



Public Service Union of Belize

P.O. Box 458, South End Governor General's Field
Belmopan City, Belize, C.A.

Internationally affiliated with PSI and CPSA

Council of Management Briefing to Membership 3 of 2021

August 31, 2021

The Public Service Union of Belize (PSU) held its monthly Council of Management meeting on August 7, 2021 along with a Special Council of Management meeting on August 16, 2021. Cognizant of the fact that timely and effective communication with members is important for the PSU's success and central to achieving the Union's goals and objectives, membership is hereby apprised of the following:

1. As of the end of July 2021, it was noted that we had two hundred and fifty-two (252) recruits and forty-nine (49) resignations to date
2. Approval of Secondment to the PSU Secretariat was given for Bro D. Flowers, President, with effect from July 21, 2021.
3. The Public Sector Workers Trust (PSWT) sent a reminder asking PSU and its members to submit project proposals or ideas that will aid in the advancement and benefit of the PSWT and its beneficiaries. These can be both revenue generating and non-revenue generating.
4. The Elma Francois Institute sent an invite for PSU to attend the 2nd Biennial Caribbean Workers Forum II (CWF II) to be held September 15 to 18, 2021. Council agreed to pay for five (5) delegates, 2 Chairs & 3 Executive. Sis A. Gonzalez, Sis. G. Neal, Sis A. Novelo, Bro R. Cunil (Cayo Rep), & Sis G. Garcia will participate on behalf of PSU.
5. The Public Services International (PSI) sent an invite to participate in the 2021 Caribbean sub-regional meetings as follows to be held September 22 to 24 which will be preceded by sectoral and thematic steering group/network meetings September 8, 9 and 10. Bro D. Flowers will attend SUBRAC meetings in his capacity as President. Sis M. Cayetano will attend SUBWOC meetings in her capacity as Womens' Representative Committee Chair and Bro A. Lemoth will attend Young workers' caucus in his capacity as Young Workers' Representative Committee Chair.
6. PSI invited the PSU to participate in an International Labour Organization (ILO) Questionnaire/Survey on Whistleblowers. Deadline for the survey is August 17, 2021.
7. The Grievance Committee has been functional. The Committee was successful in addressing most Grievances pending since 2019. Several appointments were confirmed that were pending and most were retroactive. The remaining grievances including Lands Registry & Audit will be addressed in the upcoming meetings. The Grievance Procedures Manual will be submitted to Council for review and will further be rolled out to the different ministries/departments.
8. The land documents for the Corozal, Belize & Belmopan properties are currently being addressed so that our titles can be issued.
9. Due to concerns with Bro S. Reneau's employment status, Bro P. Tate was appointed to replace him at the Joint Staff Relations Council (JSRC).
10. It was stated that forty-seven thousand three hundred sixty dollars and sixty-six cents (\$47,360.66) was spent from the Strike Fund since the union went on strike on May 4, 2021. This includes transportation, food, printing, ads etc.
11. Due to a range of concerns, the suggestion was made that the Unions accounts move from the Belize Bank Corporation Limited. Bro S. Reneau to present a detailed proposal to the Council to do a change in banking.



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12. Twenty (20) education grants were given to members and their dependents, ten (10) dependents for secondary school and ten (10) members for tertiary school.
Presentation of education grant certificates will be made at the various municipalities.
13. Staff Matters regarding Staff Regulations and other was discussed. A report is to be done and shared with Council to determine the way forward.
14. Branch Audits are to be completed over the next two (2) months.
15. Council agreed to get two (2) legal opinions on the legality of the 10% cut as well as the Pensions Amendment Act No 40 of 2001.
16. It was noted that the CWU had a meeting presentation with the TUC to discuss the issues at PBL. The Belize Sugar Industries Limited ASR Group is moving the loading of bulk sugar from the PBL to Big Creek Port in Independence. PSU was asked that 1) at minimum we ensure we understand the issues and are able to defend and articulate such, 2) Public support especially when questioned 3) at most be able to confront the systems and show strength in numbers and on the ground. Sensitization of issue to be done with membership.
17. An update was given by the Branch Chairs on the status of their Branch Executive Committee members, some who were transferred, resigned, took ill etc. An update was also given on the various branch activities, challenges, calendar and plans. The Zone Liaison Representatives along with the President are to schedule visits with the Branches.
18. The Cipriani College of Labour & Cooperative Studies (CCLCS) sent an invite for two (2) Certificate Scholarships for Union members. PSU to extend invite to members via circular and application.
19. PSU to meet with the NTUCB on their Affiliate visit tour on Friday August 20, 2021.

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