union positions, who holds them, their contact information, who nominated and who approved the assignment and for how long. SJ group believes this would help members feel informed. This could also streamline communications.
 - iv. SJ will review union bylaws to help us better support executive function and offer more insight to members.
- e. Put a proposal to our CVTU executive to support putting forward a statement, or info for our members, plus...?) re: the two sets of striking unions in town (Lifelabs and the Unifor union for bus) – EII
 - i. Is our Union offering solidarity to Lifelabs and the Unifor Bus striking unions? What is our official position? What can we do? Is there a statement to go out or has one gone out?
 - ii. Can we offer some coffee and snacks or such to the people on strike?
 - iii. Members are asking and would like to know.

f. Moving forward with Conservative Party. What can we expect?

i. Tabled until next meeting.

g. AOB

i. Conversation regarding equity audit and the BCTF process

1. Hybrid zoom meeting issues – member complaints

2. How can we make equity a priority?

ii. SJ group is interested in having a SJ newsletter “Read, Watch, Learn” Social Justice. Would like to add to the CVTU website and be distributed to members.

iii. SJ group would like to have a Positive Vision Meeting where we ask the question “What do we want?”, bring a pal event.

h. **Adjournment**