

Aboriginal Action Circle / Cercle d'action autochtone

2015 Report

2015 was a difficult year for the Aboriginal Action Circle mirroring similar challenges faced by the other Equity seeking groups in the Region

- Reduced member participation
- Unsuccessful recruitment drives/efforts
- Reduced activities, resulting in reduced visibility

This does not mean the Circle was not visible during the past 12 months. Members were able to participate in the following events/activities promoting the AAC and Aboriginal Cultural Awareness

- Early summer is always a busy time for the Circle. The Circle sponsored the Tiny Tots Dance at the Odawa Grassroots Pow-Wow on May 23 & 24.
- Members assisted in recruiting for the “Building Solidarity with Aboriginal Peoples” course. AAC member John Henri Commanda co-facilitated the course with the PSAC Representative for the Circle, Stephanie Penwarden
- The Circle also participated at the Summer Solstice the same weekend (June 19/20/21) and staffed a booth. The Circle distributed the fans from last year, the importance of voting for Aboriginal Peoples flyer, had the petition signed, made faceless dolls with the children, etc...
- In September, John Henri Commanda facilitated 1 day Aboriginal Awareness training for CEIU members at the Ottawa Regional Office which included the “Blanket Exercise”.
- The Circle assisted with the recruitment efforts for the October 2 & 3 course “National Aboriginal Peoples Circle.” Inuit, First Nation or Métis members new to the PSAC were encouraged to register for the course.
- Members of the AAC were present on Nov 3, 2015 at the vigil for Sisters in Solidarity on Parliament Hill.

On January 27, 2016 the AAC held its’ AGM and elected a full complement on its’ Executive.

AAC Executive members for 2016 are;

Co-chair: Les Maiczan

Co-chair: Stéphane Romain

Secretary: James Lumsden

Treasurer: Toni Matthews

Miigwetch and best wishes for 2016 to the new Executive and members of the AAC.

