

Prairie Region Council Rep Reports February 2018:

Position	Name	Page #	Rec'd by Deadline
REVP	Marianne Hladun	2	Yes
Aboriginal Peoples Rep	Sandra Ahenakew	20	No
Separate Employers Rep	Shaun Atilano	20	Yes
Regina AC Rep	Satinder Bains	22	Yes
Edmonton AC Rep	Chris Beaton	23	No
PWD Rep	Shannon Blum	24	Yes
Young Workers Rep	Mackenzie Campbell	26	Yes
Calgary AC Rep	Alec Goertzen	28	Yes
Southern SK Rep	Tim Hubick	28	No
Northern SK Rep	Valerie Illingworth	30	Yes
Saskatoon Area Council Rep	Evelyn Jackson	30	Yes
Alternate REVP	Frank Janz	31	Yes
Westman AC Rep	Glen Johnston	31	Yes
RWC Rep	Deb Kosteniuk	32	Yes
DCL Rep	Michelle Lang	36	Yes
Northern AB Rep	Stasi L'Hirondelle	37	Yes
GLBT Persons Rep	Chris Little-Gagne	38	Yes
SE Manitoba Rep	Gus Mardli	44	No
Lethbridge AC Rep	Krysty Munns	47	Yes
Southern AB Rep	Kristy Slattery	50	Yes
NW Manitoba Rep	Michael Weisgerber	51	Yes
Prince Albert AC Rep	Pennie Young	52	Yes
Racially Visible Persons Rep	Phillip Chan	53	No

Winnipeg Area Council Rep	Lorelei Topnik	No Report
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**Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

This report covers the period from the last PRC meeting in July, 2017.

YOUNG WORKER COMMITTEES

In some excellent news to start 2018, Young Worker Committees have officially been formed in Edmonton and in Winnipeg. In Edmonton, the first meeting took place Tuesday, January 16th; In Winnipeg, the first meeting was held Thursday, January 18th.

Workers from outside Winnipeg and Edmonton were encouraged to get involved by calling into one of the two meetings. Big thanks to the PRC Young Worker's Rep Mackenzie Campbell for all of her work in bringing this together.

YOUNG WORKER SUMMIT

Planning has begun for our next Prairies Young Workers' Summit being held April 13-15, 2018 in Edmonton. Online registration is now available through the Prairies website at <http://prairies.psac.com/events/young-workers-conference> and the deadline to apply is March 5, 2018.. All PSAC members in good standing age 35 and under are eligible to apply.

CBSA RALLY IN REGINA

On December 19th, 2017 there was a successful rally for CIU members in Regina. As CIU members await the PIC report, the rally served as a show of support for the bargaining team who has been at the table fighting for a fair collective agreement that includes recognition of CBSA Officers as law enforcement. Thank you to everyone who came out to show their solidarity and to fight for a fair deal, including: CIU Saskatchewan Local 40031, PSAC Regina Area Council, PSAC Local 40005, USGE, UNE and CEIU.

We received a great deal of media attention for this rally, including an excellent story in the Leader-Post, Radio-Canada, and Minister Ralph Goodale's "response" to 620 CKRM.

Special thanks to Santa Claus (who reminds us an awful lot of CIU Sask. Branch 2nd VP and PSAC Prairie Region Young Worker's Alternate Rep Glenn Hollyoake), Santa's Chief Elf and the Gingerbread Man for stopping by to unveil Santa's Naughty and Nice List. No surprise to see PM Trudeau, MP Ralph Goodale, MP Scott Brison and MP Bill Morneau on the naughty list. Topping out the nice list... President Robyn Benson, CIU President JP Fortin, the FB Bargaining Team and I made the Nice list!

SUPPORT OUR PORT

In an unending legal battle, Omnitrax has declared its intention to sue the federal government under NAFTA rather than live up to its duty to repair the rail line.

Waiting for lawsuits and counter suits to solve this issue only means more delays, more devastation and more hardship for the people of Churchill. The time is now to bring the Port and the railway into public hands.

PSAC has consistently called on the federal government to bring the Port of Churchill and the rail line back as a national asset so that it can return to full operation in the short term, and remain so for generations to come. Similar to an airport authority, port authority status would allow community and government representatives to sit on the board and be accountable to various stakeholders, including municipalities and Indigenous communities, instead of being focused solely on corporate shareholders. The Minister of Transport has the authority under the Canada Marine Act to amend the list of regulated port authorities by Order in Council or regulation.

It is also urgent that the Province of Manitoba institute a fuel subsidy to offset the exorbitant gasoline prices that northern communities are facing, and sit down with all the partners in Churchill to help develop an economic plan that includes fixing the rail line and re-opening the valuable Port of Churchill for business again.

Unfortunately, despite the significant media and community attention this issue has received, the provincial government failed to even mention the community of Churchill in their recent Speech From the Throne.

In the midst of the uncertainty, we continue to try achieve a renewed collective agreement to protect the UCTE members at the port should a sale go through and will continue to pressure both the provincial and the federal government to take solid action to restore rail service and get the port operational for the 2018 shipping season.

RESPECT VEGREVILLE

On July 19, I joined NDP Critic for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship MP Jenny Kwan along with Linda Duncan, NDP MP for Edmonton Strathcona, Shannon Stubbs, Conservative MP for Lakeland, Jessica Littlewood, NDP MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, the CEIU NVP and Local Executive members in Vegreville.

The meeting was scheduled with Vegreville mayor Myron Hayduk and most of the town councillors to discuss the impact of the CPC closure. All parties had an opportunity to express their concerns in their first face-to-face exchange and the group committed to continuing to work together.

Jessica Littlewood spoke to the province's commitment to contribute to enhanced post-secondary opportunities in the Vegreville and surrounding areas—one of the main concerns cited by the department for the closure of the CPC. Myron Hayduk said the

town has approved re-zoning to address access to housing which is another one of department's concerns about the viability of keeping the CPC in Vegreville.

In January 2017, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau held a Town Hall at the University of Saskatchewan. In response to a question about the Vegreville Case Processing Centre closure, he said: "Compensation and packages will be made available to those employees who do not wish to relocate."

However, the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship has since informed public service workers who do not wish to relocate that there will be no compensation and no packages. In fact, those who do not accept the department's final offer to relocate will be laid off in August 2018.

That's not right. And that's not what the Prime Minister said would happen.

We are fighting this broken promise through the policy grievance process, while also continuing the fight to keep the Vegreville CPC open. But at the very least it's not too late for the department to change course and keep the promise made by Prime Minister Trudeau.

On Nov. 27th, Sister Robyn Benson, National President and I toured the Vegreville Immigration Case Processing Centre and met with the Director to express our opposition to the closure and relocation Edmonton. Thank you to CEIU Local 30851 for the invitation to your Holiday dinner and membership meeting.

On Dec. 6th, Sister Robyn Benson, Sister Michelle Henderson, CEIU RVP Alberta and myself were to meet with Minister Hussen regarding the closure. Just hours prior to the meeting, the Minister cancelled but we were able to meet with the Minister's Chief of Staff and department officials. The rationale for the closure is still a moving target with different reasons and we are awaiting further information promised by the department officials. We are also awaiting confirmation of a meeting with Sister Benson and the Minister.

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

On July 4, the Partnership to Defend Public Services, a group of public sector unions, filed for an injunction against the so-called Public Services Sustainability Act, recently passed by the Manitoba government. PSAC is one of the unions involved in the Partnership. This law fundamentally undermines collective bargaining rights. The Partnership filed a statement of claim in the Court of Queen's Bench challenging the constitutionality of the Public Services Sustainability Act. The action includes a request for an injunction that would prevent the government from proclaiming the Act.

On August 10, 2017 Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall announced that he would be stepping down/retiring. Scott Moe was selected as the new leader of the Saskatchewan Party on January 27, 2018.

The Official Opposition of Saskatchewan, NDP is also in a leadership race. Two candidates have declared and the date of the leadership convention has recently been moved forward to March 3, 2018.

On September 16, Manitoba NDP members selected Wab Kinew as their new leader and the Leader of the Official Opposition.

In Manitoba, I spoke at legislative hearings on Bill 23, the Fisheries Amendment Act. Our members at the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp. Winnipeg processing facility are the engineers that maintain the plant's equipment.

We are concerned with the government's decision to introduce Bill 23, especially the decision to withdraw from its participation agreement under the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act. While we acknowledge that fishers will still have the option of selling their fish via the FFMC, PSAC believes that a fundamental link in the fishing economy will be severely damaged – hurting fishers, their communities, and undermining the workers at the processing centre in Winnipeg.

PSAC believes that FFMC should remain a monopoly single-desk for the economic security and stability of all Manitoba fishers.

FFMC was created in 1969 and is located right here in Winnipeg. It was designed to give our small fishing communities strength and stability in terms of price and quality. Time and again, we have seen the ideological approach to “market freedom” has the same effects: small operators are cut out and wages are depressed.

In many ways, this feels like a re-play of the disastrous decision to dismantle the Canadian Wheat Board. While we submitted a written brief to the Legislative Committee, I took the opportunity to explain the similarities between the current situation in Churchill and the Federal Conservatives decision to dismantle the Canadian Wheat Board. I also supported northern indigenous fishers who presented to committee by calling on the provincial government to further develop a strategy and draft regulations before proclaiming Bill 23.

On behalf of PSAC members in the Alberta, I wrote to Premier Notley to congratulate her and her government on passing legislation to support Gay-Straight Alliances in Alberta schools. The letter which was jointly signed with Brother Chris Little-Gagné, PRC LGBT Representative was well received by both the Premier's office and the Minister of Education's office.

The positive impact of Gay-Straight Alliances and other similar student organizations is clear. Bill 24 ensures that students can have access to peer support when they need it the most, and that every single school in Alberta that receives public dollars must have a policy that clearly allows students to form a gay-straight alliance. Because these policies will be made public by school authorities, there will be transparency and accountability to the students and communities they serve. It is vital that students know that their right to access the support they need is not subject to the whims of any one institution or individual.

TAKING ACTION AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

November 25th to 27th, 2017 the Calgary Regional Women's Committee hosted the "A Women's Place is in Her Union" Retreat. This 3-day event included an evening of fellowship and conversation on November 25th, the course "A Women's Place is in Her Union" and a workshop on Domestic Violence in the Workplace and Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Children, followed by a lunch. I was able to attend, as well as Sister Benson and guest speakers Constable Maria Wren of the Calgary Police Service's Domestic Conflict Response Team and Josie Nepinak of Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society.

The course kicked off the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence.

For the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, Regional Women's Committees from throughout the Prairies attended local events. In Saskatoon, the Regional Women's Committee met on December 6th and had a presentation on the Montreal massacre. In Winnipeg, members attended the sunrise vigil at the Manitoba Legislature and the Manitoba Federation of Labour's commemorative brunch, where NDP MLA Nahanni Fontaine delivered a bracing speech about the experience of the families affected by Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Edmonton members attended the AFL Commemorative Brunch December 3rd.

WINNIPEG AIRPORT STRIKE

On July 4, 2017 at 3:00 a.m., UCTE 50600 members hit the picket line. While monetary compensation was an issue, the main priority for the members at the Winnipeg Airport Authority was management's excessive use of contractors. Throughout the strike that ended on Oct. 4, 2017, we had strong support from the Manitoba Federation of Labour and affiliates, including the Manitoba Teachers' Society and MAHCP which was very active on our behalf and in support of picketers on the line.

Even with an injunction limiting picketing locations, UCTE members were able to maintain effective and visible picket lines. Several rallies were well attended by other PSAC members and other unions.

Many thanks to PSAC locals and other unions who collected donations and organized picketers. As we have all faced the threat of contracting out and/or privatizing, it is important that we support all efforts to stop the trend. Congratulations to the members of UCTE 50600 for standing solid against their employer's attempt to pit members against each other and weaken their collective agreement.

PHOENIX PAY SYSTEM

PSAC and other unions representing federal public service workers are working together to ensure that the government pays damages to its employees for the ongoing Phoenix fiasco. PSAC has also been continuing to mobilize to keep the pressure on the

government to fix the troubled pay system. PSAC members across the country are holding demonstrations in front of their MP's offices.

PSAC's priority remains getting our members paid correctly and on time. We welcome any system that would pay our members. It is unacceptable that, after nearly two years, the federal government still can't pay its employees properly.

We know that our members are struggling with the consequences of inaccurate pay and PSAC will continue to push the government for additional help and support for our members. The government needs to step up its hiring process and expand the compensation capacity both in the pay centres and in departments.

REGIONAL BARGAINING

Employees at the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation in Winnipeg ratified a new collective agreement in November.

The newly formed Academic Capacity unit at the University of Saskatchewan has ratified its first collective agreement in October. Negotiations for Post Doctorate workers continue at the University of Saskatchewan.

A critical round of bargaining is underway for DCL Local 40004 at Casino Regina. With the Saskatchewan Party mandated wage cut of 3.5% still not withdrawn, our members are focused on supporting the bargaining team and strategizing on working with other unions.

Negotiations are underway for the UVAE members at Deer Lodge Centre in Winnipeg. Similar to Sask., UVAE members are subject to Bill 28 which mandates 2 years of 0%, 1 year of 0.75% and 1 year of 1%. PSAC Prairies is participating in a charter challenge with other unions looking to have Bill 28 declared unconstitutional.

Negotiations for UCTE members at the Port of Churchill are progressing slowly but the goal is to have a tentative agreement in place should any sale of the Port be finalized.

Bargaining demands have been prepared and negotiations will soon commence for UCTE Local 50602 SRG members at the Winnipeg Airport Authority.

Negotiations continue at CAHRD (Canadian Aboriginal Human Resource Development) DCL 55602.

Notice to bargain has been issued at the Calgary Airport Authority in behalf of UCTE Local 30301.

Negotiations are currently underway for the firefighters at the Edmonton Airport Authority. A priority of the bargaining team is to close the gap with other Edmonton-area firefighters.

A tentative agreement has been reached for the English Language Program at the University of Winnipeg. First contract negotiations for the Research Associates/Assistants Unit, and the Academic Capacity Unit is in negotiations for its second contract.

A tentative agreement has been reached at Brandon University. In this round of negotiations, we were faced with the Public Service Sustainability Act (Bill 28). This new legislation introduced by the Manitoba Progressive Conservative government imposes a

2-year wage freeze on all public sector workers – including students who work at BU – and wage restrictions for another 2 years. This legislation violates our constitutional right to free collective bargaining, and we have joined forces with other unions to file a court case against the Pallister government.

Following a difficult round of negotiations, UNE members at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights ratified a collective agreement on December 20th. This is the second agreement for this bargaining unit and the first agreement negotiated since the Museum officially opened. A priority for the bargaining team going into this round of negotiation was for issues related to front line staff and managements use and abuse of precarious workers. The team was successful in gaining protections for these members.

On a national note, Treasury Board members for the PA, SV, TC and EB tables will be attending the national bargaining conference in Ottawa March 26-29th. Bargaining team members will be elected for the upcoming round of negotiations. CFIA members are currently voting on a tentative agreement via webinar presentations and face-to-face meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Hladun
Prairies Regional Executive Vice-President

**REPORT OF THE
REGIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, PRAIRIES
TO THE
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

October 17-20, 2017

This report covers the period from the last NBOD meeting in June.

PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

On July 7–8 in Saskatoon , we held our first Prairie Region Council meeting since the Prairie Region Triennial Convention . It was a successful event that brought activists together from across the prairies. With over half of PRC members newly elected, the first day focused on orientation and a discussion of roles and responsibilities.

Dates were set for conference calls and for the face-to-face meeting in February 2018 which will also include a one day session with Prairies National Officers. The focus of the February

meeting will be to start mobilizing to federal and provincial elections and strategies to increase engagement of members.

MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU

When Winnipeg members learned that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau would be in Winnipeg on July 29, an impromptu early morning info picket was set up outside the hotel where the PM was meeting with the Manitoba Premier, Brian Pallister. Following discussion with RCMP and PM security staff, I was invited into the hotel for a 5 minute face-to-face with PMJT. Brother Dave Clark, newly-elected National UCTE President also joined attended. Issues discussed included the UCTE 50600 Winnipeg Airport strike, the Vegreville CPC closure and the struggles and pain caused by the Phoenix pay system, and the urgency of a swift resolution to the closure of the Port of Churchill and OmniTrax's refusal to repair the rail line to the community of Churchill. No commitments were made and the meeting. FYI, we took 10 minutes!

POLITICAL ACTION & CAMPAIGNS

WINNIPEG AIRPORT STRIKE

Approximately 150 hard-working duty managers, administrative workers, tradespersons, IT specialists, airfield maintenance workers and laborers at the Winnipeg Airport have been on strike at the Winnipeg Airport since July 24. They have been without a contract since June of 2016.

No one wants to be on strike. Our members know how much the Airport means to families. It means a lot to their families, too. That's why this is so important to us. Airport workers deserve to be treated with respect. Instead, the Winnipeg Airport has praised our workers for the conduct on the line, while going to court and arguing that PSAC pickets constitute a danger. That's not right. And it doesn't show respect for workers.

The Winnipeg Airport likes to pride itself on being one of Manitoba's Best Employers. But they are pushing for contracting out provisions that would hurt their employees and drive down wages. We will fight this heavy-handed approach with everything we have, and call on all workers – both unionized and non-unionized – to stand together and send a firm message to Barry Rempel and the Winnipeg Airport: "Contracting Out Won't Fly. Come Back to the Table With a Fair Deal."

We have been so honoured by the support we have been shown by our sisters and brothers in the union movement. On July 28 there was a large rally in support of PSAC/UCTE Local 50600 with about 300 people in attendance. We have had strong support from the Manitoba Federation of Labour and affiliates, including the Manitoba Teachers' Society which has been very active on our behalf and in support of picketers on the line. Our members attended the crucial "Care Not Cuts" rally on September 13 to show their solidarity with health care workers

in Manitoba. Members also attended the Winnipeg Labour Council (WLC) Labour Day March and BBQ. Attendees cheered their support loudly and thanks to the WLC, they left with almost 20 cases of potato chips that were left over from the BBQ (due to massive rain right before the BBQ was to start). As well, I was given the opportunity to address the 1,100 delegates at the Manitoba NDP Leadership Convention September 16 with the members on strike to address our concerns.

Many thanks to the components who collected donations at your conventions. As we have all faced the threat of contracting out and/or privatizing, it is important that we support all efforts to stop the trend.

Thank you again for your solidarity. I know it's been difficult to navigate away from the airport and we remain hopeful that we will be able to reach a tentative agreement.

RESPECT VEGREVILLE

October 19 will be the second anniversary of the election of the current Liberal government. It is also the date that public service workers at the Vegreville Case Processing Centre (CPC) will have to choose to leave their home, quit their jobs, or face a three hour commute because of the decision to close this centre.

On July 19, I joined NDP Critic for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship MP Jenny Kwan along with Linda Duncan, NDP MP for Edmonton Strathcona, Shannon Stubbs, Conservative MP for Lakeland, Jessica Littlewood, NDP MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, the CEIU NVP and Local Executive members in Vegreville.

The meeting was scheduled with Vegreville mayor Myron Hayduk and most of the town councillors to discuss the impact of the CPC closure. All parties had an opportunity to express their concerns in their first face-to-face exchange and the group committed to continuing to work together.

Jessica Littlewood spoke to the province's commitment to contribute to enhanced post-secondary opportunities in the Vegreville and surrounding areas—one of the main concerns cited by the department for the closure of the CPC. Myron Hayduk said the town has approved re-zoning to address access to housing which is another one of department's concerns about the viability of keeping the CPC in Vegreville.

MPs Jenny Kwan and Shannon Stubbs agreed to work together to draw attention to the issue when the House of Commons returns for fall session. This timeline also falls in line with the deadline that the employer has given CPC workers to decide if they will take a position in Edmonton or forfeit their jobs.

Jenny Kwan called attention to the work that the various stakeholders have done to date to try to save the Vegreville CPC in a July 17 letter. She urged the Minister to intervene and halt the plans to close the CPC.

Invitations to visit Vegreville have been disregarded by Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

An updated online letter has been posted to the www.respectvegreville.ca website along with an updated flyer. A meme and facebook/twitter post has been posted on social media to garner attention to the deadline and the Liberal government anniversary.

SUPPORT OUR PORT

It is clear that Omnitrax is not willing to live up to its responsibilities, having renounced its obligation under the 2008 contract that it signed with the federal and provincial governments to keep the rail line operational and conduct needed repairs. Now businesses are suffering, food prices are soaring, and there is no end in sight.

PSAC has consistently called on the federal government to bring the Port of Churchill and the rail line back as a national asset so that it can return to full operation in the short term, and remain so for generations to come. The recalcitrant position that Omnitrax has taken over the past year only highlights further the need for this kind of action.

The people of Churchill deserve a path forward that protects their future and treats them with respect. It is time to put an end to this desperate situation and provide real solutions, now.

In co-ordination with UCTE, I had an Op-Ed published in the Winnipeg Free Press entitled “Where’s Merv?”, calling on former Conservative MP and now Omnitrax Canada President Merv Tweed to sit down with workers and affected communities to come up with a real plan to fix the rail line and support our port.

Although time is running short, the federal government has recently made public statements suggesting that they are willing to step up and ensure that repairs are made to the rail line.

A joint letter from Brother Dave Clark and myself was sent to Minister Jim Carr requesting a meeting with Wayne Wouters who has been appointed by government to negotiate the transfer of the rail line and the Port from OmniTrax to the joint consortium of First Nations and northern communities. No response received as of the time of this report.

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

On July 4, the Partnership to Defend Public Services, a group of public sector unions, filed for an injunction against the so-called Public Services Sustainability Act, recently passed by the Manitoba government. PSAC is one of the unions involved in the Partnership. This law fundamentally undermines collective bargaining rights. The Partnership filed a statement of

claim in the Court of Queen's Bench challenging the constitutionality of the Public Services Sustainability Act. The action includes a request for an injunction that would prevent the government from proclaiming the Act.

On August 10, Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall announced that he would be stepping down/retiring. This launched a leadership campaign in the governing Saskatchewan Party. PSAC members will push each and every leadership candidate to commit to stopping the attacks on public services and privatization efforts that have characterized this government.

The Official Opposition of Saskatchewan, NDP is also in a leadership race. Two candidates have declared and the date of the leadership convention has recently been moved forward to March 3, 2018.

Union of Veterans Affairs Employees conducted an information picket in front of Deer Lodge Centre on August 10. Our members proudly provide care and service to the Canadian veterans that are residents of Deer Lodge Centre. They are extremely concerned with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's decision to eliminate food service onsite at Deer Lodge and to instead bring in meals from the Regional Distribution Facility. Members, residents and other unions took to the street to protest the WRHA's austerity cuts.

On September 16, Manitoba NDP members selected Wab Kinew as their new leader and the Leader of the Official Opposition.

COMMITTEES IN ACTION

National Public Service Week was held from June 11–17, 2017 to mark the importance of federal public service employees and recognize their service to Canadian society. During the week, members throughout the Prairie Region organized alternative NPSW events to call the employer on their hypocrisy and tell the federal government to put its money where its mouth is and demonstrate real respect and Fix Phoenix, rather than empty gestures.

In Winnipeg, several different events were held at various worksites throughout the week. UHEW Local 50012 held a lunchtime event at 391 York with almost 250 workers in attendance. They handed out stickers and flyers, and had members sign postcards.

Approximately 60 members from USGE Local 50015 visited the PSAC tent outside the RCMP D-Division on Portage Avenue. The event created awareness about the Phoenix Pay System problems, but also gave members the opportunity to discuss the national PSAC/USGE organizing campaign for Civilian Members of the RCMP.

On Wednesday of NPSW, dozens of Winnipeg members showed up for a march and rally, despite pouring rain. The march began at the Manitoba Legislative Building and ended at Upper Fort Garry Heritage Park. The skies had cleared and the sun was out for the rally and BBQ at the park, and PSAC National President Robyn Benson was in attendance to speak about the

postcard campaign. There was also a separate event held by UHEW Local 50012 outside the National Microbiology Lab.

UTE Local 40023 and the Saskatoon Area Council hosted a lunch event. Approximately 150 members came out to the rally in support of the Fix Phoenix campaign. Members were treated to a sandwich, drink and a cookie. They also received stickers and the postcard, which they committed to sending on.

During the employer-organized BBQ at CFB Suffield in Alberta, Local Executive members from UNDE 30910 and UNDE 30907 handed out letters addressed to Glen Motz, MP for Medicine Hat-Cardston-Warner, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, condemning the Phoenix Pay System and the delay in signing the ratified collective agreements with four Treasury Board bargaining units. Many of the members were personally affected by Phoenix and almost 150 people participated in the letter signing action.

The Calgary Area Council held a Boycott National Public Service Week event in the Atrium of the Harry Hays Building. Area Council members distributed 450 icecream bars to members to help them cool off after being Burnt by Phoenix. All of the ice cream bars were handed out in under an hour, along with hundreds of stickers, flyers and post cards to mail to Scott Brisson.

Pride activities were a major focus for members during the summer months.

Lethbridge Pride is a weeklong event that runs from June 19 – 25th, ending with the Pride Parade. This year the Lethbridge and District Area Council financially contributed to two crosswalks including the pride flag (rainbow colored) and the world's first transgendered flag (pink, white and blue) that are showcased in downtown Lethbridge.

PSAC members showed their pride during the Winnipeg Pride Parade on Sunday, June 4, 2017. More than 40 people marched with PSAC in the parade, the largest turnout we have seen for this event. Members of the Winnipeg Human Rights Committee planned and created a float for the parade with decorations, music and an excited delegation of volunteers who handed out Pride-themed flags, stickers, tattoos and dog tags to the crowd. Everyone was very excited to be a part of this exciting event and will no doubt return next year as our presence at Pride continues to grow. Members also attended the second annual Steinbach Pride parade.

Members of the Calgary Regional Women's Committee participated in "Keeping the Circle Strong" a Family Festival and Powwow held June 24, 2017 at the Calgary Stampede Grounds to celebrate **National Aboriginal Week**. PSAC had a tent on the site, with our famous "Wheel of Questions" and lots of swag to give away to our visitors, as well as suckers and temporary tattoos to give to the kids. We had information about Jordan's Principle at the tent and had some questions related to that on our wonderful "Wheel of Questions." Our committee member Vicky Norris was an organizer of the event and she decorated the wheel so that it had a really eye catching aboriginal theme. The booth had many visitors and we discussed a wide variety of matters such as childcare, Jordan's Principle and Phoenix with members of the public.

June 21st was National Aboriginal Day and the Lethbridge and District Area Council helped to support events that were taking place in Lethbridge Galt Gardens. Sr. Krysty Munns was lucky enough to be able to partake in a teaching tool to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada called the Blanket Exercise. The LDAC also supported a Pow Wow at the Lethbridge Research and Development Centre which was organized by First Nations Co-op Students who are working at the center. There were young drummers from the local elementary school who were learning to drum as part of their culture as well as young women who were learning the jingle dance and the fancy dance. This event was well attended by students, members of the community, management and members from AGR 30048.

The Regina Human Rights Committee organized a candlelight vigil at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building on Monday, June 12 during the Queen City Pride Festival, held June 9 to 18 in Regina. About 50 people attended the vigil, which honoured the memory of the victims of the 2016 Orlando nightclub shooting. PSAC members collected 49 pairs of shoes to display during the vigil, representing the 49 innocent people that lost their lives. Trent Wotherspoon, the then interim leader of the Saskatchewan NDP, spoke at the event. At the end, people were encouraged to take a seedling tree home with them to represent that life continues. The 49+ pairs of shoes displayed during the vigil were donated to shelters across Regina.

The Edmonton Regional Women's Committee has three initiatives underway: one is a garden, and vegetables are donated to senior women living at the poverty level; a grocery card campaign to raise funds to purchase grocery cards for seniors; and the RWC conducted a one-day seminar on Universal Childcare on September 16. 16 members from 10 different components were in attendance and were presented with the opportunity to see presentations from three very strong women advocates around the topic of a Universal Childcare System. NDP MLA Marie Renaud spoke about the NDP initiatives currently taking place, Morna Ballantyne presented the PSAC campaign initiatives and Siobhan Vipond from the Alberta Federation of Labour gave a presentation sharing some great tips for lobbying government. Once all three speakers completed their presentation a panel was set up for questions from the participants. After lunch, participants of the seminar took to the streets in a March for Universal Childcare. Opening remarks for the March were given by Patricia Jessome, Chair of the Regional Women's Committee and for 30 minutes they held their flags, blew their whistles and called on the government of today to make a Universal Childcare Program a reality for ALL Canadians. In the afternoon participants had table discussions about the reality of childcare and have built an action plan for the Northern Alberta Regional Women's Committee to continue in the fight for quality, affordable and accessible childcare.

The Winnipeg RWC conducted a School Supply Drive for the families of Winnipeg Airport workers on strike as they transitioned back to school. Many thanks to all involved in this important initiative.

UNDE 501705 held a payday demonstration at the base in Winnipeg on August 9 to protest Phoenix issues. As a result of this, the Winnipeg Area Council has held three information pickets at MP Jim Carr's office in a row. Challenge received, challenge accepted!

PSAC members were well represented at **Labour Day** events throughout the Prairies.

The Lethbridge Area Council participated at the Labour Day Family Picnic by providing a generator and bouncy castles and helium for PSAC balloons. Members from the area council supervised children at the bouncy castle throughout the day. A tent was set up where members spoke about the Public Service, Phoenix issues and handed out PSAC swag. The Area Council also supported members in Medicine Hat by contributing some funds to cover the cost of bouncy castles at their Labour Day Picnic. Sr. Danielle Poissant (Union of National Defence Employees Local 30907) organized this event in conjunction with the Medicine Hat Labour Council.

The Saskatoon Area Council members were busy handing out helium balloons, stickers, frisbees and suckers at their Labour Day activities, where there was a record attendance and perfect weather.

The Calgary Area Council was instrumental in planning participation and support for the annual Labour Day BBQ working with the Calgary and District Labour Council.

In Regina, members set up the Prairies tent on the grounds of the Sask. Legislature and distributed rulers, pencils, crayons, erasers, frisbees, balloons and water bottles. They had an opportunity to speak with MP Erin Weir and expressed frustration that many PSAC members are still plagued with Phoenix related pay issues.

In Winnipeg, despite rain and cold weather, a shorter version march went forward and a BBQ followed. I addressed the crowd of about 300 people with Winnipeg Airport workers. PSAC had a booth and handed out materials related to Phoenix and other PSAC issues. Brandon members joined festivities in their community for the first time in many years. The Area Council used our prize wheel to entice community members to come over to hear about our issues.

On September 10, Winnipeg PSAC members and some family members took a road trip to the Shoal Lake reserve Water Museum. After a bit of a drive and a ferry crossing, members were guided on the reserve and through a museum documenting the lack of clean potable water. Members came back reflecting how these conditions could exist in Canada. The reserve does not even have access to medical help on the island. Following a 4 hour tour and with much left unseen, members were treated to a lunch of wild rice soup and fry bread. Another tour is being planned for October pending availability of the guide.

NEGOTIATIONS

Notice to bargain has been issued for SRG Security Resource Group, Edmonton Airport GBU, and Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp.

No negotiations are scheduled for a first collective agreement at Bouygues Energies and Services Canada Limited pending legal decision on whether Winnipeg Airport Authority is the true employer. If successful, the bargaining unit will be folded into the current UCTE General Bargaining Unit collective agreement.

Input call has been issued for ATCO 15 Wing, Moose Jaw.

We have a tentative first collective agreement at the University of Saskatchewan with the newly formed Academic Capacity unit. Academic workers will be voting on the tentative agreement on Oct. 3rd. Negotiations for Post Doc workers continue at the Univ. of Sask.

Bargaining is underway for our DCL Local 40004 at Casino Regina. Threats of a mandated government wage cut of 3.5% and the provincial government publicly declaring their intent to privatize crown corporations (Bill 40) will make for an intense round of negotiations.

Negotiations are starting soon for the UVAE members at Deer Lodge Centre in Winnipeg.

Negotiations for UCTE members at the Port of Churchill are stalled and we await information on whether the federal government is able to negotiate the sale of the Port and the rail line.

Negotiations are underway for the English Language Program at the University of Winnipeg. First contract negotiations are underway for the Academic Capacity and the Research Assistants at the University of Winnipeg. Negotiations also continue at Brandon University.

Negotiations continue the week of Sept. 25th at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights. A priority issue for the local is the high incidence of precarious work.

Negotiations are underway for All Nations Healing Hospital in Quapelle, SK.

Negotiations continue at Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development (CAHRD).

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Hladun,
Prairies Regional Executive Vice-President

REVP Prairies Activities

May 14	Travel to Regina Regina RWC Mothers Day Walk
May 15	Travel to Ottawa
May 16-18	AEC Meeting
May 16	Conference call re: Winnipeg Renovations
May 17	Travel to Winnipeg
May 19	Conference call re: Bargaining under Manitoba Bill 28
May 23	Conference call with Regina Area Council

May 24	Drive to Regina Standing Discipline Review Committee via conference call Rally at the Sask Legislature Travel to Edmonton
May 25	Respect Vegreville Campaign Rally in Edmonton
May 26	Travel to Regina and Drive to Winnipeg
May 29-30	MFL Executive
June 2	Supporting Our Allies via conference call
June 3	Travel to Ottawa
June 4-6	AEC Meeting
June 5	Meeting re: Leadership 2017 training
June 6-10	NBoD Meeting
June 9	Vegreville Campaign Update via conference call RSCC UCTE 50600 (Winnipeg Airport Authority) via conference call Travel to Winnipeg
June 10	UTE Tri-Local Picnic
June 12 - July 1	Vacation leave
July 4	Regional Polcomm Interviews
July 6	UCTE 50600 bargaining update via conference call USGE/RCMP CM Pizza lunch meet and greet Drive to Saskatoon
July 7-8	PRC Meeting in Saskatoon
July 11	Meeting with Winnipeg Regional Health Authority re: Layoffs in Food Services at DLC
July 12	United Way Edmonton re: PSAC participation via conference call
July 13	Meeting with Prairies REO and RC Parks NSCC via conference call UCTE 50600 Bargaining Mobilization Lunch
July 14	UCTE 50600 Information Picket & Media Meeting with UCTE 50600 Executive & RVP
July 15	Steinbach Pride
July 17	UCTE 50600 Strike Votes (5:15 pm, 7 pm, 8:45 pm)
July 18	United Way Edmonton re: PSAC participation via conference call
July 19	Travel to Edmonton, Drive to Vegreville Roundtable meeting with MP Jenny Kwan, MP Linda Duncan, MP Shannon Stubbs, MLA Jessica Littlewood, CEIU NVP & Local Executive, Vegreville Mayor and Town Councillors Conference call with UVAE 50021 Deer Lodge re: Government implications on bargaining Travel to Winnipeg
July 20	Meeting with UVAE National President & DLC NVP Recruitment for Our Communities Our Union, Our Rights course for Aboriginal Members via conference call Conference call re: UDP West

July 21	UCTE 50600 Bargaining Update via conference call
July 24	UCTE 50600 3:00 a.m. Picket line & Media Presentation to UCTE Convention re: UCTE 50600 Strike via conference call
July 25	UDP West update via conference call UCTE 50600 Bargaining Team meeting
July 27	Meeting with Legal Counsel re: WAA injunction
July 28	UCTE 50600 Solidarity Rally WAA Injunction Court hearing
July 29	Info Picket at Fairmont - PM Trudeau & Premier Pallister Meeting with Prime Minister Trudeau
August 1	WAA Injunction Court hearing
August 2	WAA Injunction Court hearing UCTE 50600 Airport Strike RSCC
August 4	Constitution Review Committee Meeting via conference call
August 5	Picket Line & Media
August 9	UNDE 50705 Phoenix Demo Discussion re: implications of WAA injunction and follow up strategies via conference call
August 10	CBC Interview re: C-27 and pensions by phone UCTE 50602 SRG Membership Meeting
August 12	Solidarity Picket Line
August 15	Churchill Strategy via conference call UCTE 50600 Membership Meeting
August 16	Manitoba Healthcare Sector Unions Meeting UCTE 50600 Airport Strike RSCC via conference call
August 18	UCTE 50600 Picket Tailgate Lunch Respect Vegreville Campaign update via conference call
August 19	Picket Line with CLC National President, Hassan Yussuff
August 20	Picket Line - Media Interviews
August 21	UCTE 50600 Membership Bargaining Update meeting
August 23	UCTE 50600 Picket Line with guest Jagmeet Singh Meeting with Univ. of Winnipeg RA Bargaining team member re: Mobilization
August 24	Noon Radio show Calgary 770 re: Phoenix
August 25	UCTE 50600 Picket Tailgate Lunch w/National President, Robyn Benson
August 28	Special NBoD Meeting via conference call
August 29	UCTE 50600 Legal Counsel meeting via conference call
August 30	Meeting with member re: departmental cuts UCTE 50600 Legal Counsel meeting via conference call
August 31	NDP Federal Council - Digital Issues Task Force Call Meeting via conference call
September 1	Mtg Meeting with Legal Counsel re: Injunction Order and Contempt of Court charges UCTE 50600 Picket Line with National President, Robyn Benson

September 4	Winnipeg Labour Day March & Picnic
September 5	Mtg w/United Way & UCTE 50600
September 6	Court Hearing re: Variance of Injunction
September 7-8	MFL Executive Council
September 7	Court Hearing re: Variance of Injunction
September 8	USW 4297 Lock-out Picket Line, PTI Industries, Winnipeg UCTE 50600 Picket Line with MFL Executive Council members
September 9	Drive to Regina
September 10	Travel Regina to Ottawa
September 11-12	AEC Meeting
September 13	Travel Ottawa to Regina and Drive to Winnipeg
September 14	UNE 50353 Executive Meeting via conference call Presentation to CEIU SK/MB Presidents Conference PRC Conference Call
September 15	Organizing Proposal via conference call NDP Leadership Convention Dinner
September 16	Manitoba NDP Leadership Convention Presentation to NDP Convention Delegates re: UCTE 50600 Strike
September 18	Drive to Regina Sask. NDP Labour Leader Reception
September 19	Drive to Winnipeg NDP Federal Council via conference call
September 21	UCTE 50600 Staff update via conference call
September 22	Meeting with UCTE 50600 Bargaining Team and Strike Captain UCTE 50600 General Membership Meeting Meeting with UCTE 50600 Bargaining Team
September 24	Meeting with UCTE 50600 Bargaining Team

**Sandra Ahenakew
Aboriginal Peoples Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

Sept 7	NAPC TUB Course recruitment called Aboriginal members to recommend they take the training.
Sept 14	PRC conference call
Sept 30	Organized Orange Shirt Day (Honouring Indian Residential School Survivors for INAC Local 40064
	Participated in City of Regina Orange shirt Day Walk
Oct 4	INAC RUMC Terms of Reference Review meeting Attended NWAC Sisters in Spirit vigil in Regina Attended PSAC Human Rights Committee Meeting
Oct 25	Stop the Cuts Rally - Regina
Nov 29 - Dec 1	PSAC Leadership Training – Ottawa
Nov 30	PRC Education Committee Meeting
Dec 2-3	PSAC National Human Rights Meeting – Ottawa
Dec 19	Canada Border Services Rally - Regina
Jan 17	Participated in PSAC Burnt by Phoenix Webinar

Report submitted after the deadline

**Shaun Atilano
Separate Employer Locals Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

The week after my first PRC meeting held in Saskatoon last July 2017, I continue to support my fellow health care workers affected by Manitoba Premiere Brian Pallister's cuts. The target was comprising a massive network of workers and complex social infrastructure which forms the bedrock of the modern welfare state: lined up next at the budgetary guillotine is health care. The government's restructuring has already resulted in job cuts, which will negatively impact patient care including our members at the Deer Lodge Centre UVAE Local 50021, which they close the cafeteria, restructuring Food Services and bumping process for all the workers.

Our brothers and sisters at Winnipeg airport UCTE 50600 hit the picket lines after collective bargaining negotiations with the airports authority fell apart. The strike which involves 150 employees. Sister Marianne Hladun , PSAC Prairies REVP sent a

instruction for members on respecting the picket line at Winnipeg airport (and Toronto Pearson airport). All travel, union or personal, should be re-directed away from Winnipeg or Toronto Pearson. The Winnipeg Airports Authority and PSAC have reached a 6-year agreement that will bring the roughly 150 airport employees who've been on strike since July 24 back to work and ended by October 2017.

Winnipeg, Manitoba hosted the Canada Summer Games Last July 28 to August 13, 2017 which Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister meet at the Fairmont Hotel early Saturday morning of July 29, 2017. With the members of PSAC and Sister Marianne Hladun, Prairies REVP had a chance to show and even talked to the Prime Minister about Omnitrax, Vegreville Closure, Winnipeg Airport Authority Strike and the burning effect of Phoenix pay system.

Activities

July 6 – Attended Prairie Regional Council Meeting at Saskatoon.

July 18 - Rally to stop the health care cuts at the Grace Hospital grounds.

July 28 – Winnipeg Airport Authority Rally to support for UCTE local 50600.

July 29 – Omnitrax, Vegreville, WAA and Phoenix protest at Fairmont hotel.

August 10 – A walk for UVAE local 50021 at Deer Lodge Centre grounds to support affected members on health care cuts.

September 18 – Prairie Regional Council conference call.

October 18 – Phoenix protest on behalf of local 50234.

November 11 – Donating wreath at Deer Lodge Centre for Remembrance day on behalf of PSAC Winnipeg council.

December 13 – Phoenix Pay day Protest in front of Doug Eyolfson's office. MP for Charleswood, St. James, Assiniboia and Headingly in behalf of Local 50705

In Solidarity,

Shaun Atilano

Separate Employer Locals Rep

Satinder Bains
Regina Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

I continue to attend and work with the Regina Human Rights and Regina Area Council committees and attended the meetings on regular bases. Continued to participate in on the PRC conference calls to keep up to the current events and issues in the PSAC.

November 8th staged an information line to show support and solidarity to the suffering workers at the Edmonton Maximum penitentiary. Our brothers and sisters are facing threats and harassment in the workplace on a daily base. Our members deserve to be treated with respect in a harassment free workplace also be provided the tools and manpower to work in a safe environment.

November 30th I attended the Leadership training in Ottawa, the training was well attended by over 300 union activists from coast to coast. The Three days consisted of Leadership in the PSAC Chaired by Sister Hladun, brought in Panels to discuss current issues such as Phoenix, Negotiating Protections for Workplace safety from Domestic Violence, Plenary Workshops, Regional Caucuses, wealth of knowledge and experience shared by all members on how we can move forward with our continuing struggles. We also had the opportunity to protest and show support against the unfair practices the management uses in the workplace against our union brothers and sisters at the probation services head office. The main objectives of the training were to uncover our individual strengths and challenges as leaders. We had the opportunities to explore the value of different leadership approaches and identify our own approach.

December 9th, 2017 Regina Area Council held the annual Holiday meet and greet at the Regina Regional Office, this was to show all of members who volunteer their appreciations as well. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend. On December 19th we had a Rally to Support the Border Services Officers in Regina. Our members are 3.5 Years without a contract, these are the brothers and sisters who keep Canada's Border safe and they deserve to be treated fairly.

Chris Beaton
Edmonton Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

It has been an honour to be working in this role as the Edmonton Area Council Representative. It has been a learning curve and has brought with it some challenges but, my labour experience has helped me to adapt into this role as well. I am excited for what is to come for me on the Prairie Region Council.

The main focus of the Edmonton Area Council over the last while was a solidarity brunch. This has become an annual event in Edmonton bringing together locals and their activists to come together and network whilst listening to guest speakers and enjoying brunch. With the hard work of the Area Council organising the event and rallying the locals, we ended up having 18 locals who sent participants. We were also very fortunate to have Maria Fitzpatrick of the NDP and MLA for Lethbridge East as well as Perri Garvin, Labour Programs Coordinator for the United Way as our two guest speakers for the event.

As well as this, I worked at the Regional Office with other Area Council members and staff helping compile an election mail out to the Edmonton membership. It was a laborious effort but well worth it and very valuable.

I must say, though, that the highlight for me since the last PRC meeting has to be the PSAC National Leadership training that I was able to attend. As well as attending workshops on Duty to Accommodate for members with Mental Health issues and Communication Strategies for member engagement, I got to listen to some amazingly inspirational and articulate speakers. As much as the value of all of these aspects was immeasurable, the most significant experience for me was to be able to network with my PSAC brothers and sisters and to share our knowledge and experiences.

I am thoroughly looking forward to the next few months in my role on the council and, in particular, the PSAC National Convention. I thank you all for your time and the support I get from all sides.

In solidarity,

Chris Beaton

Edmonton Area Council Representative

Report submitted after the deadline

**Shannon Blum
Persons with Disabilities Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

This position has been somewhat of an eye opener! I will admit, that part of me thought that moving in this role would be similar to being an Area Council Representative, a different demographic but similar requirements. It has not been and fulfilling all the plans I had made, while maintaining all my other commitments has indeed proven to be a challenge. However I have had the privilege of seeing some of the work that goes on behind the scenes to prepare for PSAC events, the chance to help members at other sites, and a view of the larger issues that are ongoing at other sites.

Here is a brief history of what I've been involved with during my term in 2017.

Return to Work and Accommodation. As anyone with a disability knows this is an ongoing problem for all Government Departments. I was acutely aware that it was often challenging in my own work location, but it's been interesting learning the intricacies of working in other departments as well. To date I've helped with representing approximately 20 individuals at 4 different locations in person, as well as advising countless others. This area will continue to be a focus for me.

April 2017 – I attended the PRC pre-convention meetings and also the PSAC Prairies convention.

July – Participated in a PRC teleconference meeting and attended the USGE national Convention, where I was also elected Alternative Regional Vice President – CSC Saskatchewan.

Sept – I attended a PRC teleconference where some hard decisions were made, and where I was reminded once again that disabilities are often not considered at all, or very slightly unless the individual is articulate in expressing their needs and/or has an advocate. To my chagrin sometimes this is still not enough. We have a ways to go my friends, even within PSAC.

I also attended training and a National Executive meeting for my component.

Oct - I was able to join the Edmonton Human Rights Committee meeting via teleconference. We had a fair bit of difficulty technology wise, but with good humour on all sides was able to overcome. At this meeting we discussed the hardships involved with some seemingly arbitrary rules, and also made plans for a dream catcher event, which was ultimately successful thanks to the dedication of just a few people. This committee is small but mighty and deserves recognition for an amazing job!

Nov – November was a crazy month! I can honestly say some days I woke up and forgot where I was! I attended Local Officer Training, the USJE Bargaining Conference, worked with staff from the National and Regional PSAC Offices to review sites for the 2021 PSAC Triannual Convention, visited OOH in Maple Creek and

attended Leadership Training.

I'd like to just take a minute to recognize just how much work goes into reviewing a site for a PSAC event, because I know I for one was completely clueless. The checklist just for disability accommodation is 4 pages long! Sites are reviewed by no less than 3 individuals who all report back on their findings and work together to (hopefully) not miss any important detail. It was fascinating for me to consider all the different challenges that people have, from carpets that wheelchairs can move over, to scent free floors in hotels, to sight assisted elevators and that only touches on a tiny margin of what is considered. It truly is essential that people completely and honestly fill out the needs section of their registration forms. If nothing else I walked away from this experience with the understanding that there is simply no other way to ensure that the needs of all individuals can be met. I encourage you therefore, even if you have an accommodation that you "might" not need that day, say for example some days you need extra time to move between locations, or some days you can walk and others you can't. Take the time to have a conversation with the PSAC staff in charge of the event, and please fill out the needs section. You are not judged on your needs! I saw extremely caring individuals doing the best that they can based on past data, but as we all know, each disability is unique with its own challenges and needs. In this way your needs can be considered and addressed.

Dec – I attended my first National Human Rights committee meeting. I was both pleased and disappointed with the experience. It's difficult to get nearly enough time for each need of the committee in the time period allotted, however I do believe that we need to be more understanding of everyone's needs when working in a group that large. Our smaller group sessions I felt were very productive and resulted in plans that can be implemented. I do feel that the decision to tag it on the Leadership Training, while fiscally responsible, was not successful in application. Many members were already exhausted from long days, some like myself and others were dealing with their own physical and mental challenges of being away from home and routine for an extended period and lastly it resulted in a day being shaved off the time we had to meet. This left many reports not presented, and most limited to only 5 minutes. Not nearly long enough to be complete and no time for Q &A.

Jan 2018 – Unfortunately due to my own disability I was unable to participate in work or union. It's been challenging knowing that there is needs going unmet and people unsupported, but that if I do not look after myself I will not be able to help anyone else either.

In the end what I've taken away so far is:

- We may have come a long way, but complacency breeds contempt and we have a long way to go yet.
- Accommodations, and return to work programs are almost ALWAYS challenging and they do not need to be.

- We need to find a way to ensure that the information of people who self identify can be shared with the people representing them. Each new PRC representative must make their own contact list over again, potentially every 3 years the process starts again, and I do not believe we should depend on sharing between past incumbents because PRC members are elected and not everyone handles losing an election well.
- If I do not look after myself, I cannot help ANYONE.

Until next time my friends.

Shannon Blum

President USJE Locals 40023, 4A023, 4B023
 PSAC-PRC Representative for persons with disabilities
 USJE – Alternative RVP – CSC – Saskatchewan

**Mackenzie Campbell
 Young Workers Rep
 Prairie Region Council February 2018**

Since becoming the Young Workers Representative for the Prairies in October 2017 I've obtained support from CEIU, CIU, Deer Lodge Centre, and UNE to create Young Workers Committees in Edmonton AB and Winnipeg MB. As of December 11 2017 the AEC has approved the creation of the committees. Alberta and Northern Saskatchewan will be included in the Edmonton committee and Southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba will be included in the Winnipeg committee. The first committee meetings will take place on January 16 2018 (Edmonton) and January 18 2018 (Winnipeg).

I have actively been networking with young workers in the region. Communication has been through the Young Workers Representative Facebook page (@PSACPrairiesYWRep), emails through the ROs and Local Presidents, and whenever possible, face-to-face.

Additionally a Young Workers Conference has been scheduled for April 13 – 15 2018. A steering committee was struck consisting of members from Alberta (Neha Channan), Saskatchewan (Megan Pryor, and Second Alternate Young Workers Representative Glen Hollyoake), PSAC staff Nina Babcock and Karoline Klug, and of course myself. The conference will be held at Chateau Lacombe in Edmonton AB. The theme of the conference is the relevance of unions to young workers.

November 29 and 30 2017 I participated in the MP lobby in Ottawa. The purpose of the lobby meetings was to bring attention to the hardships our members are facing as a result of Phoenix.

To build my union knowledge and union network I attended PSAC National Leadership Training in Ottawa. Here I met with the other Young Workers Representatives from across the nation to discuss what challenges we were facing and how we could best share ideas and knowledge.

Should you have any questions about my report, please contact me directly.

Activities

October 20 2017 and ongoing – Building Young Workers network within Prairies and reaching out to other Young Workers Representatives across the nation

November 1 2017 – Organized Phoenix Pay Day Rally at 111 Lombard Ave in Winnipeg MB

November 29 & 30 2017 – Participated in MP Lobby regarding Phoenix in Ottawa ON

November 30 – December 3 2017 – Attended PSAC National Leadership Training

December 2 2017 – Signed the Child Care For All petition www.childcareforall.ca

December 15 2017 - Chaired Young Workers Conference Steering Committee first meeting

December 21 2017 - Chaired Young Workers Conference Steering Committee

Upcoming Activities:

January 10 2018 - Next Young Workers Conference Steering Committee

January 16 2018 – Young Workers Committee Meeting for Alberta and Northern Saskatchewan

January 18 2018 – Young Workers Committee Meeting for Southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba

In Solidarity,

Mackenzie Campbell

Alec Goertzen
Calgary Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

Rep activities for the period of July/2017 to January/2018

July

- Attended CAC meeting July 26

September

- Participated in PRC call Sept 14
- Participated in Municipal election envelope stuffing Sept 27 & 29

October

- Participated in special PRC Investigations call Oct 2
- Attended CAC meeting Oct 25

November

- Leadership Training, Ottawa Nov 30 to Dec 3

January

- Participated in National AC call with President Benson

Respectively submitted,

Br. Alec Goertzen

Tim Hubick
Southern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

Since last meeting I continue to learn the role.

First I wish to apologise for not being able to attend the meeting in person I must send my regrets as I have prior family commitments.

It has been a very active time in Southern Saskatchewan with rallies focused around saving our crowns from privation, rallies boycotting public service week. Vigils remembering the missing and murdered aboriginal women of Canada, trans day of remembers, remembrance day, vigil to bring awareness about and domestic violence, Labour day picnic, and women marches, feeding the less fortunate Christmas dinner, rally with the Border services for a fair collective agreement.

I have also attended workshops and training sessions put on by the RO.

Over the past the past few months I have worked closely with the regional office in Regina. I have attended Area council meetings. Sitting on the executive for this committee. I have guided them on some issues and worked with them on some team building. I have also chaired for Regina Human rights committee this committee is a stage of re-development.

Issues that still burn strong here in southern Saskatchewan:

The fight against privatisation of our crowns and casinos.

The lack of involvement at various levels, from locals to area and council meetings.

Phoenix pay system.

Goals for future

The goals I have for the future is to continue to learn my role.

To keep working with the RO and committees to draw in more members to attend meetings.

To have contact with all the locals and explain the purpose of all the committees as I have heard from several members they do not know what the committees do.

I will keep standing up in rallies to stand up for our crowns.

To keep working with SLF and other unions in solidarity.

To keep all members informed on upcoming events.

To keep fighting to fix phoenix pay system.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectively submitted.

In solidarity,

Tim Hubick

Report submitted after the deadline

Valerie Illingworth
Northern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

In July the Prairie Region Council met in Saskatoon. Items discussed: Phoenix, bargaining with the Winnipeg Airport Authority, the Manitoba government continuing with anti-worker legislation, dismantling of Saskatchewan Crown corporations, Convention 2017 Debrief and planning for Convention 2020.

The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour Convention was held in Saskatoon on October 18, 2017. I was able to attend the morning of the convention.

Leadership Training was held November 30 – December 3 in Ottawa. Due to medical reasons I was unable to attend but I hope to receive this training in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted

Valerie Illingworth

Evelyn Jackson
Saskatoon Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

The Saskatoon Area Council (SAC) participated in the Labour Day BBQ and were very appreciative of the tent that was purchased by the PRC. They also participated in the Day of Mourning, Pride Parade and laid a wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremony. The annual open house was held in December but was not well attended due to the outbreak of flus and colds in the Saskatoon area.

I attended the SAC meetings that were held in August & October. I have reached out to the Saskatoon locals explaining who I was, etc. via email through the Saskatoon Regional Office.

I attended the A Women's Place is in her Union course at the Saskatoon regional Office on October 28th. It was good to have fulfilling and meaningful discussions with other strong union women.

I am a member of the Prairie Region Council's finance committee.

Respectfully Submitted

Evelyn Jackson

Frank Janz
Alternate REVP
Prairie Region Council February 2018

Since my last report in July of 2017 I have participated in one conference call for discipline and one meeting of the educational committee as a member of the regional council. I also attended the PSAC leadership conference in Ottawa in December in my dual roles as a member of the regional council and as a RVP for USJE. I have also been selected to participate in the CLC lobbying day in Ottawa February 6 and 7th.

I continue to support and participate with the PSAC prairie region in all their events and activities that put forward our members concerns and issues to the government of the day and Canadian citizens at large.

In solidarity,

Frank Janz

Glen Johnston
Westman Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

The Council held our third meeting of the year in August at which we held discussions and eventually passed three resolutions to send to the PSAC Triennial convention in 2018. A fourth resolution was discussed but after much debate the submitting member withdrew the resolution.

Minutes of this meeting can be found on the PSAC Prairies website.

As in past years the Westman Area Council participated in the Labour Day event held at the UFCW hall in Brandon, MB. During this event I, along with other members of the Council discussed the ongoing Phoenix fiasco with the people who came out to enjoy the festivities. We also set up a prize wheel for the kids and a few adults to hand out PSAC merchandise and promote the Council in the region.

This year was a little different for our fourth meeting, held in October, in that the Council held an AGM to elect officers, present financials and elect a delegate to PSAC National Triennial Convention. Usually the Council holds its AGM's in the first quarter of the year but in order to comply with the PSAC Constitution the change was made.

There was no change in Officers as both Br Kaminski (VP) and Sr Grant (Secretary) were acclaimed to their positions. Br Weisgerber was elected to attend the Convention on behalf of the Council. As at all meetings, discussion on organizing training events in the Westman region were held with a commitment made from all members to try and

mobilize members to take some Union training. Minutes of this meeting can be found on the PSAC Prairies website.

The Brandon & District United Way Christmas Tree Auction took place at the end of November this year and again the Council played a big role in the festivities. Collectively over \$34,000.00 dollars was raised in support of families in need in the Westman area. Local & retired members along with spouses and friends helped make this event a fun occasion for all involved.

In December, I attended the Leadership training in Ottawa. My main interests for this round were the discussions on Mental Health in the workplace as this is an area that has gone for too long without recognition for our members. With the ongoing Phoenix boondoggle, more and more pressure is being put on our members and their families and friends.

In Feb, Council President Br Sexton and I will be attending the United Way Kickoff Luncheon to receive an award from the United Way to recognize the Council's continued support of the Auction and United Way activities in the area.

There will also be Steward Advocate training taking place in Brandon on the 6th of Feb. I will be attending the training along with members from my home Local and other members in the Region.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Johnston
WMAC Rep to the PRC

**Deb Kosteniuk
RWC Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

RWC's were active across our region this fall and winter, focusing on Phoenix issues, childcare, domestic violence in the workplace, murdered and missing indigenous women and children, as well as community projects.

Winnipeg:

The Winnipeg RWC is very active. They have participated in Phoenix rallies throughout the summer, fall and winter. They participated in the Labour Day Barbecue.

September 10, 2017, they, along with other PSAC activists such as Brothers Frank Janz and Gus Mardli visited the Shoal Lake 40 First Nations Reserve. Shoal Lake 40 **has been on a boil-water advisory since 1997**. There were no Sisters in Spirit Vigil planned for Winnipeg, but the RWC participated in the Take Back the Night March in October. They have planned various charitable drives throughout 2017 into 2018: school supplies, feminine hygiene products, and an underwear drive for Centre Flavie Laurent for example. They were involved in coordinating donations of beds from the Summer Games to two centres that they support. They planned events for the 16 days of Activism against Gender-based violence and the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. They participated in the A Women's Place is in Her Union PSAC training course. They are involved in a Ju Jitsu course at the Wii Chiiwaakanak Learning Centre offered on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. Their AGM was held January 9, 2018. They participated in PSAC committee training January 17, 2018. They had a large presence at the Winnipeg Women's March held January 20, 2018 and the event received very good media coverage. Reports state 300 to 500 people marched and rallied in Winnipeg.

Northern Alberta:

The Northern Alberta RWC is also very active. For 2017 spring, summer and fall, they did a community garden project that saw the harvests from the garden going to Seniors in need through the SAGE (Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton) program. September 16, 2017 they held a Childcare Seminar and Rally. They had 15 participants for the seminar and they called locals prior to the event to promote it and gain attendees. Morna Ballantyne was one of the key speakers. For the Rally, they reached out to allies such as Public Interest Alberta, Edmonton District Labour Council, the CLC, and other unions. Kirsten Strachey of Calgary RWC was in Edmonton and participated in the Rally with the women of the NA RWC. They planned a campaign called Food for Women – with the idea money raised would be used to purchase grocery store gift cards that would be donated to women in need sometime before Christmas. They had raised \$1000 for that project by mid October and were personally calling locals for donations. They presented a Wreath for Remembrance Day. They joined affiliates for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women at the AFL. They are planning a 2018 childcare campaign “What's Your Story” with the idea that a FB page or website be developed to start personal conversations around childcare. They participated in the January 20, 2018 Women's March – Edmonton had around 1,000 participants for the March. The March was well covered by media.

Calgary RWC

We participated on a “Burned by Phoenix” boycott NPSW event at the Harry Hays Building June 14. We participated in the Aboriginal Day Family event June 21, manning the PSAC booth and talking about MMIW, potable water issues, Jordan's Principle. We

did an email campaign asking all locals and components to wear orange shirts for September 30, 2017. We were a presence at the October 4 Sisters in Spirit Vigil, and made a financial contribution to Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society, the Vigil organizers, for the bagged lunches given to Vigil participants. We organized and held a Grand Opening event for the new Calgary Regional Office October 12; we were pleased to have Sister Robyn Benson in attendance for that. We organized A Women's Place is in Her Union Retreat Nov 24 to 26/17 together with Dolly Ablitt, our Regional Rep. It incorporated the PSAC course "A Women's Place is in Her Union" along with two workshops; one on domestic violence and the other on MMIW. We had 20 register for the event, with four dropping out due to illness. We started with Friday night registration and welcome event featuring a Raclette Supper, the course on Saturday and the workshops and lunch on Sunday. The course utilized three of our members who are AFI facilitators which was wonderful to see. The RWC "catered" the Friday night supper and Sunday workshop lunch ourselves. Starting November 25 and ending December 6, we did a Facebook campaign for the 16 Days of Activism on Gender Based Violence, utilizing our Calgary RWC page. We did not hold a December 6 event but let members know about events being held by our allies in Calgary. We did an email campaign to components and locals asking for participants for the Women's March and several members of our committee participated in the Women's March on Jan 20/18. 3500 marched in Calgary and there was very good media coverage.

Lethbridge:

Lethbridge RWC put on a strong show for the 2017 Women's March and have remained involved with March On Canada, posting March On Canada items of interest on the PSAC Prairie Regional Women's Committees page throughout 2017 and into 2018. Like many other women across the Prairies, our Lethbridge RWC women are involved with, or part of Area Council. In Lethbridge the LDAC sponsors PSAC members in the Rotary Dragon Boat Festival in June. If there were not committee members rowing a dragon boat, they were there to support and cheer on their fellow PSAC members. Lethbridge RWC again supplied a bouncy castle for the Lethbridge Labour Day Picnic, which always is a huge crowd pleaser. Committee members made a financial contribution and attended the Lethbridge Sisters in Spirit Vigil on October 4. They participated in the University of Lethbridge Women's Centre Menstruation Drive, donating tampons and pads to the cause. They donated funds to the Persons Day Breakfast to cover the cost of a speaker at the event. They attended the YWCA Take Back the Night event. Lethbridge did not plan an event for December 6 but were planning to join a Vigil offered by an ally. They did a holiday giving project, with the women of the committee knitting caps and scarves for sisters in need. Lethbridge RWC Secretary-Treasurer Krysty Munns organized the Lethbridge Women's March On Solidarity Rally on January 20. After the Rally, a Living Library Event was held. It was a forum for attendees to learn more about programs, organizations and people that work with women in the community, plus a workshop about bystander intervention; a multimedia installation art project on Lived Experiences of Syrian Refugees and the Kairos Blanket Exercise. While the participation in the Rally was smaller than in 2017,

the Living Library was well attended and both the parts of the day received a lot of media coverage.

Regina RWC

The Regina RWC led their third MMIW Mother's Day Walk in Regina and is planning for the fourth and final Mother's Day Walk and a possible feast for MMIW in 2018. They have had very good success with holding self defence courses for women, and they continued that success with their Women's Self Defence Course in September, 2017. From that they donated \$400 to Sophia House, made up of the trainer and participant fees. RWC members attended two Sisters in Spirit Vigil activities: the Feast at the First Nations University of Canada and the MMIW Candle Light Vigil at the RCMP Depot. December 9, 2017 the RWC participated in an All Committee Meet and Greet for locals and affiliates like Regina District Labour Council and Saskatchewan Federation of Labour. They had a spoken word poet at the event and those attending were asked to bring a non perishable food item for donation to the Food Bank. Michelle Lang, Chair of Regina RWC, organizes and participates in rallies and events as much as possible. She has organized and help lead Phoenix Rallies, SFL campaigns and rallies against her Provincial government's actions, helped to organize the CBSA rally in Regina on December 19/17 and I know committee members participate in these rallies and events. RWC members volunteered for the Unions of Regina Christmas Dinner on December 20, 2017, and the RWC made a financial donation to help cover costs of the meal. Regina RWC has held discussions about the resolutions passed at the EO Conference and the Prairie Region Triennial recognizing the need to lobby delegates at National to see these resolutions come into being. Michelle Lang, Chair of Regina RWC is one of the two women's delegates to National Triennial. I am looking forward to her lobbying efforts on behalf of Prairie RWC's.

Saskatoon:

October 28 RWC held a Women's Social with the objective of recruiting membership for the RWC and possibly resurrecting an RWC in Prince Albert. This was an opportunity to invite participants in the "A Women's Place is in Her Union" course (held Oct 29) to attend the social and learn about the RWC. Leila White, Chair of the Saskatoon RWC did a presentation about the mandate of the RWC and their plans for 2018. After that she co-facilitated a wellness exercise, "Laughter Yoga." Leila also participated in part of the workshop the next day and answered more questions about the RWC. They held a December 6 event discussing the murder by misogyny that occurred in Montreal in 1989. The murdered women were remembered by reading of their names and there was a discussion on the importance of remembering them annually as well as how important it is to continue working to protect sisters from violence against women. They are supporting Moon Time Sisters and their drive to collect feminine hygiene products to women and girls in need – the RWC will promote by doing a poster and mail out to the locals. Saskatoon RWC intends to broadcast meetings live on Facebook to allow women who would like to participate who cannot come to the office for a meeting. The broadcast could also be reviewed by any committee member post meeting for feedback and input prior to the next meeting. They have also set dates for their 2018 meetings –

they will meet on the third Tuesday every other month, starting January 16, 2018. This RWC is rebuilding after a short period of inactivity; many of the events they planned for 2017 were not implemented. They are working on building the RWC into an active and dynamic entity in 2018.

Activities:

June 14/17 - participated in "Burn Phoenix" activity
June 21/17 – participated in Aboriginal Family Day event
July 7, 8/17- participated in PRC meeting
Sept 11/17 – chaired Calgary RWC meeting
Sept 19/17 - issued PRC Women's Committee Newsletter to Prairie Region RWC's
Sept 28/17 – participated in Edmonton RWC meeting by teleconference
Oct 2/17 – participated in PRC teleconference call
Oct 12/17 – participated in Calgary Regional Office Grand Opening
Oct 17/17 - participated in Lethbridge RWC meeting by teleconference
Oct 18/17 – attended CCAAC Annual General Meeting by teleconference (3:00 to 5:00 p.m.)
Oct 18/17 – attended Calgary Human Rights Committee meeting
Oct 25/17 – attended Calgary and District Area Council meeting
Oct 26/17 – attended Winnipeg Tri-Committee meeting by teleconference
Oct 30/17 – chaired Calgary RWC meeting
Nov 16/17 – attended Calgary tri-committee meeting
Nov 24 to 26/17 – attend A Women's Place is in Her Union Retreat
Nov 29 – Dec 2/17 – attended PSAC National Leadership Training
Dec 3, 4/17 – attended PSAC National Human Rights Committee meeting
Dec 18/17 – attended IWD planning committee meeting by teleconference
Jan 11/17 – attended IWD planning committee meeting by teleconference

**Michelle Lang
DCL Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

Well things are changing but I am not holding my breath!! Scott Moe has been elected by the SASKPARTY to be our new Premier. Same party same mandate is what I am thinking. But we will hold them accountable as always!! We also got new Rally signs to make up!! NO MONEY MOE PROBLEM!!

DCL 40005 is in bargaining at this time. They have been without a contract since December 31, 2016. Somethings have been agreed upon and others are still on the table. When we hit Monetary it is going to be rough. Elections for the President, Senior Vice President and VP of Guest Services are all coming up with in the next month.

Brandon University is holding a ratification vote in early February. Back in December Racist Posters appeared over the campus. The local addressed the issue of racism and that they and PSAC as a whole are against it. Sad that this is still around in this day. We had similar posters put up at University of Regina.

Michelle Lang

PSAC Local 40005

**Stasi L'Hirondelle
Northern Alberta Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

Since my last report, the council has had two conference calls with plans to meet face to face February 9-11, 2018. During the conference call in September, the main topics discussed were strike actions taking place at the Winnipeg Airport, and Phoenix issues. I'm happy to say that the strike at the airport was resolved. Unfortunately, issues with Phoenix continue to happen and we will continue to rally and put pressure on the government until all issues have been rectified.

With all the continued issues with Phoenix, I've made numerous phone calls to my MP. I've explained my personal issues, as well as the issues many members across this region have been having. All Canadians deserve to be paid for the work they've done. I know there is still a lot of work to be done to fix all the errors with the Phoenix pay system, and I commit to standing behind PSAC and all members in this fight.

I continued my path to becoming a stronger leader by attending the PSAC National Leadership Training course held in Ottawa November 30 – December 3, 2017. There were some fabulous guest speakers and workshops to attend. My most memorable workshop was the Kairos Blanket Exercise. This is an interactive workshop that delves into the relationship between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples. It was a very emotional workshop, and one I'd strongly advocate for more members to participate in.

During this time, I also attended a Labour Leaders meeting on behalf of the RVP, Marianne Hladun, where leaders of different labour organizations meet with Minister Amerjeet Sohi. I spoke to the Minister about the closure of the Vegreville CPC. To paraphrase, I stated that I know he's aware of the situation and has seen previous fact sheets and reports. But I wanted to reiterate that the closure of the processing centre would be devastating to Vegreville. There are approximately 240 employee's working at the centre in Vegreville, but are you aware that the per capita equivalent would be an employer removing 55,000 jobs from Edmonton? The arguments made by the

government to support the closure have been refuted, and as the Prime Minister campaigned on building strong rural communities, can we count on you to call for the reversal of the closure? Minister Sohi provided the same reasons for the closure that have been stated many times. I couldn't get a satisfactory answer, so I waited around after the meeting to speak to him a little longer. I asked him if he would provide support and go back to Minister Hussen and request that there is serious consultation with the union to look at viable alternative to the closure of the Vegreville office. He did agree that he would bring it up to the Minister. I also suggested that he visit the office himself to dispel the "myths" of the building being in disrepair. At the time of writing this report, it seems like the intent is still to close the CPC office.

I'm also pleased to report that I was nominated and selected to be a delegate to the upcoming PSAC National Convention in April by the Edmonton Area Council. This will be my first National PSAC triennial and I look forward to representing the members for my region.

Activities:

August 17 – Labour Leader Meeting with Alberta Federation of Labour & Minister Amerjeet Sohi

September 4 – Labour Day BBQ

October 14 – Edmonton Area Council Second Annual Solidarity Brunch

November 30- Dec 3 – PSAC National Leadership Training

In Solidarity,

Stasi L'Hirondelle

**Chris Little-Gagne
GLBT Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018**

Written Activity Report - Christopher Little-Gagné

Apr 21- 23 – PSAC Prairies Triennial

May 3 – PSAC Winnipeg Area Council

May 6 – Rainbow Resource Centre Gala

Jun 18 – PSAC Manitoba Marathon Water table

Jul12 – Borderland pride meeting Fort Frances

Jul 15 – Steinbach Pride Parade

Jul 28 – PSAC picket at Winnipeg Airport

Jul 29 – PSAC Phoenix picket to the Prime Minister in Winnipeg

Aug 8 – LGBT intro letter sent out to prairies
Aug 27 – Ottawa Pride Parade
Sept 14 – PSAC PRC meeting
Oct 2 – PSAC PRC Disciplinary call
Nov 20 – Statement on Trans Day of Remembrance
Nov 24 – Letter sent to Alberta premier on GSA's
Nov 30 – Dec 3 – PSAC Leadership training in Ottawa
Dec 3 – PRC education committee meeting
Dec 4 – 5 – PSAC National Human Right Meeting Ottawa
Dec 13 – PSAC Winnipeg Area Council meeting
Jan 3 – email sent to Habitat for Humanity on Union activity approach
Feb 5 – Canadian Labour Congress lobby training
Feb 10 – 11 – PRC meeting in Edmonton

1. Letter from LGBT Rep (August 8 2017):

Hello Area Councils, Human Rights Committees and Women's Committees.

My name is Chris Little-Gagné and I am your elected GLBT Representative on the Prairie Region Council.

A bit about me from my PRC Bio: <http://prairies.psac.com/node/9460>

I have been involved with PSAC for eight years and am currently Union of National Employees Regional Vice-President for Manitoba. In the past, I have served in various roles, including: ARVP UNE Manitoba; President of Local 50235; Vice-President of Local 50235; Human Rights Rep for Local 50235; and Chair of the Winnipeg Human Rights Committee. Outside of PSAC, I am currently a member of Solidarity & Pride Committee for the Manitoba Federation of Labour. I am currently working with my department at bringing the Positive Space Initiative in (a Government wide initiative to create a safe space for LGBT* members and their allies).

I am hoping to work with you to assist your committees and councils on issues concerning the LGBT2QI* community. I am willing and able to set up time to call into your meetings if there is anything that you would require my assistance on.

I would like to remind everyone of the great PSAC campaigns (Child Care and Domestic Violence). Please take the time to consider that these campaigns do affect the LGBT* community as well and there could be some great tie-ins and support from the community if approached.

As we are currently entering the Pride season, below are the current events that I am aware of. I would like it if your committees and councils can let me know what you are doing to show PSAC support and let me know if there is anything I can support on.

Alberta

Jasper Pride: March

Edmonton Pride Festival: June 9 to 18

Lethbridge Pride: June 26 to July 4

Central Alberta Pride Week (Red Deer): August 13 to 23

Calgary Pride: August 25 to September 4

Medicine Hat Pride: September

Gay and Lesbian Association of the Peace (Grand Prairie)

Fort McMurray LGBTQmunity

Saskatchewan

Moose Jaw Pride: May 1 to 7

Prince Albert Pride Week:

Southwest Saskatchewan Pride (Swift Current): May 29 – June 3

Saskatoon Pride: June 12 to 19

Queen City Pride (Regina): June 9 to 18

Manitoba

Brandon Pride: June 12- 18

Pride Winnipeg: May 26 – June 4

Pride North of 55 (Thompson): June 10 <https://www.facebook.com/PrideNorth/>

Steinbach Pride: July 15

Winnipeg should focus on the following for an activity in 2020. <http://fiertecanadapride.org/winnipeg-to-host-canada-pride-2020/>

Other dates of importance:

January 27	Holocaust Remembrance Day
March 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility
April 13	Day of Pink
May 17	International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
May 22	Harvey Milk Day
May 24	Pansexual and Panromantic Awareness and Visibility Day
June	LGBTQ+ Pride Month
June 28	Stonewall Riots Anniversary
September	Bisexual Awareness Week
September 23	Celebrate Bisexuality Day

October 11	National Coming Out Day
October 15	Spirit Day
October 26	Intersex Awareness Day
October	Ally Week
October	Asexual Awareness Day
November 8	Intersex Day of Remembrance (Intersex Solidarity Day)
November 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance
December 1	World AIDS Day
December 10	Human Rights Day

Thank you for taking the time to read this and feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or actions that you will need assistance with.

Chris Little-Gagné
 GLBT Rep – PRC
christopher.little-gagne@une-sen.org

2. TDOR letter (November 20 2017):

PSAC Prairies Statement: Trans Day of Remembrance

On November 20, communities across the Prairies, Canada and the world gather to remember those trans people who have passed away in the past year, including victims of transphobic violence. As we remember, we must rededicate ourselves to the struggle against discrimination and violence that too often targets transgender and gender-variant people.

We know that we have a lot to do. A [recent study of transgender youth in Manitoba](#) and Saskatchewan has found that nearly 50 per cent of school-age youth in Manitoba and Saskatchewan attempted suicide,

while 60 per cent had engaged in self-harming behaviour. These figures are both well above the already tragic national numbers. In Alberta, [results of a similar survey](#) show that almost 65 per cent of transgender youth have thought about suicide.

In Canada, we can finally celebrate the passing of Bill C-16, which will enshrine trans rights into Canadian law. This legislation adds gender identity and gender expression as prohibited grounds of discrimination under the Canadian Human Rights Act. It also adds gender identity and gender expression to the list of distinguishing characteristics of “identifiable groups” protected by the hate speech provisions in the Criminal Code. Ten of the 13 provincial and territorial jurisdictions already have similar legislation in place.

PSAC has been a strong supporter of the rights of our gay and lesbian, bisexual and trans members. We campaigned for C-16, and have bargained language in our collective agreements on issues such as discrimination on the basis of gender identity or gender expression, access to safe washrooms and change rooms, and the right to be referred to by one’s chosen gender. This work continues.

All people deserve respect, equality and protection from discrimination and violence. We will do everything in our power to be better allies and put an end to transphobia and transphobic violence.

In Solidarity,

Chris Little-Gagné
Regional Vice-President, Manitoba
Union of National Employees, PSAC
GLBT Representative on the Prairie Region Council, PSAC

Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President, Prairies
Public Service Alliance of Canada

3. **Letter to Alberta Premier on GSA’s (November 24 2017):**

<http://prairies.psac.com/node/9809>

Letter: Congratulations to Alberta Premier Rachel Notley on the Passing of Bill 24

PSAC-Prairies has written Premier Notley to congratulate her and her government on passing legislation to support Gay-Straight Alliances in Alberta schools. (Text below; the letter is also attached).

Premier Rachel Notley

RE: Congratulations on the passing of Bill 24

We are writing today to congratulate you and your government on the passing of *Bill 24: An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances*. With this legislation, some of the most vulnerable students in Alberta will now be protected in law.

The positive impact of Gay-Straight Alliances and other similar student organizations is clear. Bill 24 ensures that students can have access to peer support when they need it the most, and that every single school in Alberta that receives public dollars must have a policy that clearly allows students to form a gay-straight alliance. Because these policies will be made public by school authorities, there will transparency and accountability to the students and communities they serve. It is vital that students know that their right to access the support they need is not subject to the whims of any one institution or individual. No one can be outed for their participation in a GSA or QSA.

Unfortunately, this legislation has been subject to mis-informed and sometimes malicious opposition. While the majority of public discussion has been respectful and democratic, some public figures have chosen to use this legislation to further marginalize the LGBT community and promote fear.

By recognizing the benefits of these student organizations, including the very real potential to save lives, the Government of Alberta has placed itself on the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Chris Little-Gagné
Regional Vice-President, Manitoba
Union of National Employees, PSAC
GLBT Representative on the Prairie Region Council, PSAC

Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President, Prairies
Public Service Alliance of Canada

4. Positive Space Letter:

January 9, 2018

Hello Activists,

I am writing to increase awareness of the *Positive Space Initiative*, which was based on the *Positive Space Campaign* of the Ontario Public Service. The initiative aims to positively enhance the work experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, Two –Spirit and questioning+ (LGBTQ2+) employees by encouraging the creation of a safer, more inclusive, and open-minded environment.

The creation of a *Positive Space* is committed to:

- providing a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities;
- discussing sexual orientation and gender identities in a positive way; and
- referring questions on sexual orientation and gender identities to a contact person as appropriate.

The Positive Space Initiative in the Ontario Public Service and many Government of Canada workplaces is there to train Positive Space Ambassadors as well as provide diversity training. Ambassadors then become visible in their workspace as a “positive space” for anyone dealing with sexual orientation or gender identity issues, or for anyone seeking more information on the subject.

While ambassadors may not be an expert on LGBTQ issues, they are committed to providing helpful resources and referrals, and to educate in contributing to a more diverse and inclusive public service. This Initiative is very important and should be taken on by all workplaces. Activists within the union should be on these initiatives to ensure that management is not just implementing to say they have one, but not creating an inclusive workplace.

Government of Canada workplaces: GCconnex – search Positive Space Initiative; there are many Departments that have ambassadors. You can also contact the Canada School of Public Service to see if there is training in your area. <http://www.cspc-efpc.gc.ca/events/psit/index-eng.aspx>

Separate Employers or Directly Chartered Locals: There are many tools out there that can be used to help work with Management on bringing in this great Initiative.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/partners-service-providers/immigrantserving-organizations/best-practices/positive-spaces-initiative.html>

<https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2017/11/28/government-canada-initiatives-support-lgbtq2-communities-andpromote-diversity-and>

I am willing to work with you on the many approaches that can be implemented in your workplaces. I look forward to assisting you on being an active member/ally for an inclusive workplace.

Contact your regional PSAC office for any training PSAC offers.

In Solidarity,

Chris Little-Gagné
LGBT Representative PSAC Prairie Regional Council

Gus Mardli
South-East Manitoba Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

Hello Sisters, Brothers and Friends

I hope you all had great Component Conventions last summer and fall. So let's all do what it takes to make our Region the best Region for the labour movement.

Here is a list of activities I participated in:

***On August 3rd** I held a conference call for Local Presidents in the South East Manitoba to update locals on the PRC and to ask about their needs and their activities. I explained my role as a Geographical Rep and informed them of my plans on how to keep them informed and how I can be their voice on the PRC. Sister Sandra Ahenakew joined us as a guest and was introduced to presidents in attendance. Sandra spoke of her role as the Aboriginal Peoples' Rep on PRC as well and followed up with emailing them her contact information and other material and activities related to our indigenous sisters and brothers in the Region.

***On August 9th**, I participated with the Winnipeg Area Council at a special meeting to debate and vote on resolutions to be submitted to the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention.

At that same meeting, the Winnipeg Area Council decided to have a Phoenix Protest day on each and every payday to be held at either an MP office in Winnipeg or at a PSAC Local in Winnipeg.

***On August 23rd**, The Winnipeg Area Council had their very first Phoenix Payday Protest in front of Minister Jim Carr Constituency office on Corydon Avenue in Winnipeg. Minister Carr was in Ottawa, as we were told by his Executive Assistant. I was also interviewed by CBC News that day to explain the reason behind the protest: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/carr-phoenix-winnipeg-1.4259450>

***Labour Day Event** this year was another success. We marched on Monday **Sept. 4th** - despite the storm- from the Legislative building to the Vimy Ridge Park for the picnic. We received many compliments regarding our PSAC swag, and had many people coming back to our PSAC Tent for more.

*I protested - **on September 6th**- with the Winnipeg Area Council the Phoenix Payday at the Minister Jim Carr Constituency office again. We couldn't meet with him that day either. His office offered us coffee though.

***On September 10th**, I accompanied other PSAC activists for a trip to *Iskatewizaagegan Reserve* at Shoal Lake Ontario which was sponsored by the

Winnipeg Regional Women Committee. The trip was an eye opener as we witnessed how the reserve get contaminated water, no roads to the reserve but through water ferry, no septic system for the reserve. It was just like going back in time more than 5 decades.

*Participated in conference call with the PRC Health & Safety Committee and Brother Clint Wirth **on September 12th** as we went through the feedback we received from Health & Safety activists in the prairie region, to help us with drafting the Terms of Reference for the New Prairie Region Health & Safety Committee.

*I attended a PRC Conference Call **on September 14th**. I presented -on behalf of the PRC Health & Safety Committee- the work we accomplished concerning the Regional Health & Safety Committee's Terms of Reference.

*I protested - **on September 20th**- with the Winnipeg Area Council the Phoenix Payday at the Minister Jim Carr Constituency office again. Sister Marianne Hladun joined us and got a chance to meet Carr's Constituency office assistant in person. Again Jim Carr wasn't in town that day.

*Attended a Winnipeg Area Council meeting **on September 26th**, It was to plan for the Remembrance Day Wreath Laying and the Winnipeg Santa Claus Annual Parade.

*I protested the Phoenix debacle - **on October 4th**- with AGR Local 50073 & the Winnipeg Area Council at 167 Lombard in Winnipeg. Answered some of by-passers questions about the Phoenix issues.

***On November 1st**, The Phoenix Payday Protest took place at 111 Lombard Avenue in Winnipeg. I joined Locals 50262, 50757, 50758, 50770 and the Winnipeg Area Council. It was a great show so thanks to Sister Mackenzie Campbell (the PRC Young Workers Rep) and her local to provide everyone with Fairtrade coffee.

***On November 14th & 15th**, I co-facilitated with Brother Clint Wirth a 2 day workshop on Violence in the Workplace at the Manitoba Federation of Labour (MFL) Health & Safety Conference.

*The Winnipeg Annual Santa Clause Parade took place **on November 18th**. I had the chance to assist Brother Frank Janz (very little) in decorating the PSAC Float entering in the parade. It wasn't as warm day as it was the last year. The Parade was still well attended and the float was very full of our PSAC activists who didn't walk and handed out candies. We still ran out of candy anyway.

***On November 28th**, I was invited to attend UHEW Local 50012 Annual General Meeting. I updated the local on PRC work and activities and explained my role as their geographical rep. I also answered questions on the difference between the PRC council

vs their Component National Officers who resides in the prairies. I also ran their election for officers for them that evening.

***The National PSAC Leadership** training took place in Ottawa from **November 30th – December 3rd**. It was a great opportunity to attend workshops with PRC members as well as other PSAC activists.

***On December 13th**, The Phoenix Payday Protest took place at MP Doug Eyolfson Constituency office on Partage avenue in Winnipeg. I joined UNDE Local 50705 and the Winnipeg Area Council for this protest. MP Eyolfson wasn't in his office but I had the chance to speak to his Executive Assistant -Catherine Montgomery- as she was defending the Liberals and blaming only the Conservatives for the Phoenix implementation. I asked her to let Doug Eyolfson know that it is not acceptable to keep blaming the former government and that we need actions on moving forward, not just what had happened already.

***On December 14th**, I participated with the Winnipeg Area Council at a special meeting to hold a by-election for the Area Council Vice-President vacant position and the successful member is holding this position now is Sister Sheilagh Hanson.

***The New Year's Phoenix Payday Protest** continued **on January 24th**. I joined CEIU Locals 50772, 50767 and the Winnipeg Area Council at 280 Broadway in Winnipeg. This was the longest protest we had as we kept picketing on front of the building for more than an hour. Members kept coming and leaving as their lunch time staggered. Sister Basia Sokal (The Winnipeg Labour Council President) had joined us for the protest. It was a great success and a very good turnout.

I am looking forward to continue working with each and every member on the PRC as well as representing locals and members in South East Manitoba in a very productive cycle

Respectfully Submitted

Gus Mardli

Report submitted after the deadline

Krysty Munns
Lethbridge Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

Since my last report from the Lethbridge and District Area Council (LDAC), I attended the first Face-to-Face Meeting of the Prairie Region Council in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in July.

In August, the LDAC participated in the Whoop-Up Days Parade in conjunction with the Lethbridge and District Labour Council. On August 29th the LDAC held a general meeting to discuss and debate potential resolutions for submission to PSAC National Convention to be held in Toronto. The meeting was well attended and we were able to put forth five resolutions from our committee. These were submitted on August 31st.

In September the LDAC contributed to the Lethbridge Labour Day Family Picnic with financially supporting a generator for bouncy castles and some helium for PSAC balloons. Members from the committee donated their time to supervise children at the bouncy castle throughout the day. A tent was set up where we spoke about the public service, Phoenix issues and handed out PSAC swag. The LDAC also supported members in Medicine Hat by contributing some funds to cover the cost of bouncy castles at their Labour Day Picnic. This was the first time PSAC was involved in the Medicine Hat Labour Day Picnic. Sr. Danielle Poissant (Union of National Defence Employees Local 30907) organized this event in conjunction with the Medicine Hat Labour Council.

During this term the LDAC held an Annual General Meeting on Oct 17th. A new executive was elected whereby I was re-elected president, Br. David Person (AGR) was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer and Sr. Kristy Slattery (CIU) was elected Vice-President. At this meeting I was elected as the LDAC delegate to the National PSAC Convention.

Members of our committee attended the Lethbridge and District and Labour Council General meetings in September, October and November and gave short verbal reports of PSAC latest activities including Phoenix, bargaining, and convention updates. Several members of the LDAC also attended a strategy meeting to help shape the next year of the Lethbridge and District Council. In September the Lethbridge and District Labour Council held an endorsement meeting for Lethbridge Municipal Election. In partnership with the CLC, endorsement cards were printed. I made sure all PSAC members received a copy of this card letting them know which candidates had a labour friendly platform.

On November 28th, I was called upon to give a media interview for Bridge City News (Lethbridge) regarding Bill 30: Alberta's new safety legislation including the right to refuse unsafe work, the right to know about unsafe work and the right to participate in Occupational Health and Safety Committees. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-W81HacQvo>

In November, members of the LDAC attended the Canadian Labour International Film Festival that was held at the Lethbridge Public Library. Two members of the LDAC were also in Ottawa for leadership training.

On December 8th, I lobbied Conservative MP Rachel Harder to discuss the ongoing Phoenix issues. I asked Ms. Harder to speak about Phoenix in the house and demand that the liberals hire more compensation representative region wide to help alleviate some the issues our member are facing. I advised if she doesn't speak to this issue in the house on our behalf we will have "Burnt by Phoenix Pizza Lunch" demonstrations outside her office on Feb 21st. Ms. Harder committed to requesting approval to speak in the on house on behalf of her constituents about Fixing Phoenix. She asked me to keep her in the loop regarding our day of action and could potentially speak at our rally.

This term I was also sworn into the Alberta Federation of Labour Executive Committee and Alberta Federation of Labour Council. I have attended two meetings for these committees, the first being in Calgary and the second being in Edmonton. At these meetings I present updates about PSAC, including our struggles and where we need labour allies within the province. I also become aware provincial and national labour campaigns.

Finally in January, the PSAC Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee hosted the first every Lethbridge Living Library. This event was in recognition of the second anniversary of the Women's March on Washington and Canada. The Lethbridge Living Library included various organizations (including PSAC) and speakers from within our community who serve the principles of human rights, social justice, equality, and compassion. I gave five media interviews leading up this event on CTV, Global, Bridge City News, and 95.5 Country FM.

Should you have any questions about my report, please contact me directly at munnsk@gmail.com or phone 403:393:2688.

Activities

2017

- July 5-9: 1st Face-to-Face Meeting of the PRC in Saskatoon, SK.
- August 8: PRC Finance Committee Conference call
- August 29: Lethbridge and District Area Council regular meeting
- September 4: Labour Day Family Picnic - Lethbridge
- September 4: Labour Day Family Picnic – Medicine Hat
- September 14: PRC Conference Call
- September 22: Lethbridge District Labour Council Municipal Candidate Endorsement meeting
- October 4: Members of the committee attended the Sisters in Spirit Vigil – Lethbridge
- October 16: Attended my local's (AGR 30048) regular meeting
- October 17: Lethbridge Area Council Annual General Meeting

October 17: Attended the Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee Meeting
 October 18-19: Alberta Federation of Labour Executive and Council Meetings – Calgary
 October 28-29: Participated in the course Duty to Accommodate in Calgary, Alberta.
 November 8: Lethbridge and District Council Monthly Meeting and Strategy Planning Meeting with CLC representative C. Longo.
 November 23: Attended my local's (AGR 30048) AGM General Meeting – re-elected secretary
 November 24 -26: Attended the PSAC Women's Retreat in Calgary
 Nov 29 – Dec 3: PSAC Leadership Training – Ottawa
 Dec 5 - 6: Alberta Federation of Labour Executive and Council Meetings – Edmonton.
 December 7: Participate in the Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee Holiday Giving Project
 December 8: Lobbied Conservation MP Rachel Harder, constituency office

2018

January 15: Lethbridge and District Area Council regular meeting
 January 17: Area Council Conference Call – National Conference Call
 January 20: Members of the LDAC attended the Lethbridge Women's March On Event and Lethbridge Living Library
 January 25: Attended the Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee Meeting

In Solidary –

Krysty Munns
 PSAC Lethbridge and District Area Council President

Kristy Slattery
Southern Alberta Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

In the past few months I have been shifting my focus. Focusing on my new work location of Coutts and the fact I am the only steward and Union advocate and focusing on working with Sister Krysty Munns/Thomas on Lethbridge Area Council and Women's Committees.

Since my last report I was acclaimed CIU Local 30036 Alberta Young Worker's Rep and Lethbridge Area Council Vice President and Alternate to PSAC National Convention.

The following is a list of Courses and Event's I attended:

- July 7-8 attended PRC meeting. Selected to the Health and Safety Committee
- Health and Safety call out phone meeting Aug
- PRC Call
- CLC Meeting Lethbridge
- September 28- Oct 1 CIU National Convention Ottawa
- TUB course Sept 22-23
- Oct 17 Lethbridge Area Council Voted VP and 1st Alt to PSAC National
- Oct 17 Regional Women's Committee
- CIU Alberta re-elected me Young Workers Rep and Steward
- Nov 25 and 26 "A Women's Place is in her Unions" Retreat
- Nov 30 Dec 3 PSAC National Leadership Training
- Dec 7 Lethbridge RWC social and meeting (Chair of meeting)
- Jan 20 CIU Alberta Meeting
- Jan 25 RWC meeting and round table

As mentioned my focus has been trying to re-establish a positive image of PSAC and the Union within my workplace. Focusing on mobilization and engaging our new workers. I have a few who have signed up for upcoming training.

The RWC has been working on International Women's Day events. We are also looking to engage other women's groups of all ages within the community,

This concludes my report.

Michael Weisgerber
North-West Manitoba Geographical Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

It is my honour to serve on the Prairie Region Council representing the North-West Manitoba Geographical Area.

Since the last report I have attended several events and conducted several duties in my capacity as the Geographical Rep. One of the most substantial events was attending the PSAC National Leadership Training held in Ottawa which started on the last days of November and carried over into early December 2017. This training provided several tools to assist me in performing the duties as the Geo Rep during this current mandate.

Lobbying

While in Ottawa for the Leadership Training I was given the opportunity to participate in two lobbying sessions with Members of Parliament specifically on Phoenix issues. This provided the opportunity to speak to MP's on Phoenix pay issues that members are experiencing and discuss the current items PSAC has identified as measures the government needs to take to react to the Phoenix pay fiasco.

Outreach

During the last reporting period I have attended and supported events within the region as well as WestMan Area Council events. This included several events from working the PSAC booth at the Brandon and Area Labour Day Picnic to assisting Locals with elections. Another event that stands out to me is attending the Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil, this event was deeply moving and educational to myself. I continue to be available to all members and hope to be able to assist with issues as they arise.

Future

Looking forward unfortunately the one of the largest issues would be the Phoenix pay problems. With upcoming PSAC actions, events, and training on pay advocacy hopefully all members will continue to participate and we can push for some resolutions.

In Solidarity,
Michael Weisgerber

Pennie Young
Prince Albert Area Council Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

This is my first time being active with the area council. There is so much to learn but very interesting, and I'm greatly enjoying it. It has given me more of an understanding about our union and an appreciation for all the work so many people do.

Here is a brief history of what I have been doing in the 2017 term.

In July I attended the PRC meetings in Saskatoon Being new this was interesting and an eye opener for me not knowing what to expect so my learning began.

In July I participated in the teleconference meeting after some difficulty getting on.

In September I attended the teleconference meeting where lots of discussion took place and some hard decisions as well.

Due to some serious health issues I was unable to do much for nearly 2 months.

In December I attended my first training session in Ottawa this was very informative and the smaller group sessions were very helpful. I found it amazing how big are union really is and the degree of support and learning it takes to be involved. There is so much more to learn. I participated in a rally to show support while I was there and enjoyed it.

On December 11th I participated in a teleconference communications meeting there is lots that needs to be accomplished with communications and we've barely begun. The world is ever-changing as are the ways we need to be able to communicate.

During the new year I plan to become more involved and learn more and motivate others to become involved in the Union as well. I look forward to more meetings and training in the future.

My hat goes off to all those involved in the executive of this fine Union and all the work it takes to keep it going and growing. There is lots to learn and so many ways to help others and with solidarity we can achieve success.

Take Care

Pennie Young PSAC PRC Area Council Rep Prince Albert

Phillip Chan
Racially Visible Rep
Prairie Region Council February 2018

This will be a short report as I have not had a lot of activities since 2017 PSAC prairie region convention.

In June of the same year, I participated in an ice-cream event with the Calgary Area Council (CAC) at the Harry Hays Building in downtown Calgary. We provided free ice-cream bars to cool down members that were burnt by the Phoenix pay system. Furthermore, I had the privilege of being elected as the new chair of the Calgary Human Rights Committee (CHRC) – which I thank Brother Timothy Hunt for all his services to the committee over the past few years.

In September, I took part once more at the annual Calgary District Labour Council (CDLC) Labour Day BBQ at Olympic Plaza in downtown Calgary. I had the honour of being involved as a representative of both CAC and CHRC. Once again, it was a great event with large turn-out – in fact, we had the honour of Premier Notley attending our tent while taking a quick symbolic spin at our prize wheel.

I helped to organize the screening of Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLiFF) short films once again at the Calgary regional office in November. There were several films, and the AUPE (Alberta Union of Provincial Employees) 5-part series – Introduction to Workers' History – is worthwhile for everyone to take a look at.

I took part in the PSAC leadership training held in Ottawa in December. It is inspiring to see all the activists gathered in the same room – experts and newcomers alike. Hopefully this passion shall carry on, all the while ignites many other brothers and sisters after us.

Lastly, I regret to add this to the report. My term-employment with Statistics Canada came to an early end in 2017 – despite being employed as a term-employee for the past 5 years (and I soldier on with my union involvement through the gracious limited extension of my membership). During this difficult period, I had sufficient time to reorganize CHRC back into fine form – while making sure all the finances were all passed on neatly for both CAC and CHRC. Furthermore, I like to express my appreciation to all the brothers and sisters that have helped and involved with my union activism over the years. I do not know what the future shall hold, but I am both grateful and thankful of the education and opportunities that were provided to me by the union.

Respectively submitted (late) in solidarity,

Phillip Chan