

## How to word a resolution for Convention or other meetings

Within SGEU, you can use one of two different formats: formal or clear language. Formal resolutions follow the traditional wording used in Parliament. Clear language resolutions sound more like the way we would explain something in conversation. Let's illustrate the difference by using the issue of making the lion SGEU's official mascot.

### **A formal resolution would look like this:**

#### SGEU Mascot

WHEREAS many organizations have official mascots but SGEU currently does not; and

WHEREAS the lion is a universal symbol of strength and authority;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SGEU amend its Constitution to make the lion its official mascot.

### **A clear-language resolution on the same topic would look like this:**

#### SGEU Mascot

SGEU will amend its Constitution to make the lion its official mascot.

We want this because:

1. Many organizations have official mascots but SGEU currently does not.
2. the lion is a universal symbol of strength and authority;

You can submit resolutions to SGEU meetings using either format. Some meetings, such as Convention, require you to use a special form which also asks for the name of the local, sector, or committee proposing the resolution and for its financial impact.

Resolutions fall into three categories: Constitutional (designated with a C before the number of the resolution), Policy (designated with a P before the number), and Monetary (designated with an M).

**Here are some actual examples of resolutions debated at past SGEU Conventions.**

**Formal wording**

P-6

Public Health Care

WHEREAS protecting and expanding the public health care system is a top priority for the majority of Canadians; and

WHEREAS every federal political party has made a series of pre-election promises of specific measures to preserve and improve public health care;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that SGEU hold the new government to account for every pre-election promise they have made to protect and improve Canada's public health care system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SGEU continue to pressure the federal government to implement the recommendations of the Romanow commission, particularly the recommendation for the federal government to fund a minimum of 25% of the cost of the public health care system; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that SGEU continue to pressure the federal government to involve organizations representing health care workers, including their unions, in future discussions of how to protect and improve public health care in Canada.

P-7

Pensions

WHEREAS workers depend on the wise investment of their pensions to secure a respectable retirement, and

WHEREAS workers' pension funds represent one of the largest sources of capital in the Canadian market, and

WHEREAS workers, through their unions, have struggled to control their pension investments, and

WHEREAS workers have a dual interest in the investment of their pensions: to achieve a sufficient rate of return; and to ensure that their pensions are not invested in undertakings that undermine their own jobs and communities



- 6.10.11.2.19 The Human Rights/Equity Committee shall use their Donation Budget for donations dealing with human rights and equity concerns. Donations will be dealt with on a priority basis as follows: Provincial, National, and International. The donation budget will be divided equally between the equity groups and the representative for that equity group will decide to whom the donation is made.

We want this because:

The Human Rights/Equity Committee provides donations to enhance awareness and provide morale support to organizations that deal with human rights and equity concerns. This process is in line with SGEU being a provincial body and thus this is the priority for donations.

P-8

#### Station 20 West Project

SGEU will add new policy to Article 12.53: SGEU through the SFL will lobby the provincial government to restore funding to the Station 20 West Project.

Why we want this:

1. Station 20 West, a Community Enterprise Centre being constructed in the heart of Saskatoon's core neighbourhoods, will include a community-owned co-operative food store, health and dental services, childcare, community kitchen and community gardens. The Centre will be adjacent to a branch of the Saskatoon Public Library and a fifty-five unit affordable housing development. In March 2008, the provincial government pulled their \$8 million in promised and committed funding from the project.

P-3

#### We're Worth More

SGEU will continue to endorse the "We're Worth More" campaign, and provide continued financial assistance and moral support (Policy Article 12.41.2)

We want this because:

3. The Community Services Sector has historically been subject to pay and benefit disparity
4. SGEU has provided ongoing support to the "We're Worth More" campaign that was undertaken to correct this disparity by lobbying government for increased funding.