

Joint RWC/Yukon Area Council Emergency Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2005

YEU Boardroom

In Attendance: Jo-Anne Smith, YEU Y010 Sylvie Leonard, YEU Y010 Melissa Craig, YEU Y013
Nancy Debrececi, Staff
Darrell Blakney, YEU Y023 Diane Allen, YEU Y023 Diney Williams, YEU
Y011/Pres. Area Council

Guests: Todd Hardy, Leader of NDP, Ken Bolton, Special Assistant NDP

Regrets: Sue Christianson, Joanne Oberg, Maureen Stephens

Meeting chaired by Diney Williams

RE: Haaken Arntzen, MLA Copperbelt – (July 28 response from Premier Fentie – RWC June 6 letter)

Discussion on Premier's response and planning for RWC's response and actions:

1) Melissa to draft response to July 28 letter --draft to be approved by RWC executive with final copy to be distributed by Nancy on Friday, Aug 12th am (Open letter to Premier, Minister Responsible for Women's Directorate, Media)

Highlights to include:

- Double standard for MLA and employees -- YTG employees guilty till proven innocent during computer use investigation (suspended or fired)
 - Double dipping – MLA publicly admits to driving truck for construction company on contract to rebuild highway near Haines Jct. while still on MLA salary but not performing MLA duties as he is on stress leave (Note Premier's offer to respond to constituents questions through his office)
 - Highlight tax payer's money earned while not performing duties of MLA
 - Call for House to be convened early to deal with matter and call for Arntzen's resignation –before House to sit in October.
 - Crime was against children and women – opportunity to raise standard, set example in this jurisdiction
- 2) Draft several short ads --Ken Bolton to assist with highlighting: cost, double standards, petition, MLA contact info - to be sent out for distribution on Fri, Aug 12th RWC to pay for Rolling Ads, Yukon Area Council to pay for Newspaper/radio ads
- 3) Melissa, Diane, Diney to set up interview with Arnold Hedstrom, CBC --also invite representatives from other women's organizations (Yukon Status of Women, Kaushees', Victoria Faulkner's, YACWI, etc) for week of Aug 15.
- 4) Draft Petition calling for resignation of MLA -- Ken Bolton to assist --- Darryl, Melissa, Diney, Sylvie to coordinate distribution at businesses, friends and activists and door to door in Copperbelt riding.
- 5) Protest rally to be held outside YTG Leg. Assembly - **September 7** – in conjunction with start of Arntzen sentencing.
- 6) RWC in Dawson and other community women to be contacted to join in call for resignation and protest at local MLA constituency offices on Sept 7th.