BC GENERAL EMPLOYEES' UNION COMPONENT 6 EXECUTIVE MEETING SOCIAL, INFORMATION & HEALTH COMPONENT

December 13 – 15, 2022

File No. 1006-002

Attendance: Judy Fox-McGuire – Component 6 Vice President and Local 610 Chair (PSSG Probation)

Jeremy Leveque – Local 601 (MCFD) Falon Renshaw – Local 601 (ISM - IT)

Desiree Cabecinha - Local 601 Treasurer (CLBC) Sonja Haigh – Local 602 Chairperson (MCFD) Kevin Ball - Local 603 Chairperson (NTT - IT)

Kayla Woodruff – Local 603 1st Vice Chair, Young Worker (MCFD)

Lisa McDonald – Local 603 MAL (SDPR)

Andrea Mitchell – Local 604 Chairperson (PSSG Probation) Terri-Lynn Kibbe – Local 605 Chairperson (PSSG Probation)

Nancy Bell - Local 604 2nd Vice (CLBC)

Mona Dykes – Local 607 Chairperson (SDPR) Karen Kenney – Local 608 Chairperson (SDPR) Anna Depretto – Local 609 Chairperson (CLBC) Ryan Todd - Local 611 Chairperson (Min. Trans - IT)

Teri Goodrick – Local 612 Chairperson

Jessie Peden – Local 612 YW (MCFD Youth Probation) Mike Eso – Director & staff assigned to Component 6

Regrets: Sandra Pittroff – Local 601 A/Local Chair (Min. Forests – Policy Analyst)

Joanne Bowden - Local 606 Chairperson (MCFD)

Tuesday – December 13, 2022

Acknowledgement of First Nations Territory – given by Kayla Woodruff

- 1. Call to Order & Introductions by Judy Fox-McGuire
- 2. Swearing in of New Members Mike Eso
- 3. Review and adoption of agenda as amended:

M/S/C

- Childcare crisis; CSA donation; Eldercare; Local minutes to be added to website.
- 4. Review of previous meeting minutes (September, 2022):

M/S/C

- Reminder to send written reports for the benefit of our members.
- Updated committee assignments to include Desiree on Finance and Women's/Gender Equity.
- Business Arising from Minutes: None
- 6. New Business:
 - BC Fed: Feedback from attendees on this years conference.
 - CLC May 8 12, 2023 in Montreal.

Delegates: Call for delegates interested in attending CLC – two HQ paid; Component paid - two YW and two Equity; email Judy your interest and which seat you are seeking; request for those who did not go to NUPGE will be considered first.

Resolutions to CLC: Resolutions need to be National in focus, presented on the CLC form and 150 words max; these need to be formatted by Lisa Lane. Please send to Judy first and she will send forward to Lisa. Some resolutions will come out of BCGEU Convention through the PE. Component Zoom meeting to review CLC resolutions on January 5th.



Memo re 2023 CLC Conv Resolutions dl



7. Local Reports:

Local 601 - Jeremy Levesque/Falon Renshaw/Desiree Cabecinha: Verbal report

Local 602 – Sonja Haigh:

Grievances and Appendix 4's: No grievance report. MCFD in Nanaimo has two active Appendix 4's.

Member/Worksite Issues:

CLBC – there continues to be many issues in the offices around managing relationships and performance management.

MCFD – some offices continue to have numerous vacancies and high turnover. Workload remains an issue.

MSDPR – messaging from members that they are unhappy with the tentative agreement.

CYMH – experiencing high turnover – many clinicians are leaving for private practice.

CYSN – they have been able to fill some positions, which will help them stabilize.

OH&S: There has been turnover on the OH&S committees, but we seem to be getting replacements for the vacancies.

Good and Welfare: N/A

Activism Highlights:

The Local Executive is having a planning meeting in January to make plans for M2M, steward recruitment and retention, among other local issues.

The Activist Appreciation Banquet is on April 29, 2023. There are scheduled skating parties in Port Alberni, Port McNeil, and Powell River, as well as a party in Campbell River at the Bowling and Billiards.

Local 603 – Kevin Ball/Kayla Woodruff/Lisa MacDonald: Verbal report.



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Local 604 - Andrea Mitchell/Nancy Bell:

Grievances – There are 38 total with:

12 Discipline

8 STIIP

9 Posting/seniority

3 Human Rights

5 various single - issue grievances from hours of work to improper pay.

Appendix 4's – several at stage 3 out of MCFD and being dealt with at Article 29.

Education – We are looking to set up steward support meetings and looking at how we can better mentor new stewards to make sure they have exposure to worksite issues, but may sit in with a more experienced steward to help with the trepidation of going in cold.

OHS - No reports

Worksite Issues:

Probation - pretty quiet since the ratification vote. Just waiting patiently to get paid properly. There are projects underway that are meant to streamline workloads, which are somewhat helpful. The employer still sits on vacant positions for long periods of time before posting. They've just recently posted regional PO24, PO15, SPO, LM, and admin positions to finally plug the gaps. RD position was that the caseloads were low; however, caseloads are creeping up again. Lots of movement, including members leaving public service entirely, opting for jobs with WorkSafe who offer more flexibility in work arrangements, including 100% work from home.

MCFD - we have members impacted by the PSC HOW changes and await the outcome of the HOW umpire. Seems the employer is being entirely unreasonable in the new schedule proposals, which appear needlessly complicated and, if implemented, will only lead to more retention issues. Also dealing with the service area boundary changes Surrey/Langley centres and poor communication sending people into panic about the potential to one day have their worksites moved even farther from where they may live. I've also had multiple emails from SW's who have App 4's at Stage 3, one of whom is being denied opportunities due to workload, and had more files dumped on her. Sonja Haig is aware and following up with the employer.

SDPR - most of the issues are around the reclassification, and WFH home requests. I've had a number of calls from members trying to claim medical accommodations to WFH which are appearing to be successful; auxiliaries have all been transitioned to regular status positions. This has caused some concern for how they will handle conversions for those currently in TA's to CSW instead of EAW positions; also, workload has become an issue - regular Saturday OT being offered to clear backlogs. Morale is low. Performance plans and LOE's are a regular occurrence for dealing with mistakes as opposed to offering supports. They are inundated with hard targets - those who make them get gift cards and those who don't get meetings with managers. Training of EAW's is falling to trainers who don't want to be trainers or who have minimal experience, leading to sub-par training and new hires that are put on performance plans.

CLBC (Nancy)
Grievances
Fraser Valley 12 6 Full Arbitration 5 Expedited Arbitration 1 Employee filed
Lower Mainland 1 1 Full Arbitration
North Island 6 4 Full Arbitration 2 Expedited Arbitration



Okanagan 2 2 Full Arbitration Prince George 3 1 Full Arbitration 2 Expedited Arbitration

OHS:

Members encouraged to wear mask within the office and when meeting with families and service providers. All members in the South Fraser area attend full day OHS training put on by the local OHS committees.

Member/Worksite Issues:

- Hiring and retention are huge problems across the province. Subsequent probations are deterring members from applying for other positions.
- Potential bullying and harassment complaint expected to be filed on behalf of a group of members.
- MOU 19, Articles 10, 14, 16 and Appendix 3

Good and Welfare: Nothing to report.

Activism Highlights:

- Team Meeting orientations continue to generate interest in the GEU. Quarterly member meetings are being contemplated in numerous areas across the province.
- Employer has finally agreed to bargaining dates. February 22, 2023 will be first day, with further dates planned in March.
- Steward retention is improving except for in the North. Regular zoom calls with stewards happening every other month.
- Reorganization of our Head Office has resulted in the creation of numerous new management positions which are going through the exclusion process. This is the cause of the delays to bargaining.

AG/CYMH/NTT/IT/MAH/Cit Serv - No information provided.

Activist Engagement:

Activist Appreciation Banquet was October 15th - well attended.

M2M – Planning underway for 2023. Moving away from general members meetings and incorporating more ministry-specific lunch meetings, modelled after Nancy's success with CLBM member engagement. Also, planning site visits starting in February and starting in Chilliwack which is often neglected due to its distance. Will be utilizing the whole local executive to do these visits with our staff rep with focus on steward recruitment. Nancy has also started putting together a newsletter to inform members what their Executive is working on and upcoming events.

CCC – Breakfast with Santa held December 3rd at the Fraser Valley Area Office. Thank you to all the volunteers who stepped forward to help – Nancy Bell and Jamie Simpson.

G&W - None

<u>Local 605 – Terri-Lynn Kibbe:</u>

Grievances and Appendix 4's:



Our rep has received some questions from Component 6 members about, is the five days of sick time that was implemented earlier this year. Folks haven't been paid for sick days in accordance with the new legislation and he believes there is a grievance happening already, and that it's not complete.

- 605 has 10 grievances with our area office, and 1 with advocacy.
- 605 has 20 stewards. 4 new in the past few weeks from the same office
- Unsure of appendix 4's waiting for a response.

OSH: Clearwater MCFD office struggling to get to code and feeling ignored. Working on getting ergonomic office furniture. Hoping to learn more when I do office visits and have a local zoom meeting in January.

I am a member of the Train the Trainer and there is an OSH conference from February 28-March 2, 2022.

Member/Worksite issues: Clearwater MCFD office is quite unsafe and a bit of a disaster.

Many MCFD offices having a hard time with retention of staff.

Consistently hearing problems from the field that back fill is not happening for holidays or absences. An example is my LOA had not backfill so myself and my co-workers covered. This is because there is not a pool of qualified people to backfill for line staff yet management pulls from the line to cover there leaves. Great opportunities but makes offices that are short...shorter.

Frustrations in the field from lack of timely response from MYHR on clarity of supplemental leave etc.

Also retention of staff is becoming desperate in many offices and folks are hoping something can be done.

Good and Welfare: Not sure

Activism Highlights: BC Fed. I am working on an email to send out to local and let them know of meeting coming in January.

<u>Local 606 – Joanne Bowden:</u> No report provided.

Local 607 – Mona Dykes: Verbal report.

Local 608 – Karen Kenney:

Grievances and Appendix 4's:

- 1 NTT in progress
- 1 PSG withdrawn
- 1 MCFD withdrawn

OSH: None

Member/Worksite issues:

- MCFD member in Creston was told by her TL if she and another SW did not agree to Travel and Work in Fernie (due to staffing shortages) they could potentially lose their jobs.

- MCFD concerns regarding workload as they are now having to cover both their existing caseload in Creston and any new files in Fernie.
- MCFD concerns over compensation and employees having to carry the on call phone during breaks.

Good and Welfare: Gift card provided to member whose spouse passed away.

Activism Highlights:

- October 29, 2022 Activist Appreciation Event at Fairmont Hot Springs.
- BCGEU representative attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony.
- BCGEU and the local Labour Council Elections. We now have a BCGEU member voted into the president role.

Local 609 – Anna Depretto:

Grievances & Appendix 4's:

3 grievances - 1 SDPR, 2 MCFD. Themes: loss of income, STIIP denial, employer filed.

OHS: Nothing to report.

Member/Worksite issues:

- members disappointed with proposed agreement.
- workload/staffing shortages ongoing concern.
- CLBC concerned about bargaining outcome- SPO25?

Activism Highlights:

- activist appreciation banquet scheduled October 29.
- education fair to be planned for same day as banquet October 29.
- Step Up Training held August 30, Steward Fundamentals course held Sept 1 & 2- good turnouts for both sessions.
- CCC meeting monthly, planning for activist banquet, CCC has positions available (Treasurer).
- M2M's scheduled for Oct 4/5.
- WKLC (WK Labor Committee) held picnic in Castlegar on Labor Day weekend- positive turnout

<u>Local 610 – Judy Fox-McGuire:</u> Verbal report.

Local 611 - Ryan Todd:

Grievances and Appendix 4's:

19 current grievances

MCFD - 6

SDPR - 2

PSSG - 6

CLBC - 4

NTT - 1

Two in full arbitration, many are overpayment or layoff/dismissal.



OSH: No major reports. A few small incidents involving street people and staff feeling unsafe in the down town core. The main government building in PG has been looking at a full-time stationed security guard. For now, all the doors are still locked.

Education/Activism: Have added two more stewards since September. Now up to ten for the area. Most are still in PG, one in Vanderhoof. Most do not respond or want to get involved, so most fall on the same two. Same as with Andrea, looking at ways to train.

Member/Worksite issues: Missed the last bit of the last area meeting, so I don't have much info from the rest of the components.

- MCFD One MCFD office continues to have issues with staff retention and many staff going on and off of STIIP.
- SDPR No report.
- Probation The Vanderhoof office is still a major issue. Had one staff resign a few months ago. One just resigned last week and one went on stress related STIIP. All three of these staff are less than a year with PSSG and all have the same supervisor. There is one grievance and formal complaint against the supervisor and RD. Two more grievances and complaints are being worked on. GEU office has also filed a complaint against PSSG & the R.D. Two more grievances will be filed against the R.D. for threatening comments.
- AG (Family Justice) No report.
- CLBC No report.
- IT One grievance in regards to IS24 position being classed down to a 21. Two more will be filed for the other two effected. Reclassification submitted to PSA was denied. In talks with TRAN IMB, PSA and the regional offices in regards to having these properly classed to a 24.
- Citizen's Services No report.

Other (Cross Component, Good & Welfare): CCC purchased WHL Cougars tickets to give away to members, and all were handed out in an hour. There was a line up at the GEU office before 10 am. Authorized an additional 25 tickets be purchased for out of town members who wanted to attend.

M2M in new year.

Local 612 - Teri Goodrick:

Grievances and Appendix 4's:

• 10 open grievances. Was unable to obtain specific topics prior to report.

OSH: Nothing new to report.

Member/Worksite issues:

• Childcare crisis in our area. Some members unable to return to work full time (or at all) after parental leave due to extreme lack of available child care options. Having to piece together family/friend/partner care and make it work. Leads to extreme high stress, burnout, instability, and last minute scrambling to find care. Some members leaving their positions due to lack of care and having to pay back parental leave employer top-up due to being unable to return. Have been on waitlist for the only licensed infant care facility for over a year with no movement. Unlikely to be able to secure full-time child care until age 3. Family daycares also extremely full and no infant spots available locally. Group of parents in Smithers attended town council meeting Dec 2021 seeking help. Again reached out to MP Nathan Cullen and met in office June



20, 2022 to highlight the seriousness of the problem and request help. No noticeable change. A few members of that group have since had to leave their positions, and others return part time. A couple have found childcare in Witset and have an additional 1 hour commute both morning and evening to drop off and pick up their infants at daycare. Members having to leave their jobs or return only part time, lose income, and take on the mental load of coordinating this child care disaster are primarily women.

- Inflation/Housing crisis especially impacts young workers.
- MCFD increasingly relying on 7 on 7 off workers. Very expensive to have these positions/flights/travel. Taking their earnings and leaving the community with it.

Activism Highlights:

- Enhanced Steward Training held Sept 27, 2022 in Terrace with Local Executive and General union meetings following the training. Low turnout for steward training identified need for new exciting course options and clarification with stewards that this is an annual training day and not a one-time course. Requested to bring forward need for new enhanced training options to learning department. Discussed plan to hold Enhanced Training in the Spring for 2023 in order to also facilitate a planning session with the local exec and active stewards to plan meetings for year and create M2M plan.
- Activist appreciation banquet held Oct 15 2022 at Prestige Hotel in Smithers. Numbers were a bit low with some last minute cancellations for various reasons, but it was an excellent fun event and great to be in person with everyone again. There was also a 2 day education fair adjacent to the banquet with some great course offerings. Again, somewhat low numbers but great feedback from those that attended.
- Local Executive nominations were opened for vacant positions at the beginning of October and closed Oct 24 with three new local executive members acclaimed to their positions:

Second Vice-Chairperson: Piroska Potornay Member at Large: Charline LaChance Member at Large: Adrian Bourgeois Recording Secretary: vacant

- Jessie Peden is our new young worker for both component and Provincial Exec. Congrats!!
- Step Up Training held Nov 1st in Terrace.
- Steward Fundamentals held Nov 2nd and 3rd in Terrace.
- Cross Component Committee Jessie and Joseph are on it for 612. Next meeting tonight (Dec 13)
- Young workers in area 12 organizing a young worker chat group to stay connected with each other.

Good and Welfare: Recognize passing of Patty Forman – Prince Rupert MCFD Admin member. Discussed need for support for affected workers. Potential plan for local CCC to organize memorial for her for workers to remember her and celebrate her life.

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Discussion – childcare crisis in the North; new mother's on leave unable to return to work because childcare is unavailable. Advised to speak to MP/MLA; write resolution for CLC; write letter to Comp 3 VP and Stephanie Smith.

Discussion – lack of eldercare benefits or the high bar to claim a parent as a dependent and have access to benefits, including Pharmacare, hearing aids, in-home care, etc. Advised to speak to MP and write CLC resolution.

Discussion – hard to recruit northern areas (MCFD) and the negative impact of reliance on 7 and 7 SW shifts; recruitment bonuses are better, but still doesn't address the issues of lack of housing or lack of childcare; positive experience with PMR team. Would be more helpful if 7 on 7 off were seasoned workers (not new). The cost of 7 and 7 could fund more base positions and bonuses to offset the workload experienced all over the Province.

8. VP Report – Judy Fox-McGuire

Updated Committee List

Name	Finance	OHS	Bylaw Review	WGR	Education	Resolution	Bargaining	CSA	Swag	
Judy				Chair			Chair			
Kayla				x	Chair	Chair	X		x	
Kevin		Chair	x							
Mona	Chair			x			x			
Andrea	x			x		x	X			
Sandra			x	x	x				x	
Falon				x					x	
Jeremy		x	Chair		x		Α	x		
Sonja	x		x	x						
Lisa		x		x			x			
Nancy				x	X				Chair	
Joanne				x						
Anna				x				X		
Karen				x				Chair		
Teri			x	x	x					
Ryan								x		
Terry Lyn		x			x	x				
Desiree	x			x					x	
Jessie										

PE Reports provided to Component for review and questions.



9. Joint Labour Management Committee Reports:

AG/Family Justice: No report provided.

CLBC – Nancy Bell: Verbal report - committee stood down for bargaining; members being put back on probation will be brought forward at next meeting; head office re-org with several additional positions seeking exclusion from the Union; awaiting bargaining dates – likely Feb 2023.

SDPR - Lisa McDonald/Mona Dykes: Verbal report.

MCFD - Sonja Haigh:

Currently, a lot of focus around the Jurisdictional Changes around Indigenous Child Welfare. Unfortunately, the employer did not bring this to anyone in the union prior to making the public announcement. More unfortunate still, is the that it appears the MCFD has not planned for increased workload or other stressors this will put on an already stressed frontline.

We are looking at updating the Afterhours Satellite Office Memorandum of Understanding.

Appendix Four – There are about 8 at Stage 3.

The employer is not willing to track Appendix 4's at Stage 2. We need to come up with a system on the union side in order to do that.

Social Worker Oversight – people are getting emails asking them to do a survey. This is related to MCFD reviewing the Social Work Act and determining which social workers are registered and which get exemptions. It is very problematic to have MCFD social workers be required to register with the college.

PSSG – Judy Fox-McGuire: Did not meet.

PSSG Subcommittee – Community Corrections - Judy Fox-McGuire/Andrea Mitchell: last meeting May 26th; no date for next meeting.

ISM - Falon Renshaw:

Employer is sending out level 1 first aid kits this month to all employees as required by worksafe now that worksite will be closed December 31.

Member/Worksite issues:

New employer will be fujitsu for the service desk side of ism, waiting for fujitsu to contact union so that we can start up a transition team. Recently added three new stewards in preparation for transition to take place as service desk (approx. half of employees) set to move to fujitsu September, 2023 (if transition happens on time).

Met November 29 for Article 29 / JUM. Anticipating CST positions floating between departments will become an issue when service desk is taken over by new employer fujitsu.

NTT Data – Kevin Ball: Verbal report.



Citizen's Services: No report provided.

IT Education: No report provided.

MAH: No report provided.

10. PE Reports:

OHS (Kevin Ball)- Verbal report.

Environment (Mona Dykes) – Verbal Report

Equity/LGBTQ2SI+ (Desiree Cabecinha) – Verbal Report

Intersol (Desiree Cabecinha) – Verbal Report; https://www.oxfam.ca/what-she-makes

YW (Jessie Peden) December 14, 2022

Provincial Executive Young Worker (PEYW) Committee report:

- Jessie newly acclaimed Young Worker to component
- Assigned to PE YW Committee
- Attended in person PE YW committee two day meeting November 15 &16
- Planning of Young Workers conference is in motion.
- Theme is "we are all leaders
- Location and date to be determined
- Conference will include workshops, education, speakers, swag
- Committee submitted resolutions to CLC related to:
 - i. Resolution on electoral reform
 - ii. Resolution on empowering young workers
 - iii. Resolution on expanding the right to strike
 - iv. Resolution on housing
 - v. Resolution on youth climate action and just transition
 - vi. Resolution on updating the CLC website
- Winter school applications were heard. 80 applications roughly. Three young workers were selected.
- Delegates and alternates selected for NUPGE Young Workers Committee.
- Delegates and alternates selectee for BCFED Young Workers Committee. Jessie is alternate for BC Fed Young Worker Committee.
- BCCLA Youth Conferences to run in 2023 theme is know your rights. Committee will present to students in social justice classes in various schools.

Thursday, December 15, 2022:

11. VP Report – Judy Fox-McGuire:

Bargaining concluded the week after our last meeting. The results were a slim majority although
we got the breakdown in the component results. Simply Voting was able to send us the results
for how each component voted on the Main Agreement. The percentages are below, broken
down by component:

Component	# of Members who Voted	% Yes	% No	
1	1792	28.1%	71.8%	

5	2869	47%	52.8%
6	6036	57.6%	42.4%
12	9139	55.2%	44.7%
20	3374	59.6%	40.4%

- CLC resolutions need to be submitted to HQ by January 10 and we will be having a zoom call on January 5th to finalize any resolutions that we want to submit. Please ensure these are properly formatted on the form provided and that you get them to me prior to the 5th. These resolutions need to be a national focus.
- The Summer Institute for Union Women is June 25-30 in Portland, Oregon and the Women's Committee will be discussing that today.
- There was an announcement by the new Government that they will be hiring 22 new probation officers to work as part of an enhanced team approach for prolific offenders. Although this was announced as a new program, this is the restart of a program.
- SDPR has announced that they are converting many auxiliaries to permanent hires. If you see any problems with the implementation of this please let me know and copy Lisa McDonald as the chair if the Article 29 committee.
- MCFD Mike, Stephanie and I met with Mitzi Dean and discussed the communication between the Union and her Ministry. We are hoping that it improves.
- The Article 29 committees are starting up again and some have never stopped meeting.
- Public Service Committees such as the Joint OHS committee and the UMSCEE committee will be starting again in the new year.

12. Committee Meetings/Reports: Finance (Mona)

Honorariums 2023

Approximately 20 people

Finance Committee looking at recommending honorarium for 2023 of up to \$2000 per Comp Exec member. Approximately up to 20 people. To be discussed as a whole after more information comes forward from other component chairs about how they are going to move forward. No T4 issued for up to \$500.

2022 honorarium is \$500 prorated for length of time on exec.

- Expense claims should be submitted within the calendar year. Local expenses can also be claimed online; Stewards can also register for EFT for mileage – download direct deposit form.
- 2023 Conferences: Winter School, Women's/Gender Rights (SIW), CLC Discussion about upcoming conferences and whether to send members to some or all. May be a discussion for education committee to decide whether there is enough value offered to Component 6 members. CLC Component can send two executive members, two YWs, two Equity delegates, plus Judy/Kayla as PE delegates.

Social and Community Action (Karen)

Moosehide Campaign – motion to provide \$500 donation

M/S/C

Terms of reference for CSA (2020)





Bylaw (Jeremy)

 Reviewing Local/Component Bylaws to come up with recommendation for future updates for all Locals

Swag (Nancy)

- How much was spent on gifts in 2022? Can we partner with other components to access economy of scale? What is the volume of swag we are looking at?
- o Looked potential gifts as well as general swag.
- O What suppliers can we use vs which to avoid?
- o Gifts needed for Alex, Steve, Cynthia, Darrell, Harbinder.

OHS (Kevin)

Created Terms of Reference – see attached



13. Unfinished Business:

Education committee/Judy to come back with a list of available conferences for 2023 for table to discuss merit of sending some/any attendees. Will be helpful to plan for identifying interest and financial planning for the year.

Judy to follow up on swag/gift questions to bring back.

Appendix 4/5 Stage-2 tracking and response plan.

14. 2023 Meeting Planning:

- March 20 24, 2023 Victoria
- June 12 16, 2023 out of Lower Mainland, potentially Kelowna
- September 11 15, 2023 Lower Mainland
- December 4 8, 2023 Locatin TBC

Meeting Adjourned

