REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO THE NINTH PSAC-QUEBEC CONVENTION

Subject to ratification by the Convention, the following delegates were appointed to the Finance Committee.

Chair

Lyne Cartier President of the Montérégie Area Council (Region 6)

Co-chair

Réal Brien PSAC-Quebec Director of DCLs

Member

Simon Richard Director for Young Workers

The Finance Committee met at PSAC's Montreal Regional Office on January 31 and February 1, 2017.

The Committee would like to thank Cathy Leclerc, Assistant to the REVP for Quebec; Patrick Leblanc, Regional Political Action and Communication Officer; and the PSAC staff members who assisted the Committee with its work and helped to prepare this report.

The Finance Committee was asked to review PSAC-Quebec's income statement and the PSAC-Quebec Reserve Fund for 2014, 2015 and 2016, prepare a budget for 2017, 2018 and 2019 and study 21 resolutions. Unless otherwise noted, the language of origin of all resolutions is French. The title and originator (the originating body) of each resolution are included in the Report.

Lastly, to streamline the text, Appendix B lists the acronyms of the originators that submitted the resolutions dealt with in this report.

The Finance Committee was also asked to decide on any registrations received after the cutoff time and date and to calculate the cost of general and By-Law-related resolutions. The review process was meticulous, carefully thought out and very respectful. I would like to thank all the members of the Finance Committee for their hard work and contributions.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

Lyne Cartier Committee Chair The Committee determined the following order of priority:

Presentation of the financial statements for PSAC-Quebec, the Reserve Fund and the Local Development Fund for the 2014-2016 cycle

Presentation of the budget for PSAC-Quebec and the Reserve Fund for the 2017-2019 cycle

| Resolution F-17 | Increase in Funding for Regional OHS Conferences |
|-----------------|--|
| Resolution F-9 | Support for the Institut de recherche et d'informations socio- économiques (IRIS) |
| Resolution F-16 | Funding for Regional Conventions |
| Resolution F-12 | Funding for Area Councils |
| Resolution F-14 | Cost-of-Living Adjustment for Area Councils |
| Resolution F-1 | Conseil québécois des syndicats universitaires |
| Resolution F-4 | Affordability of the PSAC-Quebec Convention |
| Resolution F-5 | Funding for Area Councils and Regional Committees |
| Resolution F-8 | Funding for Area Councils and Regional Committees |
| Resolution F-19 | Strike Fund |

Resolution F-17 (which encompasses Resolution F-18)

INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR REGIONAL OHS CONFERENCES

ORIGINATOR: Montérégie Area Council

The Committee recommends the **adoption** of Resolution F-17, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS regional OHS conferences are underfunded in comparison to other regional conferences:

WHEREAS health and safety are a national priority for PSAC and concern everyone;

WHEREAS in recent years, OHS has come under constant attack by the federal government;

BE IT RESOLVED that the allocation for regional OHS conferences be increased to match those for other regional conferences.

Rationale:

The Committee agrees with this resolution and recommends that it be adopted for submission to the next PSAC Convention.

Resolution F-9 (which encompasses Resolutions F-10 and F11)

SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE ET D'INFORMATIONS SOCIO-

ÉCONOMIQUES (IRIS)

ORIGINATOR: ASSEP 17753

The Committee recommends the **adoption** of Resolution F-9, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS the media are saturated with neoliberal discourse on the economy and debt management;

WHEREAS IRIS is a left-leaning scientific research body with a labour perspective;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec provide IRIS with financial support so that it can act as a counterbalance to neoliberal discourse.

Rationale:

The Committee recommends that this resolution be adopted, given that PSAC-Quebec has been supporting IRIS since 2009, and the resolution will have no additional financial impact on the current budget.

Resolution F-16

FUNDING FOR REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

ORIGINATOR: Quebec Council

The Committee recommends the **adoption** of Resolution F-16, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS REVPs and their alternates are elected at the regional triennial conventions;

WHEREAS the regional conventions can submit resolutions to the PSAC National Triennial Convention and ought to have independent oversight of the activities in their region;

WHEREAS PSAC does not fully fund members' attendance at their regional triennial conventions:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT regional conventions be fully funded by PSAC.

Rationale:

The Committee feels that full funding of regional conventions would increase participation by locals in their convention and make them more democratic.

Resolution F-12 (which encompasses Resolution F-13) FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS

ORIGINATOR: Montérégie Area Council

The Committee recommends the **adoption** of Resolution F-12, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS area councils have had the same operating budget for at least 10 years:

WHEREAS the costs associated with members' salaries, accommodation, mileage and per diem payments go up every year;

WHEREAS area councils must be adequately funded to carry out their mandates;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the budgets of the area councils be doubled.

Rationale:

The Committee considers it important to substantially increase the budgets of area councils because they have been working with the same operating budget since 2006.

Resolution F-14 (which encompasses Resolution F-15) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR AREA COUNCILS

ORIGINATOR: Quebec Council

The Committee recommends the **adoption** of Resolution F-14, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS area councils have had the same operating budgets for at least 10 years and they do not include a cost-of-living adjustment;

WHEREAS the costs associated with members' salaries, accommodation, mileage and *per diem* payments go up every year;

WHEREAS area councils must be adequately funded to carry out their mandates:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the budgets of the area councils include an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

Rationale:

The Committee considers it important that the budgets of the area councils include an annual cost-of-living adjustment because they have been working with the same operating budgets since 2006. An annual cost-of-living adjustment would prevent us from continually having to ask for budget increases.

Resolution F-1 (which encompasses Resolutions F-2 and F-3) CONSEIL QUÉBÉCOIS DES SYNDICATS UNIVERSITAIRES

ORIGINATOR: ASSEP 17753

The Committee recommends the **rejection** of Resolution F-1, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS the university sector is in a uniquely precarious position and its geographical distribution makes it costly to ensure member representation;

WHEREAS the university locals cannot afford provincial representation of their issues of concern while defending their local and continuing their studies;

WHEREAS PSAC has a number of university locals and protection of the collective interests of its dues-paying members requires a coordinator for this purpose;

WHEREAS a coordinator for this purpose would enable the CQSU to be more of a rallying focus, make it more autonomous and free the representatives and political officers assigned to it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec grant 20 hours per week of union release time to the COSU.

Rationale:

PSAC-Quebec's base operating budget is \$168,840, and it is fully allocated. The Committee estimates that this resolution would cost at least \$20,800 a year.

Resolution F-4

AFFORDABILITY OF THE PSAC-QUEBEC CONVENTION

ORIGINATOR: SESUM 17750

The Committee recommends the **rejection** of Resolution F-4, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS some PSAC-Quebec locals are in a financially precarious position;

WHEREAS registration fees for the PSAC-Quebec Convention are high, which is counter-democratic:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec amend its by-laws to mitigate the locals' financial difficulties;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec reimburse the registration fees for the PSAC-Quebec Convention that were paid by locals in a financially precarious position.

Rationale:

The first resolution is vague and does not refer to an existing by-law.

The Committee feels that the second BIR does not specifically define what constitutes a local in a financially precarious position, so the Committee is unable to calculate the cost of the resolution and assess its impact on the PSAC-Quebec budget.

Resolution F-5 (which encompasses Resolutions F-6 and F-7)
FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

ORIGINATOR: ASSEP 17753

The Committee recommends the **rejection** of Resolution F-5, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS area councils and regional committees are invaluable to union action locally;

WHEREAS they are not adequately funded;

WHEREAS with increased funding they could carry out useful initiatives for the locals in the region;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec increase the funding for area councils and regional committees.

Rationale:

The Committee agrees with the resolution in principle, but until PSAC has increased PSAC-Quebec's operating budget, no increase to the funding for area councils and regional committees is possible.

Resolution F-8

FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

ORIGINATOR: STEP 10800

The Committee recommends the **rejection** of Resolution F-8, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS area councils, the CQSU and regional committees are invaluable to union action locally;

WHEREAS they are not adequately funded;

WHEREAS with increased funding they could carry out useful initiatives for the locals in the region;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the budgets of area councils, the CQSU and regional committees be doubled;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the budgets of area councils, the CQSU and regional committees include an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

Rationale:

The Committee agrees with the resolution in principle, but until PSAC has increased PSAC-Quebec's operating budget and included an annual cost-of-living adjustment, no increase to

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the funding or annual cost-of-living adjustment for the area councils, CQSU and regional committees is possible.

Resolution F-19 (which encompasses Resolutions F-20 and F-21) STRIKE FUND

ORIGINATOR: ASSEP 17753

The Committee recommends the **rejection** of Resolution F-19, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS part-time workers are entitled to only 70% strike pay;

WHEREAS strike fund dues are a significant portion of total dues for locals consisting primarily of part-time workers;

WHEREAS dues rates geared to income are already factored into special dues;

WHEREAS many part-time members have joined PSAC in recent years and PSAC ought to accommodate their situation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT strike fund dues for members who work part time and whose annual salary is \$30,000 or less be set at \$.70 per member per month.

Rationale:

The Committee recommends that this resolution be rejected because the proposed formula would be too complicated logistically for PSAC and for the employers who have to deduct the dues.

PSAC-QUEBEC – 2014/2015/2016 FISCAL YEARS PSAC-QUEBEC RESERVE FUND – 2014/2015/2016 FISCAL YEARS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FUND – 2014 FISCAL YEAR

The Committee reviewed the financial statements for PSAC-Quebec, the Reserve Fund and the Local Development Fund for the 2014-2016 cycle (see Appendix 1 of the Report).

The Committee examined the documents submitted and recommends that they be officially submitted to the Ninth PSAC-Quebec Convention.

PSAC-QUEBEC - 2017/2018/2019 BUDGET

The Committee hereby presents the budget for PSAC-Quebec and the Reserve Fund for the 2017-2019 cycle (see Appendix 2 of the Report).

The Committee examined the documents submitted and recommends that they be officially submitted to the Ninth PSAC-Quebec Convention.

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR COSTING

The General Resolutions Committee forwarded one resolution (G-57) to the Finance Committee for costing purposes. After reading and discussing the resolutions, the Finance Committee finds that the cost breakdown for them would be the following:

Preamble:

PSAC-Quebec has an annual operating budget of \$168,840 as well as a political action budget of \$33,000, for a total of \$201,840. Except for the political action budget which is spent based on the political action plans submitted to it, PSAC-Quebec's budget is fully allocated.

The Committee estimates that the first BIR would cost approximately \$250 (news release: \$150; social media campaign: \$100; staff cost: \$0). The \$250 would be covered by the political action budget.

In addition, the Finance Committee has two options to propose for the second BIR.

Option 1:

The Committee estimates that IRIS could carry out a custom study for approximately \$20,000. This amount would be covered by the political action budget.

Option 2:

PSAC-Quebec could hire an intern for a 10-week period, paid for by the Fund. The cost to PSAC-Quebec would be approximately \$2,000, representing the salary portion that is not reimbursed by the Fund. This amount would be covered by the political action budget.

APPENDIX A RESOLUTIONS

COMBINED RESOLUTIONS

(combined with F-17)

INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR REGIONAL OHS CONFERENCES ORIGINATOR: UNDE 10511 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS regional OHS conferences are underfunded in comparison to other regional conferences:

WHEREAS health and safety are a national priority for PSAC and concern everyone;

WHEREAS in recent years, OHS cases has come under constant attack by the federal government;

BE IT RESOLVED that the allocation for regional OHS conferences be increased to match those for other regional conferences.

(combined with F-9)

SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE ET D'INFORMATIONS SOCIO-ÉCONOMIQUES (IRIS) ORIGINATOR: SERUM 17751

ORIGINATOR: SERUM 1775 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS the media are saturated with neoliberal discourse on the economy and debt management;

WHEREAS the think tanks responsible for this right-wing discourse receive financial support from employers' organizations;

WHEREAS IRIS is a left-leaning scientific research body with a labour perspective;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec provide IRIS with financial support so that it can act as a counterbalance to neoliberal discourse.

(combined with F-9)

SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE ET D'INFORMATIONS SOCIO-

ÉCONOMIQUES (IRIS)

ORIGINATOR: Montreal Area Council

LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS the media are saturated with neoliberal discourse on the economy and debt management;

WHEREAS the think tanks responsible for this right-wing discourse receive financial support from employers' organizations;

WHEREAS IRIS is a left-leaning scientific research body with a labour perspective;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec provide IRIS with financial support so that it can act as a counterbalance to neoliberal discourse.

(combined with F-12)

FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS ORIGINATOR: Quebec Council LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS area councils have had the same operating budget for at least 10 years;

WHEREAS the costs associated with members' salaries, accommodation, mileage and *per diem* payments go up every year;

WHEREAS area councils must be adequately funded to carry out their mandates;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the budgets of the area councils be doubled.

(combined with F-14)

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR AREA COUNCILS ORIGINATOR: Montérégie Area Council LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS area councils have had the same operating budgets for at least 10 years and they do not include a cost-of-living adjustment;

WHEREAS the costs associated with members' salaries, accommodation, mileage and *per diem* payments go up every year;

WHEREAS area councils must be adequately funded to carry out their mandates:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the budgets of the area councils include an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

(combined with F-1)

CONSEIL QUÉBÉCOIS DES SYNDICATS UNIVERSITAIRES ORIGINATOR: ASTRE 12555 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS the university sector is in a uniquely precarious position and its geographical distribution makes it costly to ensure member representation;

WHEREAS the university locals cannot afford provincial representation of their issues of concern while defending their local and continuing their studies;

WHEREAS PSAC has a number of university locals and protection of the collective interests of its dues-paying members requires a coordinator for this purpose;

WHEREAS a coordinator for this purpose would enable the CQSU to be more of a rallying focus, make it more autonomous and free the representatives and political officers assigned to it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec grant 20 hours per week of union leave to the CQSU.

(combined with F-1)

CONSEIL QUÉBÉCOIS DES SYNDICATS UNIVERSITAIRES ORIGINATOR: STEP 10800 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS the university sector is in a uniquely precarious position and its geographical distribution makes it costly to ensure member representation;

WHEREAS the university locals cannot afford provincial representation of their issues of concern while defending their local and continuing their studies;

WHEREAS PSAC has a number of university locals and protection of the collective interests of its dues-paying members requires a coordinator for this purpose;

WHEREAS a coordinator for this purpose would enable the CQSU to be more of a rallying focus, make it more autonomous and free the representatives and political officers assigned to it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec grant 20 hours per week of union leave to the CQSU.

F-6

(combined with F-5)

FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES ORIGINATOR: Quebec Area Council LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS area councils and regional committees are invaluable to union action locally;

WHEREAS they are not adequately funded;

WHEREAS with increased funding they could carry out useful initiatives for the locals in the region;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec increase the funding for area councils and regional committees.

FINANCE F-7 (combined with F-5)

FUNDING FOR AREA COUNCILS AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES ORIGINATOR: ASTRE 12555
LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS area councils and regional committees are invaluable to union action locally;

WHEREAS they are not adequately funded;

WHEREAS with increased funding they could carry out useful initiatives for the locals in the region;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC-Quebec increase the funding for area councils and regional committees.

(combined with F19)

STRIKE FUND ORIGINATOR: STEP 10800 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS part-time workers are entitled to only 70% strike pay;

WHEREAS strike fund dues are a significant portion of total dues for locals consisting primarily of part-time workers;

WHEREAS dues rates geared to income are already factored into special dues;

WHEREAS many part-time members have joined PSAC in recent years and PSAC ought to accommodate their situation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT strike fund dues for members who work part time and whose annual salary is \$30,000 or less be set at \$.70 per member per month.

(combined with F-19)

STRIKE FUND ORIGINATOR: ASTRE 12555 LANGUAGE OF ORIGIN: F

WHEREAS part-time workers are entitled to only 70% strike pay;

WHEREAS strike fund dues are a significant portion of total dues for locals consisting primarily of part-time workers;

WHEREAS dues rates geared to income are already factored into special dues;

WHEREAS many part-time members have joined PSAC in recent years and PSAC ought to accommodate their situation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT strike fund dues for members who work part time and whose annual salary is \$30,000 or less be set at \$.70 per member per month.

APPENDIX B ACRONYMS

of originators that have submitted resolutions dealt with in this Report

AEC: Alliance Executive Committee

ASSEP: Association for Union Solidarity of Polytechnique Montreal

ASTRE: Association syndicale des travailleurs(es) étudiants(es) de

ľUQTR

CQSU: Conseil québécois du secteur universitaire

FTQ: Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec

IRIS: Institut de recherche et d'informations socio-économiques

MUNACA: McGill University Non-Academic Certified Association

NYWC: National Young Workers' Committee

REVP: Regional Executive Vice-President

RYWC: Regional Young Workers' Committees

SERUM: Syndicat des employé(e)s à la recherche de l'Université de

Montréal

SESUM: Syndicat des étudiant(e)s salarié(e)s de l'Université de

Montréal

SÉTUE: Syndicat des étudiant-e-s employé-e-s de l'UQAM

STEP: Syndicat des travailleurs et travailleuses étudiants et

postdoctoraux de l'Université Laval

UNDE: Union of National Defence Employees