

Young Workers Committee Report

Gratitude again goes out to the PSAC Regional Office and all our regional committees who continue to support the efforts of the Young Workers of the National Capital Region. We have completed another successful year which is thanks in great part to the backing of our brothers and sisters. We have managed to expand our network and are ever-striving to reach out to more young workers. The youth are our legacy and it is crucial for the Union movement that we continue to engage youth and start the dialogue now to ensure we are ready for the challenges we are about to face.

As we are still a burgeoning committee, the bulk of our efforts concentrated around outreach. In order to get our name out, we used part of our funding to make a high quality t-shirt with our logo. The thought was to make something that was comfortable, stylish and that people would want to wear. The final product which was designed by brother Francis Chartrand was such a hit, we received request to order more from others Alliance committees. Our second project of the year was a Young Workers Video starring none other than our committee's finest actors and directed by brother Alroy Fonseca. With a staunch message and a stylish no nonsense background we feel we were able to hit home facts that would get people talking while at the same time bringing awareness to the Committee. We celebrated the video launch with a 5 a 7 at trendy Phi Bistro. The response was overwhelmingly positive and instantly plans were being formed for the next video.

Our highlight product of the year, like last year, was the Young Workers Conference held September 13-14th at the Marriot Residence inn in Ottawa. A two day conference designed to bring in not only current union activists but also young workers who share union values. Our goal: to identify and tackle some of the challenges that lie ahead and as always expand our network of young workers even further. The event was unanimously hailed as a success with a lot of the praise going out to our wonderful facilitators Johanne Labine and Elizabeth Woods who really set up a comfortable environment promoting open discussion from a variety of perspectives. We had a number of special guests, including Ian

Capstick, all of which added to create a dynamic event. To follow up the momentum of the conference the committee organized a social event at VIP Karaoke. We were pleasantly surprised by the vocal talents of our members including superb Rhyming ability of Co-Chair Gabriel Bourdon. Plans are in motion to have more social events in the near future.

The committee also made a concerted effort build networks between it and other Youth networks with parallel interests. We were a gold sponsor of the 2014 Youth CanSlam Spoken word festival. Committee members were also sent as representatives at a number of other conferences such as the OFL Conference and the PSAC National Equity Conference

We are always looking on the lookout for new ways to build relationships and promote young worker outreach. Keep on the lookout for any and every ambitious young worker who may share the PSAC values and be sure to put us in contact with them. It is an exciting time for the YWC and the momentum keeps growing!