

P.E.C. VIDEO TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2020 – 7:26 p.m.

Comrade Ron Goebel opened the meeting with the following statement. This is the second PEC Virtual Zoom meeting we have held.

Since this is an official meeting, we will have opening and closing ceremonies. Before we begin, we want to advise each of you that this meeting is being recorded. Juanita will be doing roll call and at that time please signify that you are okay with this meeting being recorded, and hopefully, everyone is.

Roll Call:

President – Garry Pond, approved
Past President – Sharon McKeown, approved
1st Vice President – Derek Moore, approved
Vice President - Brian Harris, approved
Vice President – Lynn McClellan, approved
Vice President – Pam Davidson, approved
Honourary Treasurer, Terry Jacobs, approved
Vice Chairman, Ron Crown, approved
Chairman - Ron Goebel, approved

District “A” – Mark Rogers, approved
Deputy DC – Carolyn Mayo, approved
ZC A1 – Jim Dunn, approved
ZC A2 – Dan Gray, approved
ZC A3 – Len Maynard, approved
ZC A4 – Laura Nicholls, approved
ZC A5 – Gerry Cross, approved
ZC A6 – Randy Warden replaced by DZC – Brenda Deacon, approved
ZC A7 – Art Mayo, approved

District “B” – Diane Condon, approved
Deputy DC – Jack Gemmell, approved
Deputy DC – Kim Reinhart, approved
ZC B1 – Dennis Tyrell absent
ZC B2 – Dianne Hodges, approved
ZC B5 – Lloyd Cull, approved
ZC B6 – Joyce Brown, absent
ZC B7 – Robert Borre, approved

District “C” - Eric Ross – approved
Deputy DC – Dean Weir, approved
ZC C1 – Dennis Schmidt, approved
ZC C2 – Jim Meyer, approved

ZC C3 – Rick Clayfield, approved
ZC C4 – Kathryn Eastwood, approved

District “D” - Gerry Morgan, approved
Deputy DC – Wayne Powell, approved
Deputy DC – John Dufort, absent
ZC D1 – Kelly Jackson, approved
ZC D3 – Craig Oliver, approved
ZC D5 – Richard Viles, approved

District “E” - Crystal Cook, approved
Deputy DC – Rick Preston, approved
ZC E2 – Bruno Scaturchio, approved
ZC E3 – Judi Giovanetti, approved
ZC E4 – Paul Howe, approved
ZC E5 – Betty Smith, approved

District “F” - Lynn Deering, approved
Deputy DC – David Harnden, approved
ZC F1 – Rick Saunders, approved
ZC F2 – Wayne McKinnon, absent
ZC F3 – Judy Heasman, approved
ZC F4 – Linda Battams, approved
ZC F5 – John Dike, approved

District “G” - Joel Van Snick , approved
Deputy DC – Ken Heagle, approved
Deputy DC – George Wood, absent
ZC G1 – June Crawford, approved
ZC G2 – Ralph McMullen – DZC – Rob Fernell approved
ZC G3 – Don Swerdfeger, approved
ZC G4 – Bill Bresee, approved
ZC G5 – Tim Blanchard, approved
ZC G6 – Rob Madore, approved
ZC G7 – Wayne Bennett, approved

District “H” - Tom Hywarren, approved
Deputy DC – Ken Faubert, absent
Deputy DC – Flora Wilson Chartrand, absent
ZC H2 – Ron Holotuk, approved
ZC H3 – Sharleen Sissons, approved
ZC H4 – Debbie Magee, approved

District “K” – Roy Wilde, approved
Deputy DC – Marianne Sowinski, approved
ZC K1 – same as above

K4 – Bruce Carmichael, approved

Constitution and Laws – Bruce McKittrick, approved

Honours and Awards – Jack Porter, approved

Leadership Development – Robyn Zettler, approved

Public Relations – Carolyn McCaul, approved

Sports – Walter Stevens, approved

Track & Field – John Crook, approved

Veterans Services/Legion Seniors/Homeless Veterans – Dave Gordon, approved

Veterans Services/Legion Seniors/Homeless Veterans Vice – Erl Kish, approved

Charitable Foundation – Marg Emery, approved

Newsletter – Roy Eaton, absent

Ontario Correspondent & Website Coordinator – Mary Ann Goheen, absent
(during voting)

Ontario BSO/OSI Representative – Darren Reid, approved

Executive Director – Pamela Sweeny, approved.

Assistant Executive Director – Juanita Kemp, approved

Past Presidents in attendance and approved recording were George O'Dair,
Andre Paquette, Ed Pigeau and Bruce Julian.

The meeting was called to order by Comrade Goebel. Opening Ceremonies were conducted as per the General By-Laws.

Comrade Goebel stated this is virtual Teleconference/Video meeting, to ratify the motions of PAC that were made recently concerning the Provincial Convention scheduled in North Bay in 2021 due to the current COVID-19 situation.

Your Provincial President Garry Pond will be providing you with some background information on how and why the motions were set in place at the April 17, 2020 PAC Zoom meeting.

Comrade Pond then continued by stating:

As you know, our Ontario Command Provincial Convention was originally scheduled to be held in May of 2021 in North Bay, Ontario and we had previously scheduled our 2023 Convention to be held in London, Ontario.

On April 16, 2020, there was a virtual D.E.C. Zoom Teleconference Video meeting held to discuss the possible postponement of the Dominion Convention to be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in August of this year. And as you know, it was unanimously approved to postpone our Dominion Convention until August 14-18 of next year (2021). It will still however be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. In fact, there were three separate approved motions.

The first was to postpone the Dominion Convention that was planned to be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in August of this year. The second motion was to hold our next Dominion Convention in August of 2021 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan as was previously planned for this year. The third motion was to move the originally planned Dominion Convention that was to be held in Saint John, New Brunswick in August of 2022 to August of 2024, and still to be held in Saint John, New Brunswick. This will then allow Dominion Command to get back to holding the Dominion Conventions every two years in the even years.

With the Dominion Convention for this year being postponed until August of 2021, this of course would then mean that unless we change the date for our Ontario Command Provincial Convention, we would be holding both a Dominion Convention and a Provincial Convention within the same year and only three months apart.

That of course would have a financial impact on our Branches and membership who would normally plan on attending our Dominion and Provincial Conventions. District Commanders have also voiced their opinion and have requested that the 2021 Provincial Convention being planned to be held in North Bay, Ontario be postponed until May of 2022.

The members of your Finance Committee met on April 16th via a virtual Zoom Teleconference Video meeting and made three recommendations to take to the members of P.A.C. to postpone our planned 2021 Ontario Command Provincial Convention until 2022.

The first questions of course were if North Bay and London would be able to reschedule our Conventions and would there be any penalty or financial impact to Ontario Command for doing so. The answer was that both North Bay and London would be most willing to have our Provincial Conventions postponed another year and there would be no financial penalty or financial impact to Ontario Command.

Comrade Pond commented that Under Article 111 In our Provincial By-Laws, Section 302, it states the following:

The Convention shall meet once every two (2) years upon a date not later than 30 months after the adjournment of the preceding Convention; provided that with approval of two-thirds of the Members present at a properly convened Meeting of the Council, a three-year interval may be allowed between Conventions. In emergencies, a Convention may be called to be held on any date determined by the Council.

With our last Provincial Convention being held in Niagara Falls May 4-7, 2019, and according to our By-Laws, our next Provincial Convention should be held prior to November of 2021. However, our By-Laws do allow for a Convention to be held in a three-year interval with the approval of two-thirds of the members present at a properly convened meeting of Council (PEC).

If we postponed our next Provincial Convention scheduled for May of 2021 and put off our current term until 2022, to get back onto our odd-year schedule, we would have to have a three-year term again in 2022 so that the next Provincial Convention would be held in 2025 in London, Ontario rather than in 2023. There would of course be some ramifications.

- By postponing the Dominion Convention to 2021, it means that all current SEO's will now serve another year at both Dominion Command and if we were to change our Provincial Convention, all Provincial Command S.E.O's and Zone and District Commanders will also serve an extra year of their term.
- By changing the Dominion Convention to 2021 and 2024, it means that those who were planning on seeking elective office this year in 2020 or 2022, will now have to wait until 2021 or 2024 as applicable.
- It would also mean that in 2021, anyone from our Command planning on seeking elective office at our originally planned Provincial Convention, would have to wait another year until 2022 and those for 2023 until 2025. It would just put everyone back one year that were planning on moving ahead.

Comrade Goebel stated that Comrade Kemp would be putting up the motion on the screen and you will be asked to click either Yes I agree or No I don't agree. Once the electronic poll has been taken, those on the telephone will be asked to verbally confirm their response.

Comrade Pond read the motions:

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that we postpone 2021 Provincial Convention in North Bay.

A roll call of Members of PEC was conducted by Comrade Kemp.

CARRIED (72 for, 1 against)

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that we re-schedule the next Provincial Convention to May 2022 in North Bay.

A roll call of Members of PEC was conducted by Comrade Kemp.

CARRIED (71 for, 1 against)

MOTION

It was moved and seconded that we re-schedule the planned 2023 Provincial Convention to May 2025 in London.

A roll call of Members of PEC was conducted by Comrade Kemp.

CARRIED (71 for, 1 against)

Comrade Pond stated as members of PEC, all District Commanders were included in the PAC meetings where the documents we will be discussing were approved, so they are all fully versed on the various documents and can supply you with any answers to questions or concerns that you may have. Or if not, they will get you the answers you require.

Standing Committee members should you have any concerns or questions regarding any of the information being passed on to you that you discuss it with the Provincial SEO that is assigned to your Committee or communicate with President Garry or Pamela or Juanita after this meeting.

Comrade Goebel asked 1st Vice-President Moore if he had any comments. Comrade Moore thanked everyone for taking the time to attend this important Zoom meeting and expressed his belief that this will create a stronger more educated team at all levels.

Comrade Goebel asked Comrade Sweeny if she had any comments. Comrade Sweeny spoke about the AGCO allowing temporary assistance to branches who are having difficulty paying their utilities, rent, operational expenses during COVID-19 with the use of 100% of lottery funds. These funds are not to be used to pay down incurred debt – and excellent record keeping must be done as this will be something that the Zone Commanders/Deputy Zone Commanders will be looking at closely during the Branch Inspections.

President Pond asked the Zone Commanders to relay to the branches that they should be working with their municipalities to keep the peace where lottery is concerned. Although the AGCO has stated they have contacted the municipalities with respect to leniency, your branches should still exercise decorum.

Comrade Sweeny also stated that Branches could be considered an essential service with respect to providing Food for Veterans, Seniors and the community at large as long as social distancing in the kitchen and the proper food handling, money handling was followed for take-out/take-away orders. The public should not be allowed in the building but an order can be placed by phone, the couple of people in the kitchen box the order and place it on a table outside the kitchen. Another person takes that order and hands it to the person in the vehicle or places it in the trunk of the vehicle while a different person is handling the financial aspect of the transaction.

It is imperative that you work with your Public Health Unit so they are aware that you are doing this and maintaining the proper social distancing and food handling rules. This does not allow you to create food at home to bring into the Legion Branch for distribution.

The Chairman Ron Goebel asked Comrade Kemp if she had any comments. Comrade Kemp thanked everyone for their patience and gave kudos to those that are embracing this new technology.

President Pond thanked everyone for their time and thanked the District Commanders for writing him a letter with their thoughts respecting their various Districts. He was pleased with the outcome tonight and the support PEC has shown during this unprecedented time.

Comrade Goebel stated that although the Past Provincial Presidents were not technically part of PEC, they were welcomed to this informative meeting as and such, since they had taken the time, did they wish to offer any comments.

Comrade O'Dair was pleased to be invited and commented this was the 'new' way. Comrade Paquette stated that this was the way of the future, Comrade Pigeau mentioned he had sent an email to Comrade Pond congratulating him on the leadership he and PAC were showing during this unprecedented time. Comrade Kish stated the members of PEC had made the right decision, Comrade Bruce Julian was quite pleased to be a part of this meeting and questioned why Comrade Kemp was the only person who didn't seem to have aged! The Immediate Past President, Comrade McKeown wished everyone a great evening and admitted she never would have predicted this way of communicating would become the norm several years ago however if she could embrace it ...everyone could!

Motion for adjournment - Moved and seconded Carried.

Closing Ceremony conducted by Comrade Crown

Meeting ended at 8:18 p.m.