

Activities Report PSAC-NCR Region for NCRC

May 15 – October 19, 2020

PART 1: ACTIVITIES AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Regional Council – Activities, Successes and Objectives

- *The Regional Executive met on August 4 and October 5 virtually and discussed:*
- Treasury Board and agency negotiations and ratification votes
- Panel on bargaining with PA, TC, and CRA team members
- Updates from the REVP and Treasurer
- Group discussions on ways to engage with members in times of social distancing
- Ongoing discussions & updates on activities and news in the region

Regional Activities and Successes:

- 60 Treasury Board ratification information sessions were held between August 24 – September 29.
- PSAC-NCR worked with the Prairie Region to win federal assistance for national museums during the pandemic.
- Regional Committees are finding ways to continue to meet virtually.
- The Racially Visible Action Committee has recruited many new members. The committee also issued a press release and participated in the Black Lives Matter march in memory of George Floyd June 5.
- The Young Workers Committee volunteered for the Ottawa Food Bank Community Harvest Farm and also initiated a digital recruitment ad campaign for Facebook.
- The REVP met with representatives from the Workers History Museum to support the production of a documentary on the case that established marriage equality rights for federal workers involving PSAC-CEIU member Dale Akerstrom. A motion was brought to the

AEC for \$10,000 in funding to support the Museum's ongoing work. PSAC-NCR and the NCR Pride Committee also contributed \$1500 regionally to WHM projects.

- PSAC-NCR and the PSAC-NCR Pride Committee participated in this year's Capital Pride Virtual Parade by submitting a video & picture montage of PSAC-NCR at Capital Pride events over the years.
- REVP submitted a video message in the Ottawa and District Labour Council Virtual Labour Day Parade.

Regional offices

- The Regional offices continue to work from home serving members. There is no return to work date set and the management team is looking into a gradual return to work strategy and a safety plan.

Regional Communications

Media

- [PSAC-NCR's Racially Visible Action Committee pushes for action in Canada and in the public service on racism](#)
- [Now is the time to protect public services](#)
- [Les employés de musées d'Ottawa acceptent une réduction de 20 % de leurs quarts de travail](#)
- [Museum staff agree to 20% fewer workdays, smaller paycheques](#)
- [PSAC-NCR response to CBC regarding museum ratification article](#)

Social Media

- Top three organic posts on Facebook included:
 - August 29 – Treasury Board graphic for ratification votes and signing up to webinar. EN – 12.2k reach, FR 4.4k = 16.6k total
 - June 28 – Link to article about remote work, asked audience for their comments (EN only), 3.7k reach

- June 11 – Link to news story about Loblaws ending pandemic pay (EN only) 3.4k reach
- Trends:
 - Our net followers grew by 3% since the last quarter
 - Our Facebook engagement rate was at 6.24% during this period
 - We have 2288 followers on Twitter, 1047 followers on Instagram, 7345 followers on Facebook (up from 7295 last period) and 7409 likes on Facebook (up from 7310 last period).
 - Most page viewers on our Facebook are 35-44
 - 64% of our Facebook fans are women

Email News

- We now have 36,280 subscribers for the NCR Newsletter
- We have over 897 new subscribers since the start of the ratification vote process.

Political Action

- The Conseil Régionale d'Action Politique de l'Outaouais area council organized an action outside MP Stéphane Lauzon's office in Buckingham QC to ask that he supports PSAC's call to get the Treasury Board and CRA back to the bargaining table.

Campaigns

Les Terrasses de la Chaudière: For a Healthy Workplace

- The REVP and UNE National Executive Vice-President Andrew Shaver met with the Assistant Deputy Minister for PSPC Real Properties Stéphan Déry to talk about work being done to address health & safety concerns at LTDC and next steps. Discussions have been positive and updates have been communicated as work proceeds.

Hard Rock Casino:

- On March 15th, members of UNE Local 71201, working at the Hardrock Rideau-Carleton Casino received notice from the employer of the casino will shut down on Monday, March 16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and workers would be laid off. A landing page was created with an online email tool to send letters to the employer in support of the workers with over 400 letters sent. Communication with the local and the employer is ongoing.
- Working on a landing page to launch that collects contact info of members to help mobilize for bargaining.

Solidarity

- The REVP attended the OFL & Fight for \$15 Day of Action for paid emergency leave days July 18
- Attended the “no COVID eviction” ACORN rally for housing rights July 22
- Participated in \$15 and fairness solidarity video for striking workers of Dominion Loblaws grocery stores in Newfoundland and Labrador October 1^s
- Attended “Justice pour Joyce” vigil in memory of Joyce Echaquan October 1

Collective Bargaining and Ratification in the Region

- Salvation Army – Preparing for bargaining
- St. Paul University – Bargaining commenced. Employer cites the Ford government’s Bill 124 as a barrier to making major improvements.
- Nordion & BWXT– Notice to bargain sent to employer, bargaining team elected, parties met May 21 and finalized the bargaining unit description.
- NAC – Bargaining, new virtual dates have not been announced.
- House of Commons – Operational Group and Postal Services Sub-Group served notice to bargain.

- Senate of Canada Operational Group – in bargaining.
- Museum of Nature – bargaining underway, COVID required bargaining no-layoff MOU's, bargaining expected to resume in the fall.
- Parliamentary Protective Services Employer plans to make changes to classification system.
- Museums of Science & Tech, Aviation and Agriculture – NCR also reached a new MOU with the employer that included a “no layoff” clause and provides all employees with two additional personal days.
- Museum of Civilization/War - bargaining
- SSHRC - Pre-bargaining session cancelled due to shut down, negotiations on hold until PA group addressed
- PPS Scanners – Bargaining
- Office of the Superintendent of Financial Services - Negotiations on hold
- NCC – Bargaining, scheduling meetings with the employer
- OAG – On hold until winter/spring
- Ottawa International Airport Authority – Employer not willing to negotiate an MOU, has sent notice of layoffs.
- UQO – Negotiations on hold
- Saint Paul University – bargaining.
- Carleton U - Working on a Letter of Understanding to honour, maintain, and extend existing and incoming Postdoctoral fellowship contracts; international Postdocs, both in Canada and abroad, are financially vulnerable at this time

Education

With the ongoing pandemic, courses remain virtual for now:

- Returning to work: What to consider – June 4 (EN), June 11 (FR), June 18 (EN)
- Full Fall virtual education schedule to commence in November.

PART 2: NATIONAL PORTFOLIOS

- NavCan Bargaining Team.
- Ontario Federation of Labour Executive Board.

PART 3: REVP ACTIVITIES, LEAVE & ATTENDANCE

- Attended many virtual meetings and conference calls with locals, participated in regional meetings, council meetings, and regional committee meetings. Participated in activities, meetings and virtual actions of ally community and labour organizations to inform and mobilize our activists and members.
- A full accounting of my expenses, leave taken, and travel outside the region has been submitted to the National President.
- All overtime requests for weekend activities have been submitted.

Scheduled activities

- NBoD conference call May 19
- AEC meeting May 20
- NCR Health and Safety Committee meeting May 20
- RVAC meeting May 21
- OFL Young Workers Committee meeting May 21
- ACORN Ottawa COVID-19 housing forum May 23
- AEC update May 25 NBoD conference call May 26
- Fight for 15 provincial organizing meeting May 26
- IAC meeting May 27 NCR-DCL Committee meeting May 28
- Injured Workers Day OFL online rally June 1
- AEC update June 1
- NBoD conference call June 2
- PSAC-NCR Young Workers Committee meeting June 2
- Solidarity march in honour of George Floyd No Peace Until Justice June 5
- Migrant Rights Network rally June 14 Fight for \$15 & OFL: Organize now for a decent work future June 23
- NBoD meeting June 30

- Canada Day with Indigenous Climate Action July 1
- Special NBoD meeting July 3
- AEC update July 6
- Young Workers Committee meeting July 7
- AEC update July 13
- NBoD conference call July 14
- NCR Health and Safety Committee July 15
- AEC meeting July 17
- Special NBoD meeting July 17
- AEC update July 20
- NCR DCL Committee meeting July 22
- AEC meeting July 27
- NBoD conference call July 28
- Young Workers Committee Ottawa Food Bank community harvest July 29
- NCR Executive Meeting August 4
- AEC update August 10
- Special NBoD meeting August 11
- OFL meeting on coordinating legal challenge to Bill 195 August 12
- PSAC Ottawa Area Council August 12
- Point of Privilege Facebook live August 14
- AEC update August 17
- \$15 and Fairness online organizing meeting August 18
- Ottawa Labour Council August 19
- AEC meeting August 21
- AEC update August 24
- Capital Pride Virtual Parade August 30
- AEC update August 31
- Young Workers Committee September 1
- MDAC meeting September 3
- AEC meeting September 4
- ODLC virtual Labour Day parade September 7
- AEC update September 7

- AGM Education Committee September 15
- NBoD meeting September 15
- Social Justice Fund meeting September 16
- Regional Health and Safety Committee Meeting Sept 16
- Ottawa Health Coalition Make Revera Public Townhall September 16
- AEC meeting September 21
- NCR Pride Committee meeting September 22
- AEC update September 28
- NAV CAN Bargaining Conference Sept 29-30
- AEC update October 5
- NCR Executive Meeting October 5
- NBoD Conference call October 6

L'union fait la force.

In solidarity,

Alex Silas
PSAC-NCR REVP