

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF GRAIN AND  
GENERAL SERVICES UNION (ILWU • CANADA) held by video conference call at  
12:00 noon on June 17, 2021**

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**Participants:**

**GSU President** – Jim Brown  
**GSU Vice President** – Michelle Houlden  
**GSU Vice President** – Curtis Cousins

**GSU Staff**  
Hugh Wagner – **General Secretary**

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*These minutes reflect the disposition of the meeting. It should be noted that each agenda item and matters which arose were thoroughly discussed and often vigorously debated. In the interest of brevity, however, in most instances the final result is the only aspect recorded.*

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**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The purpose of the meeting was an update on GSU administrative business.

Wagner reported that he had circulated the draft minutes of the April 29, 2021 executive committee meeting and no errors or omissions had been registered. Accordingly, he advised that the minutes of the April 29, 2021 meeting of the Executive Committee would be adopted by agreement.

Wagner reported that the cost of the renovations to GSU's building would be higher than the \$48,000 stuccoing estimate since it would also be necessary to replace the soffits as well as flashing in the several joins to the building. He estimated that the project would cost another \$10,000, plus \$8,000 to replace the windows.

Wagner reported that two members had attended the CLC/SFL Spring School and that Curt Cousins was attending the CLC convention this week.

Wagner also reported that Dale Markling's last day of work was June 4 and that Markling would be on vacation until July 31, 2021 whereupon GSU would pay him \$17,694 as a retirement allowance, plus a \$1,750 retirement gift and 2.5 days of unused vacation.

The executive committee discussed attendance at the SFL's 2021 virtual convention and agreed to send delegates from GSU's JEC and Defense Fund board of directors.

Wagner suggested that the fall 2021 JEC meeting be coupled with a one-day education forum devoted to officer leadership and grievance procedures. He reported that Steve Torgerson was working on a course outline that would be shared once nearer to completion of same.

Houlden asked whether the staff complement could handle the additional work in light of Markling's departure. Wagner replied that for the time being the work could be handled with one less staff representative.

Wagner also reported that a social gathering would be held in conjunction with the fall JEC to mark the retirement of Dale Markling.

The meeting turned to discussion of the staff representative vacancy created by Markling's retirement. Following a full discussion, the following course of action was agreed to:

1. The vacancy will be filled with an advertisement being distributed within IUSU, GSU and via the SFL by mid-August. The closing date for applications will be August 31.
2. The job description will be reviewed but major changes are not expected since it was last renewed in 2017.
3. The preference will be to keep the vacant Rep position located in Saskatoon.
4. The timeline for hiring someone will be late autumn 2021.
5. Any Executive Committee and JEC member who intends to apply for the position will be required to recuse themselves from the hiring process.
6. The selection committee will be the executive committee, general secretary and a representative appointed by IUSU.

It was also agreed that the foregoing process would be sent to the JEC for comment prior to being implemented.

The Committee approved a \$1,000 donation to support Labour Start. Continuation of annual donations to Wounded Warriors Weekend was discussed, but no decision was made.

Wagner reported that GSU's promotions budget would again be exceeded as a supply of orange t-shirts would be purchased at an estimated cost of \$1,000 to support the Every Child Matters campaign.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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Executive Member

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General Secretary