



Public Service Alliance of Canada
Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada

Memorandum

Date: June 21, 2012
To: AEC
From: Robyn Benson
Re: Role of Alternate REVPs

Since regionalization, questions have occasionally been asked with regard to the role of Alternate REVPs. While past National Presidents have answered questions pertaining to Alternate REVP replacing an REVP at AEC and NBoD meetings, or at meetings and the like that flow from REVP's portfolio assignments –Alternates cannot –the situation is less clear in relation to other important REVP functions.

Regional By-Laws guide this to an extent, particularly where the Alternate is a member of a Regional Council by virtue of having been elected as an Alternate. As a general rule, it is preferable for an REVP to engage in as many REVP regional responsibilities and functions as is humanly possible, but there are times when it is equally appropriate for an Alternate to fill in for the REVP on occasion. In the past, it has been deemed appropriate to engage an Alternate REVP in activities because of language, gender, equity group affiliation and the like.

That said it is important that the REVP approve the assignment of the Alternate in advance. It is equally important that the Alternate understands that when he/she is asked to take the place of the REVP, the Alternate is representing the union, and speaking on its behalf, and not as an individual member. It is equally clear that, other than in exceptional circumstances, there is no national funding available for Alternates to engage in regional issues and functions on behalf of an REVP, and that exceptional circumstances must be pre-approved by my office.

Finally, I would point out that REVPs are constitutionally mandated to be the political voice of the PSAC in their respective regions and to chair both the Regional Council and regionally-determined bodies. These are important responsibilities that are not normally being delegated to an Alternate other than in exceptional circumstances.

In Solidarity,

Robyn Benson
National President



VIA EMAIL: janzf@psac-afpc.com

January 4, 2017

Frank Janz
Alternate REVP
Prairie Region Council
PSAC Prairie Region

Dear Brother Janz,

This will acknowledge and respond to your email query of December 23, 2016 wherein you requested the contact information of all Locals, DCLs and Separate Employers of the PSAC Prairie Region.

Sister Marianne Hladun, REVP – Prairie Region, made it very clear in her November 25, 2016 email to the Prairie Region Council (PRC), that the information you are requesting is subject to the PSAC Privacy Policy and is not to be used for any purpose other than PRC business.

Unlike PRC Geographical Representatives, the Alternate REVP does not have any direct responsibility or accountability to PSAC Prairie Region Locals, and as such, he or she has no inherent right to access local contact information. Having said that, in no way have you been denied the ability to communicate with Locals in the Prairie Region.

As Sister Hladun outlined to you in an email dated December 16, 2016 if you have "something position-related you wish to send out", she will facilitate its distribution. That provides you with the same access as Equity Group Representatives on the PRC and is, in my opinion, both fair and appropriate.

In solidarity,

Robyn Benson
National President

RB/cw

c.c. Marianne Hladun, REVP – Prairie Region