



JOHN
ABBOTT
COLLEGE
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION

SYNDICAT
DES PROFESSEURS
DU COLLEGE
JOHN ABBOTT

A MEMBER OF FNEEQ AND CSN

JACFA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019

Penfield P-204, 9:00 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Julien Charest, seconded by Martin Poirier, to adopt the agenda. **Carried.**

2. Adoption of Minutes of GA of September 10, 2019

It was moved by Kevin Davis, seconded by Andy Cuk, to adopt the minutes of the September 10, 2019 general assembly. **Carried.**

3. Announcements

Tanya Rowell-Katzemba announced that there was a card to sign to launch collective agreement negotiations. The first negotiations “visibility” item, a mobile phone holder with slogan “S’Unir, Agir, Gagner”, is also available and surprisingly useful!

Roy Fu announced that the latest issue of the *Advocate*, was now available. He also noted that with regard to Law 21, he has been engaging with other unions, especially primary and secondary teachers. Please wear the buttons to maintain the visibility of the issue.

4. Labour Relations Updates

Stephen Bryce, VP Internal, reported that JACFA had settled two grievances with the College, one a longstanding conflict over hiring priority and the other for the removal of a hiring priority. Both are covered by confidentiality agreements. We will be taking grievances to arbitration on the College’s requirement for additional information on medical leaves, “administrative” measures of removing pay, and the College’s obligation to defend teachers sued for civil responsibility. Ethan Monbourquette reported that JACFA and the College now have a signed Methods CRT agreement for this year.

5. Financial Motions

5.1. **Motion:** *Be it resolved that JACFA donate \$250 to the CSN Christmas basket for striking and locked-out workers.* Executive motion, **carried unanimously.**

5.2. **Motion:** *BIRT JACFA support La semaine de la Francophonie activities on campus with a \$250 contribution.* Events will centre on 20 March, Journée internationale de la Francophonie. This donation will support a variety of activities promoting French-language cultural activities. It was asked what other sources of funding there were. Other funds

come from the French Department and the program deans. There was an external budget in previous years, but not this year. Executive motion, **carried unanimously**.

- 5.3. **Motion:** *BIRT JACFA donate \$1000 to the newly formed "Coop Media", a coalition of workers' cooperatives that will own and operate Quebec's "Le Soleil," Sherbrooke's "La Tribune," Saguenay's "La Quotidien," Granby's "Le Voix de l'Est," Ottawa/Gatineau's "Le Droit," and Trois-Riviere's "Le Nouvelliste".* Tanya Rowell-Katzemba reported that a French-language media group went bankrupt and a workers cooperative is being formed to take over and keep the newspapers functioning. They have been raising money from private and public sources and the CSN and FondAction are supporting this initiative. Executive motion, **carried unanimously**.

6. JACFA Executive Structure for Winter 2020

- 6.1. **Executive Motion:** *BIRT JACFA foregoe a by-election to fill the vacant position on the Executive for the Winter 2020 semester and maintain an Executive of only 5 members until May 2020.*

Stephen Bryce, Vice-President Internal, reported that the Executive had learned on December 3, 2019 that Teena Swiercz had resigned. The JACFA Constitution requires 30 days notice for elections, so it was not possible to hold an election at this general assembly. The Executive's view is that to do this in January will make the release time (0.5 for the semester) hard to apply. Concern was expressed of what would happen if another vacancy was created. Executive motion, **carried unanimously**.

7. Collective Agreement Negotiations

- 7.1. Central Table offer from Treasury Board

Tanya Rowell-Katzemba, JACFA Vice-President External, reported that the government had deposited their central table (salaries, pensions, parental rights) offer last week. We will discuss it at the next general assembly, but at first glance it does not address our demands – the salary increases are less than projected inflation.

- 7.2. CEGEP Sectoral Demands

Tanya Rowell-Katzemba reported that we also received the sectoral table (working conditions for CEGEP teachers) offer last week. Once again, it does not address our demands and we will be discussing it in detail at our next general assembly.

- 7.3. **Executive Motion:** *BIRT JACFA supports the demands contained in the first wave of sectoral bargaining consultations.*

Tanya Rowell-Katzemba noted that, while FNEEQ deposited its demands at the end of October, it is consulting its member unions on a series of "waves" of demands on different topics. The first wave includes demands related to (1) employment, work organization and labour relations and (2) professional autonomy. The first group notably focuses on improving the work/family balance.

Carried unanimously.

8. JACFA's Climate Change Action Plan (continued from Sept. 10, 2019)

8.1. Presentations (JACFA Climate Change Committee)

- Tanya Rowell-Katzemba made a presentation on how the JACFA committee created at the last general assembly had been working on its mandate and prepared the motion in 8.3 below.
- Alexa Leblanc presented the rationale for the committee's recommendations.
- Roy Fu made a presentation on the broader social aspects of the recommendation.

8.2. **Motion** (tabled from the September 10 General Assembly): BIRT JACFA not purchase meat-based items for nor serve meat-based items at JACFA sponsored events. (Eric Laferrière, Dave Hill).

The debate on this motion was so interesting that the recorder forgot his job and did not take notes.

The motion was called by the chair. **Motion carried.**

8.3. **Motion:** *BIRT in its food purchases, JACFA seeks to minimize its ecological and negative social impacts, by focusing on the reduction of Green House Gas emissions and the use of industrially produced foods.* (JACFA Climate Change Committee).

As the time on the agenda for the Elections had arrived, item 8.3 was tabled.

ELECTIONS MEETING

Julien Charest, the JACFA Elections Officer, called the elections meeting to order.

Academic Council Substitute Member – three positions.

Julien reported that no nominations were received by Friday's deadline, so nominations were reopened.

- Debby Lunny (HPR) – accepts
- Kevin Davis (Math) – accepts
- Catherine Humes (HPR) – accepts

Violaine Arès moved, seconded by Dave Hill to close nominations. **Carried.** The three were declared acclaimed as Academic Council substitute members.

ReconciliACTION Committee – two faculty representative positions.

Julien reported that he had received four nominations by Friday's deadline:

- François Chenier (Youth and Adult Correctional Intervention)
- Debbie Lunny (HPR)
- Maria Mastorakos (Physics)
- Chris Tromp (Physics)

Three scrutineers volunteered (Andy Cuk, Roxanne Millette, Carolyn Viger), distributed and counted the ballots along with the Elections Officer.

The Elections Officer declared that Debby Lunny and Chris Tromp were elected as the faculty representatives on the ReconciliACTION Committee.

The meeting was declared adjourned.