

**Report of the
Regional Executive Vice President
National Capital Region
January 2014**

Our Presence in the Region

Part 1: Regional Activities and Priorities

- **Regional Council: Activities, Victories and Objectives**

- Regional Council held its general meeting on October 5, 2013. Council was informed of the issues surrounding collective bargaining, which will take up a good part of the union's activities and attention in 2014. Also, the National Equity Conference was identified as a priority.

- **Committees and Area Councils: Activities, Victories and Objectives**

- Area councils continued their work during the fall, particularly in denouncing the Harper government's efforts to completely revamp the Public Service Labour Relations Act with Bill C-4.
- The Conseil régional d'action politique de l'Outaouais (CRAPO) produced a video on the municipal elections that were held in Gatineau in the fall.

The National Equity Conference in Toronto brought together many National Capital Region delegates. This conference constituted a first in bringing together all equity groups under the same roof at the same time. The dynamics and the synergy experienced made the conference very successful. Most of the resolutions presented were adopted.

- **Regional offices**

- The Ottawa regional office is now completely installed on the 7th floor or 11 Holland Avenue. Staff spent a good part of the fall unpacking and installing boxes, supplies and equipment.
- Many meetings were held in the region regarding Bill C-4 in Gatineau and in Ottawa. These meetings were attended by more than 6,000 members, as well as many members from other unions (mainly PIPSC and CAPE).

- **Regional Communications Tools (websites, etc.)**

- The website has stabilised as a communications tool, yet still requires some technical adjustments to the software and operating systems.

The operating system is complex and there are challenges especially with bilingual formats and documents. We are working closely with HQ to address these issues.

- The REVP's office continues to be bombarded by media requests to get more information on the issues of public services, unionization, social justice, etc.
- Videos produced in collaboration with other regions or with HQ continued as a priority and the videos, except perhaps for one which raised some controversy, have been quite successful both among the membership and the public.

Négociation collective

- The FB unit ratified its agreement with a strong acceptance vote. The signed agreement is imminent. The agreement will expire in June 2014. Lessons learned through this round of bargaining will help with the greater rounds that will be held later this year for all units.
- The TC unit signed its agreement with Treasury Board. It also expires in June 2014.

Strikes and Mobilization (including lobbying and area councils)

a) Bill C-4:

- Good mobilization of members through central meetings as well as in Locals. This information blitz included two teleconferences (English and French) in which more than 5,000 members took part. During these calls members heard their National President and Regional Executive Vice President on the issues surrounding the Bill and the impact on the bargaining rounds that will be held in 2014.
- Area councils will work more closely in the coming months to ensure coherent actions, mobilization and information provided to members.
- Work continues with the lobbying teams and meetings have been held with certain members of parliament.

Political Action

- Information sessions with members as well as action that get media attention are prioritized in working to create alliances and partnerships with other progressive groups in the region.

- Publicity in the regional newspapers and radio denouncing C-4 especially, concluded in December. These ads were noticed and commented upon not only by our members but the media and politicians as well.
- The Regional Office working with the area councils has been quite productive, with an increased awareness of the challenges and the work that will have to be done to meet them.

Organizing

- Organizing has been completely assessed and current campaigns are ongoing. An organizing rep will soon be appointed to a term position.

Équité

- The National Equity Conference was held in November. Participation by delegates as well as the workshops offered, not to mention guest speakers, all contributed to making the conference remarkable. This conference constituted a pilot project. Once feedback has been compiled it is expected that the format continue to unite all the groups into one conference.

Education

- The schedule for the winter session has been published. The volume of training offered remains high, and fewer courses were cancelled in the fall. The Regional Education Committee recommended to Council that a special training session be offered to Alliance Facilitators in the region. This training was provided early in 2014.

Health and safety

- The impacts of Bill C-4, which was promulgated into law, has major and serious repercussions on the health and safety of our members in the workplace. By removing Part II of the Canada Labour Code from applying to federal employees, a fundamental right was removed. All means must be used to attack the legality of this provision.

Part 2: National portfolios

- Social Justice Fund
- Official Languages
- Collective bargaining: FB unit.
- Federal Council, NDP

- Public Service Dental Care Plan Board

Part 3: REVP activities

- The REVP was fully involved and active in all activities surrounding mobilization, information and media relations surrounding Bill C-4.
- The REVP attended and continues to attend numerous meetings in Locals, regional meetings, conference calls and other activities to inform and mobilize our activists as well as our members, especially on the effects of C-4.
- An accounting in full for all travel outside the region has been made to the National President.
- A complete report of the REVP's expenses was submitted to the National President.

Partie 4 : Scheduled Activities

- Regional Council, (general meeting) on January 25, 2014.
- Production of the last video on NCR campaigns
- Separate Employeur Symposium (January 18, 2014).
- Conferences: National Bargaining Conference in February, Ottawa (Chair, FB Conference).
- Courtesy meeting with Senator Hugh Segal to thank him for his support against Bill C-377.

Part 5: Local Development

- Working closely with the Regional Office, the emphasis will be on implementing the Local Development Plan.

Partie 6: Leave and attendance

- A full report of leave taken during the reporting period has been submitted to the National President.
- Overtime claims for some weekend activities have been submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Rousseau