



BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION

Local 1 Notice
October 27, 2023

Statement from Provincial Secretary-Treasurer Local 1 Finances for Year end May 31, 2021

There have been a number of questions regarding the Local 1 financial record for the year end of May 31, 2021. As Provincial Secretary-Treasurer it is important to address the rumours that there is upwards of \$10,000 in missing funds. After a complete review, the Union has found there are receipts missing for \$913.46. I would like to put forward a timeline of events and how concerns were addressed:

June 2021 Local 1 Secretary-Treasurer sent into the Union a request for Local funding for the upcoming year (June 2021 to May 2022) as per BCFMWU Constitution. This request included copies of meeting minutes, bank statements supporting balances & income/expense summary. After review of information received, there were questions regarding the Good & Welfare account.

July 2021 Email was sent to Local 1 requesting more information to support transactions between the Local 1 account and the Good & Welfare account. A review of all information received was completed by the BCFMWU Accounting Clerk and Provincial Secretary-Treasurer.

The review of the Local 1 account revealed missing receipts for the following transactions:
\$800 - Ear Savers (Union branded extenders to alleviate pressure on ears from mask straps).
\$22.05 - Meeting Snacks
\$91.41 - Printing

Sept. 2021 After lengthy review and telephone conversations between parties, it was determined that no intentional wrongdoing had taken place but rather a lack of procedural policies and that the matter should be referred to the Finance Committee for review with the Trustees.

Oct. 2021 The BCFMWU Accounting Clerk and the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer met with the auditors, KPMG, for their annual audit and disclosed Local 1 finances as part of the review. It was determined that this did not require a disclosure in the audit findings report as due diligence was done by BCFMWU by reaching out to all the appropriate channels and new policies would be put in place for the future.

Jan. 2022 BCFMWU Accounting Clerk and the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer discussed with Trustees all details. The Trustees signed off on the Local 1 funding with the understanding that new policies will be put in place in the future. The Provincial Executive reviewed and referred proposed Financial Guide changes to Finance Committee for drafting of Constitutional Resolutions for next Convention.

May 2023 BCFMWU Accounting Clerk and the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer met with the Finance Committee and discussed all details surrounding Local Finances and Good & Welfare account and it was decided to put forward the following policies at the upcoming Provincial Executive meeting. Local Funding: In order to approve Local dues funding the Local is to provide "all income and expense items with supporting receipts".

July 2023 The motion passed to amend BCFMWU Financial Guide for the adding of all receipts and supporting documents for Local finances be provided annually to BCFMWU when requesting local funding for the upcoming year.

In summary, a comprehensive investigation was conducted and there was no evidence of any wrongdoings. All of the appropriate stakeholders (Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, Trustees, Finance Committee, PE and Auditors) were consulted and apprised of Local 1 finances and procedures. Financial policies have been improved and are in place for the future. The matter is considered closed as no misconduct had taken place.

If any member in good standing has questions or concerns, please contact me, Lezlie Gorosh-Carey Provincial Secretary-Treasurer at LezlieGorosh-Carey@bcfmwu.com.

In solidarity,

Lezlie Gorosh-Carey
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer

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