

Resolutions from Standing Committees

Only policy resolutions are brought forward from Standing Committees to the Annual General Meeting; administrative or operational resolutions are not. All forwarded resolutions have been reviewed, accepted and, in some cases, amended by Presidents' Council.

EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE

1. That FPSE encourage locals to ensure that all special purpose program funding directed to post-secondary institutions be used in a manner that complies with local collective agreements and local governance structures.



HUMAN RIGHTS & INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

2. That FPSE encourage Pension Plan trustees to work to ensure that FPSE human rights and international solidarity policies are respected in the investment policies and the Statement of Investment Policy and Procedures of the College Pension Plan.

-
3. That in future the date for the call for proposals for the International Solidarity Fund be moved up, in order to provide a greater window of opportunity for people to present proposals, and that there be a 45 day period between the call for proposals and the deadline for their receipt.

-
4. That FPSE locals be strongly encouraged to hold public forums to discuss the Israeli bombing, invasion, and blockade of Gaza in the December 2008 - January 2009 period.

-
5. That the following motion, including the “because” clauses, be sent to the 2009 FPSE AGM for adoption:

BECAUSE Amnesty International has stated that during the Gaza invasion that began on December 26, 2008 Israel’s use of white phosphorus bombs against Gaza civilians was “clear and undeniable” and that their repeated use constituted a war crime, and

BECAUSE Professor of International Law (Princeton) Richard Falk, UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights, has stated that Israeli air strikes in Gaza involved collective punishment, the targeting of civilians and disproportionate military response and thus, “represent severe and massive violations of international law as defined in the Geneva Conventions,” and

BECAUSE Professor Noam Chomsky, a leading authority on the mid-east conflict, has stated that because Israel had non-violent alternatives at its disposal, “the [Gaza] invasion itself is a far more serious crime“ than the above cited violations, and

BECAUSE Israel has violated academic rights by targeting the infrastructure of the Gaza education system by the bombing of the Islamic University of Gaza, numerous schools and the University Teachers’ Association in Gaza, and by refusing to allow Palestinian students to leave to attend universities, and refusing to allow students awarded prestigious Fulbright fellowships to leave for the United States, and

BECAUSE the Palestinian Federation of Unions of University Professors and Employees has appealed for an international campaign of boycott, divestment, and sanctions against Israel and because such campaigns have proven to be an effective, non-violent way to work for peace,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT FPSE join CAUT and CLC in urging the Canadian government to do all it can to bring about a negotiated, bilateral ceasefire in Gaza and to make clear to the Israeli government that the widespread military assault on Gaza is unacceptable, and

THAT FPSE publicly call for an end to the illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza and for immediate negotiations toward a just peace based on the application of international law, the Geneva Conventions and applicable UN resolutions, particularly UN resolutions 242 and 452.

PENSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6. That FPSE support the principle that a comprehensive extended health and dental benefit plan, administered by the pension plan, be available to all retirees.

-
7. That FPSE recommend that the IAA issue should be addressed through a partner commitment to increased funding over 5 years, which would move the IAA towards a sustainable model.

WORKPLACE HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

8. That FPSE [through the BC Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress] urge the federal and/or provincial governments to enact consumer product hazard labelling legislation that will ensure consumers have the right to know what hazardous ingredients they may be exposed to in the products they use. The legislation should require:
 - Disclosure of all ingredients in consumer products where consumers may potentially be exposed to hazardous ingredients;
 - Identification, through recognizable symbols or plain language phrases, of any known hazardous substances to which a consumer may be exposed in using a product, such as carcinogens, reproductive toxins, endocrine-disrupting chemicals or sensitizers;
 - Establishment of a reference list of hazards, based on existing international standards, set by such agencies as the International Agency for Research on Cancer or the European Commission.