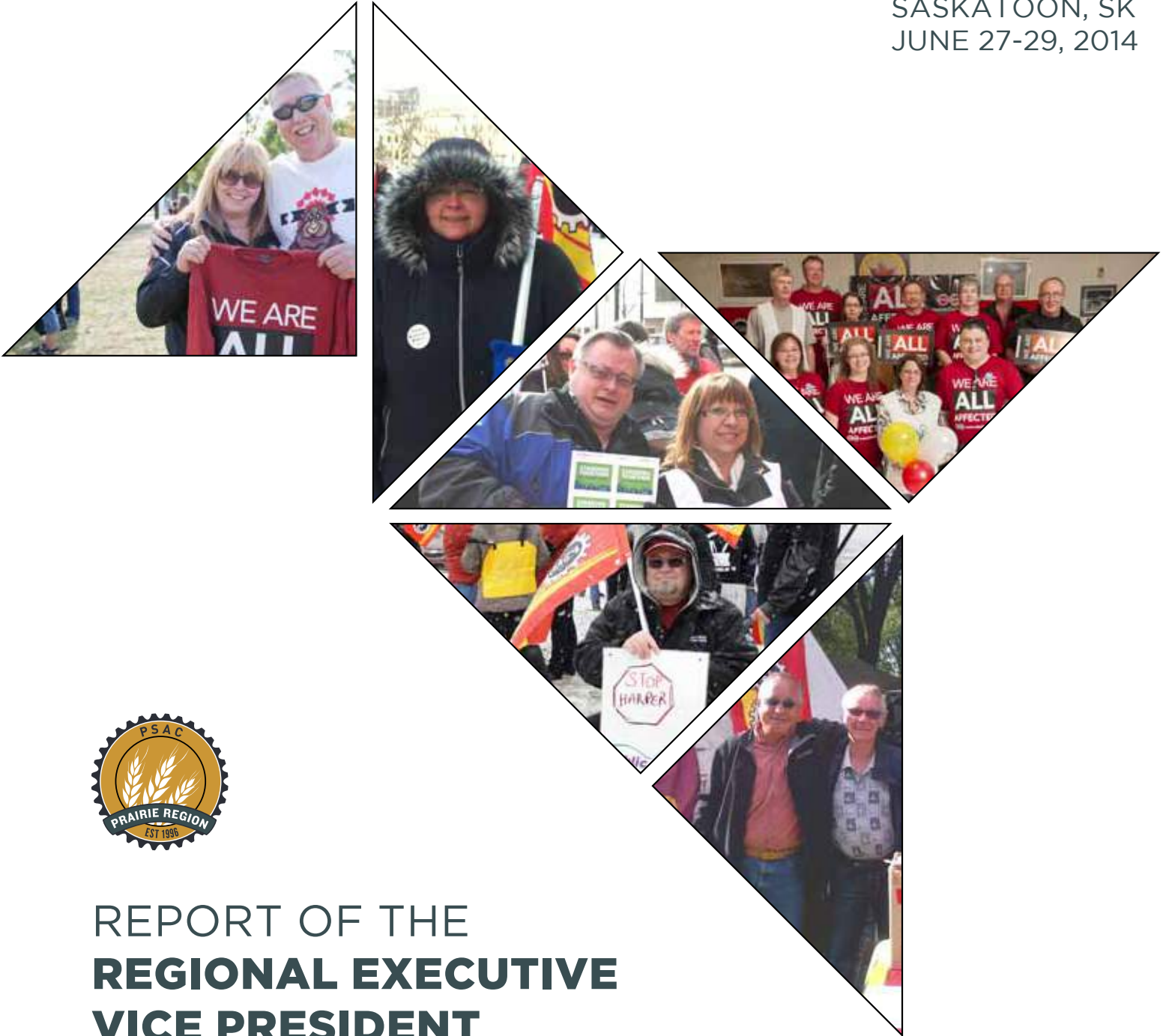


SASKATOON, SK
JUNE 27-29, 2014



REPORT OF THE **REGIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

TO THE 6TH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION
OF THE PSAC PRAIRIE REGION



MESSAGE FROM THE REVP

Anybody who has ever run for a position as alternate knows that you must be ready to step into that role at any moment, if and when you're called upon. It's part of what you sign up for. But even after holding the position of Alternate REVP for five years, I was still surprised at how quickly life changed when Sister Robyn Benson was elected National President and I was sworn in as Regional Executive Vice-President of the Prairie Region at the 2012 PSAC National Triennial Convention.

I was so proud to see Sister Benson, a friend and mentor on the PRC for years and a Prairie Sister through and through, ascend to the position of National President. We have been able to maintain the close working relationship that we had on the PRC on the AEC.

I was also proud to take on the role of REVP and excited to make it my own. It hasn't always been easy, especially moving from Saskatoon to Winnipeg to fulfill my duties as REVP. However, I have been happy to make new roots and forge new connections within the labour and activist community while continuing to build on my existing networks that I've made throughout my 20+ years as an active PSAC member and community activist.

Thank you to my colleagues on the Prairie Region Council for their ideas, enthusiasm and hard work over the past few years. It's been a challenging few years for everyone and our region would certainly not be as strong as it is without the leadership we have.

It's also important that I thank the Prairies regional staff for their hard work and assistance each and every day of year. As a member I talked to the staff in the regional offices and worked with them on a regular basis, but since working with staff as REVP, I now have a real appreciation for everything that goes on behind the scenes. Staff in this region are passionate about what they do, committed to the membership and it's been a pleasure to work side by side with them.

We are fortunate to have such strong leaders, activists and staff in this region because we're up against an anti-union, anti-democratic majority government under Stephen Harper's Conservatives. Never

before have we seen such a brutal attack on unions and a reckless dismantling of the public services we hold dear. And it's not slowing down any time soon.

Based on what we've seen at the bargaining table this year, PSAC members continue to be faced with a lot of employer-demanded concessions. Now, Treasury Board is going after sick leave for federal government employees and we know that if they're successful, it will trickle down into other bargaining units regulated by municipal or provincial governments or even private firms. This is not a precedent we want to set, which is why we're saying "no", emphatically, to any concessions in this round of bargaining.

PSAC members have been greatly affected by the ongoing cuts to federal public services and our mandate needs to be to change the federal government in 2015. It's the only way. And we need the help of each and every member to do it.

We've already come a long way with the work we've done to mobilize members and build capacity with our one-to-one campaign and recent multi-local meetings, to name just a few initiatives. But there's more work to do. Let's continue to build on the momentum and keep moving forward. Our priorities must be to defend collective agreements, defend public services and work towards the defeat of the Conservative government in the next federal election.

It's all hands on deck at this point. I look forward to working together with you to ensure a brighter future for our members, the labour movement, and all Canadians.

In Solidarity,



Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President, PSAC Prairies





PRAIRIES OVERVIEW

The Prairie Region is comprised of three provinces, five regional offices, 208 active locals and 21,325 members across 14 components and four directly chartered locals. Our region is diverse, our members are active, and our voices are loud.

But our membership has also changed quite a bit since the last Prairie Region Convention in June 2011. We've lost 3,021 members in the Prairies due to federal budget cuts and workforce adjustment (WFA), including 1,671 in Alberta, 495 in Saskatchewan and 855 in Manitoba. The hardest hit components were UNE with 793 fewer members (25 per cent) and Agriculture Union with 631 fewer members (27 per cent).

At the same time, we've gained new members in the Prairies with seven newly certified bargaining units, including three new directly chartered locals over the past few years. Our members are also more mobilized than ever because of the relentless attacks on their rights as union members, federal public workers, and Canadians.

MEMBER MOBILIZATION

In November 2011, we held leadership meetings across the region as part of our ongoing Prairies on Patrol fight back efforts. In total, we had leaders from 104 locals participate. These meetings were an opportunity to engage our leaders in a dialogue about how we can work together to effect change in our locals and in our communities, as well as ask for support of some very important campaigns.

Throughout Spring 2012, we held steward assemblies in each regional office. The three-hour sessions brought together stewards from various locals and components to share their experiences, discuss campaigns, network with others, and plan for future mobilization and fight back efforts.

As part of the National Board of Directors plan to protect our members against new threats to our collective agreement rights and in conjunction with daylong meetings across the country, five meetings were held in the Prairies in May 2013 to provide special training on how to organize our members to respond to the latest Conservative threats facing PSAC members. The meetings were

very well attended, with over 250 members (local leaders, national leaders, and regional council reps) participating.

Over the past few months we held multi-local meetings at nine locations throughout the region with a number of consecutive meetings in the larger centres. All members from all employers were invited to attend and provide feedback in the ongoing fight back and share ideas for what we can do together to combat concessions and cuts to public services.

NEW COMMITTEES

There are several new committees in the Prairies including the Westman Regional Women's Committee, the Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee and the Northern Saskatchewan Regional Aboriginal Peoples' Circle (RAPC).

The inaugural meeting of the Westman RWC, the seventh in the region, took place in February 2012. Meanwhile, the Northern Saskatchewan RAPC, the first of its kind in the Prairies, had their first meeting in January 2012. Committee members have been very active at worksites and in the community. In conjunction with the National Truth & Reconciliation Commission hearings in Saskatoon, RAPC members planned a round dance with approximately 300 people in attendance throughout the evening. They have since held several events and fundraisers.

The Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee held their founding meeting in April 2013. The new committee had a strong group of Sisters right out of the gate who are enthusiastic, inspired and ready to take action. The committee is working diligently to promote women's issues in the Lethbridge area.

All Committees and Area Councils in the Prairie Region are very busy and this report is just a sample of some of the great work they're doing. I know I speak for all of our members when I say thank you to for your dedication and activism and the many hours you volunteer to give back. For a more detailed overview of the work of Area Councils and Committees visit www.psic.com/prairies. If you're interested in joining a Committee or Area Council please contact your regional office.



REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Prairie Region Council consists of the Regional Executive Vice-President, Alternate REVP and 22 PRC Representatives, including: Northern Alberta Geographical; Southern Alberta Geographical; Northern Saskatchewan Geographical; Southern Saskatchewan Geographical; South-East Manitoba Geographical; North-West Manitoba Geographical; Regional Women's Committees (RWC); Aboriginal Peoples; Persons With Disabilities (PWD); Racially Visible Persons; Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (GLBT) Persons; Directly Chartered Locals (DCL); Young Workers; Separate Employers; Edmonton Area Council; Calgary Area Council; Lethbridge Area Council; Prince Albert Area Council; Saskatoon Area Council; Regina Area Council; Winnipeg Area Council; Westman Area Council.

To assist PRC reps in their work, the PRC Bylaws Committee developed a PRC Handbook, in consultation with the Prairie Region Council and Prairies staff. The handbook is meant to help members understand what the PRC does and to define roles and responsibilities for the reps. The PRC also provided feedback on the new committee funding and reporting procedures for the 21 Area Councils, Human Rights Committees (including RAPC) and Regional Women's Committees in the region. Implemented in 2013, the procedures allow for a consistent approach to reporting necessary to be efficient, transparent and accountable for funds received from PSAC regionally and nationally.

With our region's leadership spread out across three provinces, it's critical that our communication lines are open and effective. That's why I implemented monthly PRC update calls, effective November 2012, to ensure PRC reps have all the information they need to fulfill their duties. Our monthly calls have been very helpful to pass on information and updates as they happen. We've also been forwarding reps daily media scans with links to media articles regarding PSAC, the federal government, and labour movement.

Additionally, I've held several conference calls with component national officers in the Prairies as a way to facilitate dialogue between components regionally and ensure they have the regional resources and support they need. In April 2013, the Prairie Region Council met with 23 of 34 national officers in the Prairie Region to identify priorities within the region and to discuss issues and activities where we could work together.

REPRESENTATIVE	POSITION
Marianne Hladun	Regional Executive Vice-President
Satinder Bains	Southern Saskatchewan Geographical
Imy Bhatti	Racially Visible
Shaun Brennand	Regina Area Council
Dave Burchell	Persons With Disabilities (PWD)
Denni Ernst	Northern Saskatchewan Geographical
David Fandrich	Southern Alberta Geographical
Deborah Wiens	Alternate REVP
Alec Goertzen	Calgary Area Council
Tim Hogan	Prince Albert Area Council
Timothy Hunt	Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender (GLBT)
Nancy Johnson	Regional Women's Committees (RWC)
Glen Johnston	Northwest Manitoba Geographical
Chad Kemery	Separate Employers
Darlene Lewis	Edmonton Area Council
Gus Mardli	Southeast Manitoba Geographical
Jackie Nettleton	Saskatoon Area Council
Susan Norman	Westman Area Council
David Pearson	Lethbridge Area Council
Gary Sparvier	Aboriginal Peoples
Matt Tijani	Winnipeg Area Council
Vacant	Northern Alberta Geographical
Vacant	Young Workers
Vacant	Directly Chartered Locals (DCL)

Since the 2011 Prairie Region Convention, there have been several changes to the Prairie Region Council. Former PRC members from this cycle are: Jennifer Borean, Fran Mohr, Kevin King, Gloria Kelly, Amanda-Rose Bourget, Nina Kiviluoma, Steve Van Opstal, Clint Wirth, Keith Gauthier, Jerad Cooper, Petrina Runns and Alex George.

In accordance with Prairie Region By-Laws, Section 11, Sub-Section (6)(b), PRC Area Council Reps and their alternates are elected at Area Council meetings. As such, the following individuals will be sworn in at the Prairie Region Convention: Matt Tijani (Winnipeg), Susan Norman (Westman), Jackie Nettleton (Saskatoon), Tim Hogan (Prince Albert), SatinderBains (Regina), Ben Lemon (Edmonton), Alec Goertzen (Calgary), Greg Krokosh (Lethbridge).



In the March 2012 budget, then Finance Minister Jim Flaherty announced \$5.2 billion in federal departmental spending cuts, including cutting more than 19,200 jobs. These job cuts were on top of the 16,000 jobs cuts from earlier spending reviews. As of February 5, 2014, 22,800 of our members in 60 departments had received notices saying they could lose their jobs, including 2,779 in the Prairie Region.

Despite Conservative rhetoric, front-line services have been severely impacted by the cuts. Service Canada and services that Canadians depend on, like EI and OAS, is just one example of this. EI Processing and the EI Call Centre are being removed from Manitoba as EI recipients continue to see a backlog. Meanwhile, the department has yet to address the state of the OAS and Supplement area, where thousands of outstanding applications sit waiting.

In January 2012, we launched a transit advertising campaign with CEIU to shed light on these service cuts with upwards of 30 Winnipeg Transit buses informing the public about the current state of their EI processing and asking them to take action. We replicated this campaign in Saskatchewan in July 2012.

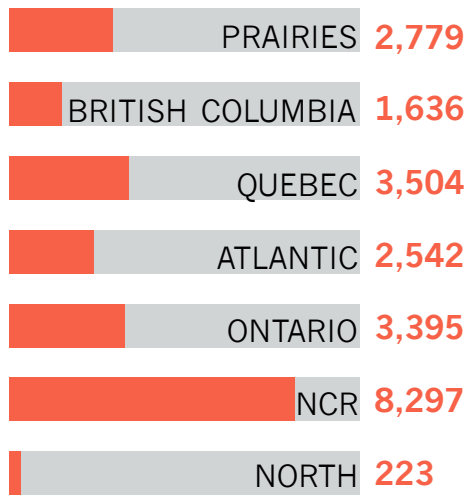
Also that month, Treasury Board President Tony Clement made an appearance in Brandon, Manitoba where PSAC members handed him and Merv Tweed, former Conservative MP for Brandon-Souris, their affected letters. Members also discussed their concerns regarding EI services leaving Manitoba and the issue of closing the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) in Saskatchewan.

The PFRA was just one area within Agriculture that was hit hard in the Prairies, the same region that Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture, hails from. I'm very concerned with the attack on agriculture in Canada. They're wiping out programs and services and devastating small communities from Indian Head, to Morden, to Brandon. Affected programs have included the shuttering of the Beef Cattle Program at the Brandon Research and Development Centre, the closure of the Cereal Research Centre in Winnipeg, as

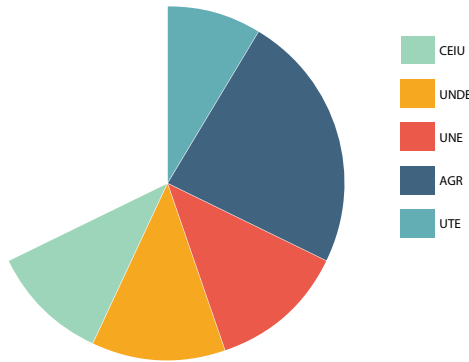
well as the termination of the Prairie Shelterbelt Program and the Community Pasture Program.

Other areas affected by the cuts included criminal investigations and intelligence at Canada Border Services Agency, client service agents working for Veterans Affairs Canada and Canada Revenue Agency, as well as hundreds of employees at Parks Canada, Department of National Defence, Resources and Skills Development Canada and more.

We were also active in the fight back against the government's decision to stop grooming ski trails in a handful of national parks across the country, including Saskatchewan's Prince Albert National Park, Manitoba's Riding Mountain National Park, and Alberta's Elk Island National Park.



Workforce adjustment notices issued up to February 5, 2014 by region. The national total to date is 22,800 notices in 60 departments.



The top five most affected components within the Prairies: Agriculture (654), UNDE (338), CEIU (296), UNE (348), UTE (243). Numbers are not exact and may have changed.



PETITION TO TONY CLEMENT

In July 2011, we launched a national petition addressed to Treasury Board President Tony Clement, a key part of our fight back campaign against cuts to federal public services. The petition called on Clement to reverse plans to cut jobs, and to maintain and improve federal public services to all Canadians. Locals across the country made a concerted effort to collect signatures and we collected thousands right here in the Prairies.

CFIB FIGHT BACK

In the fall of 2011 PSAC launched a national campaign against the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) and their attacks on public service workers. Members spoke with independent businesses in their community and worked hard to dispel the myths being spread by former CFIB President Catherine Swift and promote the benefits of strong public services.

THIRD CHOICE

The Third Choice national public engagement campaign was launched in December 2011. The five films depicted the attack on services such as maternity benefits, meat inspection, search and rescue, fish inspection, and labs. The videos collectively accumulated over 430,000 views on YouTube and the Facebook page attracted more than 15,000 visitors. Though member feedback was mixed, the campaign was an overall success. Prairies members used the promotional materials to promote the campaign and engaged in the online community. The Third Choice Campaign finished prior to PSAC National Triennial Convention in May 2012.

WE ARE ALL AFFECTED

PSAC's national We Are All Affected campaign was launched in June 2012 and was designed to show that we are ALL affected by the cuts to federal services and jobs. Members have attended events and activities armed with materials and information about

how we are all affected, in our communities, workplaces and families, by the federal government cuts. This campaign is ongoing and will remain the underlying theme leading up to the next federal election in 2015.

Agriculture Local 30048 in Lethbridge, banded together to promote the campaign in September 2012 by tracking spending in their community to demonstrate how PSAC members contribute to the local economy. After compiling the data, they took out an ad in the Lethbridge Herald. They followed up on the ad by distributing flyers in the community, contacting city councilors and local businesses, and writing letters to the editor. The inventive idea caught on and was replicated by several locals in other regions.

STEPHEN HARPER HATES ME

The relentless attacks on vital public services prompted the “Stephen Harper Hates Me” buttons, a member-initiated action. The buttons were distributed in the summer of 2012 and echoed the frustration and anger our members and the public felt toward the policies implemented by this government. The buttons were an unbelievable hit among members and the general public. Members were often giving away their buttons in public to people who notice them and asked for more information.

PURPLE RIBBONS

On October 25, 2012, members of the federal NDP caucus wore a purple ribbon in solidarity with public sector workers affected by cuts to jobs and public services. The idea came from a PSAC/UEW member in Québec. Inspired by the “red square” symbol of the student movement in Québec, he started encouraging members in his local to wear a purple ribbon when the affected letters started pouring in. Prairies members embraced the idea wholeheartedly. Members of the Saskatoon RWC got together to make over 600 ribbons for distribution to locals.



DON'T SELL OUR HOT SPRINGS

In conjunction with the Union of National Employees, we launched the “Don’t Sell Our Hot Springs” campaign in December 2012. The purpose of the campaign was to denounce the privatization of the Banff Upper Hot Springs, Miette Hot Springs in Jasper National Park, and Radium Hot Springs in B.C. Members in the affected areas promoted the campaign by visiting local businesses and distributing postcards and posters throughout the community. We also hosted two community town hall meetings to give community members an opportunity to share their thoughts about the privatization of one of Canada’s most valuable natural treasures.

This campaign gave us the opportunity to have great discussions with First Nations communities in the Calgary area, as well as the Akisqnuq First Nation (Columbia Valley, southeast BC) and the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (Kamloops, BC). Parks Canada has since decided to hold off on their plans for privatization until the consultations with First Nations communities are complete. Though they tout this as gesture of good faith, they only entered into discussion after we put the pressure on them to consult with First Nations. We were also successful in preventing the employers attempt to privatize both janitorial and groundskeeper staff.

PROTECT THE PRAIRIE

Around the same time the Agriculture Union launched the “Protect the Prairie” campaign to oppose the elimination of the Shelter Belt program and PFRA pastures program. Since this is an issue that has a direct impact in the Prairie Region, we were very involved in this campaign. Agriculture members collected more than 12,000 signatures on a petition in Saskatchewan.

IDLE NO MORE

In February 2013, we developed Idle No More buttons to distribute throughout the Prairie Region. William Singer III, a First Nations artist and activist who has been instrumental to the movement in Lethbridge and surrounding areas, devised the button’s original artwork. The buttons were handed out to community groups and allies involved in the movement.

ONE-TO-ONE CONVERSATIONS

PSAC's One-to-One campaign was launched in May 2013 and is an ongoing effort to reconnect with members face-to-face and establish relationships. This initiative is crucial to getting members involved and interested in their union, and also to ensuring contact information is up to date for future mobilization efforts. Many Prairies locals have been innovative in getting the cards signed.

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

The campaign to prevent the closure of Veterans Affairs offices across Canada was launched in October 2013 and was an issue that members and Canadians alike embraced. We are proud to support veterans and PSAC members working for Veterans Affairs Canada. To mark the closures of Veterans Affairs offices in eight communities, including in Brandon and Saskatoon, demonstrations and other events were held.

Despite the bitter cold, more than 50 people gathered outside the Veterans Affairs Canada office in Brandon to witness the closure of the office and the loss of face-to-face services to veterans. Veterans also took the opportunity to go into the Veterans Affairs Office to give flowers to the staff in appreciation for the work they do to support veterans. In Saskatoon, veterans gathered for a press conference organized by PSAC. Every media outlet in the city attended and spoke to veterans about their experiences. PSAC members in Lethbridge, along with CUPW and the Lethbridge District Labour Council, also organized a rally and march in solidarity with the veterans. Lethbridge wasn't one of the communities affected, but members recognized the importance of raising awareness of the issue since we are all affected by the loss of public services.

We also ran a series of advertisements in community newspapers and an extensive transit shelter campaign throughout February, following the closures. The campaign was extended by the advertising agency pro bono until the end of August. The ads shed light on the irresponsible cuts and called on Harper to reverse the decision and provide veterans with the services they deserve.



ELECTIONS

A month prior to our last Regional Convention the Conservatives won a majority in the federal election on May 2, 2011. Since then, various elections have been held on a provincial and municipal level.

Two of the provinces in the Prairie region had provincial elections in the fall of 2011, Manitoba (October 4) and Saskatchewan (November 7), and our Area Councils in those provinces were busy encouraging members to get out and vote for labour friendly candidates. Area Councils targeted 4,300 PSAC members in Manitoba and 3,000 in Saskatchewan with information on the MFL's "Working Families" campaign and SFL's "Labour Issues" campaign asking members to think about public services and building better communities when casting their vote. We also hosted a telephone town hall for the Manitoba election as a way to allow members to learn about election issues. We had previously done this for the federal election and it was such a success we decided emulate it for the provincial election.

In Alberta, PSAC members mobilized around the April 23, 2012 provincial election to ensure the Wildrose Party wasn't elected. Letters and pamphlets were mailed out encouraging members to vote. A number of members also participated in phone banks to call members in targeted ridings and volunteered on candidate campaigns. In two of the three ridings, the NDP candidates were successful in unseating the Progressive Conservative incumbents.

Municipal elections were also held in Saskatchewan on October 24, 2012 and in Alberta on October 21, 2013. The Lethbridge Area Council participated in the CLC's Municipalities Matter campaign by encouraging members to vote and providing them with information about the differences between the candidates on issues for working families. Meanwhile, the Regina Area Council held the government accountable on a municipal level, as Regina City Council planned to privatize the operation of Regina's wastewater treatment facility.

The Winnipeg Area Council and Westman Area Council also participated in the by-elections for the Manitoba ridings of Provencher and Brandon-Souris on November 25, 2013 by preparing a mail out to PSAC members encouraging them to vote, along with an information sheet on Bill C-4. I'm certain members will mobilize around the two upcoming federal by-elections on June 30 and take similar actions in the Alberta ridings of Fort McMurray-Athabasca and Macleod.

SASKATCHEWAN PARTY

Even outside of election periods, our members are constantly fighting back against anti-labour governments and regressive policies at every level of government. In Saskatchewan, for example, Brad Wall and the Saskatchewan Party have done serious damage to labour rights in the province. The scariest part is that he continues to get re-elected and remains one of the most popular Premiers in the country.

In response to the Saskatchewan Party's public consultation paper proposing a comprehensive review of the current provincial labour legislation in Saskatchewan, the PSAC Prairie Region submitted a position paper stating the "consultation" process was constitutionally deficient and that the entire process failed to comply with Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In total, the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety received more than 3,700 submissions.

In February 2014, the Saskatchewan Party government was forced to disclose that they were in discussions with the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority to sell Casino Regina and Casino Moose Jaw, which are currently provincial Crown Corporations. Since PSAC represents more than 400 members at Casino Regina, I attended a meeting with NDP Leader Cam Broten and several PSAC members from the local executive to provide information and feedback. Several weeks later, the same delegation met with Minister of Labour Don Morgan who advised that the sale is no longer on the table. We will continue to monitor this issue as it could potentially re-surface in a hurry or come up during the next provincial election.



NATIONAL DAYS OF ACTION

As a way to bring together all parts of the PSAC—Components and their Locals, Directly Chartered Locals, Area Councils, Regional Committees, and Regional Councils—we held two national days of action.

PSAC members at more than 20 workplaces throughout the Prairies took to the streets over the noon hour on March 1, 2012 in protest of the Conservative government’s austerity agenda. Members were very receptive to this action and we were happy to see many new faces take action. The “Standing Together” flags and stickers made their way back to work sites to go up on union bulletin boards and desks.

On September 15, 2012, PSAC Prairies members in eight different cities held events and actions. The events ranged from a pancake breakfast, to a BBQ, to a rally in the park. These events were successful because members took time to coordinate these actions in their areas and brought their friends and families out to support. They proudly wore their “Harper Hates Me” buttons and “We Are All Affected” t-shirts to send a message that “enough is enough!”

In the summer between the two national days of action, members in Coutts, Alberta, started the “I Support My Bargaining Team” green shoelace initiative for the FB bargaining team, which was implemented across the country. In the original Coutts workplace action, 22 of 25 Border Services Officers wore their green shoelaces proudly, along with “Security OUR Priority” stickers. In a workplace that typically faces intimidation from management, almost all members came together for this action. It significantly improved the morale and overall sense of solidarity in the workplace.

BOYCOTT NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK

PSAC’s National Board of Directors has unanimously supported a boycott of National Public Service Week for the third year in a row. Started in 2012 as a protest of the reckless cuts to public services, the boycott continues this year in light of looming attacks

on the sick leave and benefits our members rely on. We have the utmost respect for our members and the work they do, and for public service workers of all stripes. That's why it's especially important that we do not participate in these events, which claim to "honour" public service workers while simultaneously slashing jobs and forcing us into bargaining.

BILL C-377/BILL C-525

As if Harper's abuse of back-to-work legislation over the past several years wasn't enough, his government then snuck through Bill C-377. Disguised as a "private member's bill", the government stifled debate in the House and quickly passed it through third reading. Bill C-377 is unnecessary, bureaucratic red tape that will be very expensive for government to administer, will intrude on individual privacy and is unconstitutional. Its only purpose is to force unions to disclose financial information in an effort to control how and where we allocate our resources.

Bill C-525 followed a similar legislative process and was introduced as a "private member's bill". The legislation would change the rules that apply when workers decide whether or not to have a union in their workplace. Under the current laws, if a majority of employees sign union cards their union can be certified. The bill would impose a forced vote even when a majority has clearly shown they want a union. PSAC will continue to work with MPs and Senators to stop this damaging and unnecessary legislation.

CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION RALLY

On November 2, 2013, we organized a rally, working with various community groups and unions, outside the Conservative Party of Canada Policy Convention in Calgary. More than 20 cm of snow didn't stop hundreds of devoted activists and concerned Canadians from protesting the Convention and the Conservative's impaired judgment and reckless policies. Sister Benson joined us to give the Conservatives a piece of her mind and rouse rally-goers. While in Calgary, convention delegates debated and passed policy resolutions to support "right to work" legislation and severely limit how unions can spend members' dues.



LOCAL INITIATIVES

The Winnipeg Area Council continues their partnership with the McGregor Community Care Site under the Social Justice Fund initiative to support activities that promote participation in safe, structured activities for youth. The Winnipeg AC was allotted additional monies in 2012 to work with the Friends Housing Inc., a non-profit housing development for adults with chronic mental illness. Meanwhile, the Westman AC Social Justice Fund work has focused on the ever-growing challenge of homelessness and poverty in Brandon and Dauphin.

Since the Social Justice Fund developed the literacy program in 2005, the Prairies Region has been an important partner in the program by working with the Core Neighbourhood Youth Coop in Saskatoon to ensure that literacy skills not only directly benefit workers and their local communities, but help to ensure that the assistance provided will have a real impact in tackling poverty and generate lasting economic development.

Calgary's GlobalFest is an arts and culture festival that celebrates and showcases cultural diversity and artistic excellence. PSAC sponsors the event annually with monies from the Social Justice Fund and members from Calgary's HRC, AC and RWC and their families volunteer at the event. Additionally, at the request of the Calgary Human Rights Committee, the Social Justice Fund provided \$2,500 to Amnesty International to protect the rights of LGBT activists in Russia.

In May 2014 the Social Justice Fund matched the \$2,500 funding provided by the Sole Sisters, a team of union sisters led by the PSAC Calgary Women's Committee to raise money and awareness of the Basic Needs Programs for the Women's Centre of Calgary.

SOUTHERN ALBERTA FLOOD

In June 2013 Banff, Canmore, Calgary and much of Southern Alberta faced devastating flooding and evacuations. PSAC has more than 4,300 members living in Southern Alberta. More than

half work right in the downtown core, which was completely shut down for an extended period of time, including the Harry Hayes Federal Building.

We teamed up with PSAC's Social Justice Fund to establish the Alberta Solidarity Fund. An appeal to Components, Regional Offices, Area Councils, Committees and Locals across the country raised \$22,800. The solidarity funds were distributed to community partners providing support to the most vulnerable communities, including Stoney Nakoda and Siksika First Nations Food Banks; the Women's Centre of Calgary; the Rowan House Emergency Shelter for women and children; the Foothills Foundation Seniors Lodge in High Rivers; the Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre; and the Mustard Seed Mission.

Additionally, members from PSAC Local 30048 assisted with a flood relief concert in Lethbridge by supplying the volunteers for the event. The event raised \$8,740 with more than 250 people in attendance. Several volunteer days were also organized, which I was proud to be a part of. In Calgary, members volunteered at the Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre. In High River and the Siksika First Nation, members helped with cleanup efforts to rebuild communities and repair damages to houses and personal property.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

PSAC young worker Rachel Albiez (CEIU Local 30858) participated in PSAC's Social Justice Fund Young Workers Delegation to Central America in December 2011. Sister Albiez saw first hand the beneficial outcomes of union international solidarity and social justice programs. She walked away from the trip with a deeper understanding that labour and human rights need to be defended and fought for.

Michael Shields (Agriculture 30048) had the opportunity to participate in a PSAC Social Justice Fund trip in February 2012 with four other members from the North and NCR. These young workers learned about the struggles for change in Guatemala. They met with various social justice organizations doing important work



SOCIAL JUSTICE

and received several presentations on the past and current political situation in Guatemala. They also spent some time helping on the building site of a sustainable house.

In November 2013, Armando Perla (UNE 50773) was selected to participate in the PSAC Social Justice Fund observatory mission to Honduras to offer protection to civil society organizations during the presidential elections. The mission was coordinated by Common Frontiers Canada and travelled to various parts of the country to meet with communities and groups impacted by Canadian investment in mining, maquiladoras and the mega tourism sector.

In March 2014 PSAC members participated in another Social Justice Fund delegation to Guatemala. They supported the efforts of grassroots organizations to improve livelihoods of locals through initiatives based on social justice and fair trade. Jen Botincan (UNDE 50705) was selected to participate in this opportunity. Participants worked together to build schools and community centres.



INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY

The Winnipeg RWC has been running the annual “Pennies for Pencils” school supplies drive for almost a decade. Locals participate by collecting change to purchase school supplies to donate to inner city schools in need and fund inner city school lunch programs. Regina locals contribute to a similar annual campaign organized by the Regina RWC and HRC in conjunction with Ranch Erhlo Society that assists families with getting their children ready for another school year.

The Saskatoon RWC organizes an annual drive to collect items including new blankets and pillows. They donate toiletries, as well as baby bottles and baby food, to the YWCA Women’s Shelter, AIDS Saskatoon, Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre (EGADZ), and the Saskatoon Interval House. Sisters in Winnipeg also put together packages of toiletries collected and donated by PSAC members and staff on their travels throughout the year for donation to local charities.

The Lethbridge Area Council participates in an annual garden project, which produces more than 2,000 pounds of food per year. The food, valued at over of \$4,000, is then donated to the Lethbridge Interfaith Food Bank. Recently, members in Lethbridge were also active in the expansion of the Interfaith Food Bank. The beautiful, new “Teaching Garden” will be used to teach members of the community to grow their own food and is complete with a patio, raised flowerbeds, an underground sprinkler system and children’s area. PSAC Prairie Region has sponsored one of the raised, accessible flowerbeds.

The Calgary Area Council initiated the Work Sock Project prior to the 2012 holiday season with donations benefiting the Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre. The Area Council put a call out to Locals for socks of all shapes and sizes, then stuffed them with soap, shampoo, mitts, toques, and sweets. Area Council members handed over two boxes of approximately 50 stuffed socks to the shelter, with an additional 30 pairs of socks to stock for future distribution.



CONFERENCES

In the fall of 2011 more than 100 delegates from every part of the country came together in Yellowknife for the National Aboriginal Peoples' Conference including 19 from the Prairies.

The 16th National Triennial Convention of the PSAC was held April 2012 in Ottawa bringing together 524 members from coast to coast to coast, including 78 from the Prairies. Delegates elected a new Executive Office, including Sister Robyn Benson as PSAC National President, and participated in an anti-austerity rally.

The Prairie Region Health and Safety Conference was held November 2012 in Edmonton. Important health and safety issues such as bullying, violence in the workplace, disability management and mental health in the workplace were covered. Delegates reaffirmed their commitment to health and safety and strategized on how we can improve working conditions for our members and all workers.

Nearly 1,500 enthusiastic labour activists attended the inaugural CLC Political Action Conference in Toronto in March 2013. Representatives from every one of the CLC's 54 affiliates attended over 40 different workshops aimed at shaping political activists into political organizers. The three Prairies delegates used the opportunity to network with other activists and learn new strategies to take home.

Fifty-five Prairies delegates attended the National Health & Safety Conference in Montreal in April 2013, and dozens more applied to attend. The immense interest in the conference proves health and safety is a major concern for members in this region. During the Prairie Region caucus delegates discussed what they wanted to see from PRC Health & Safety Committee and the region as a whole with regards to education and initiatives. It was a good opportunity to discuss with activists from the region.

In May 2013, we welcomed over 60 Sisters to Banff for the PSAC Prairies Regional Women's Conference. The conference theme, "Telling Our Stories", encouraged conference delegates to share knowledge and experiences in an effort to move forward together and advance women's issues. The group was diverse with a wide range of skills and experiences.

Nearly 600 participants, including almost 80 from the Prairie Region, attended the PSAC National Equity Conferences in Toronto in November 2013. Delegates made a commitment to political action in the fight for human rights and to preserve the right to fair collective bargaining.

Unfortunately, due to low registration, we postponed the Prairies Separate Employer/DCL Conference “Building a Better Union!” set to be held October 2012. This would have been our second conference of this nature, specifically designed for representatives of our members who work for separate employers and DCL’s in the Prairie Region. We have now rescheduled this conference for September 2014.



EDUCATION

We held the last of three NAPC courses for our Aboriginal, Inuit and Metis members in Winnipeg in June 2011. These courses, held in all three provinces and facilitated by the Prairies NAPC Reps with PSAC staff, were well received and are just one of our strategies for building bridges between union and Aboriginal cultures. This training encouraged members in the Prince Albert area to establish the Northern Saskatchewan Regional Aboriginal Peoples' Circle (RAPC). We will continue to offer this important course as part of the 2013-2015 Prairies Educational Plan.

The Prairie Region also hosted the pilot "Women at Work" course during the week of International Women's Day, March 2012. Participants learned about women in the labour and social justice movements, and strategized about how to address the challenges faced by working women in Canada and around the world. This course is now available to PSAC Sisters across the country under its new name "Unions Work for Women".

We had significant interest in this course and received over 70 applications, but only had space for 18 participants. As a result of the interest in this course, we developed a new one-day course, "A Woman's Place Is In Her Union", held in four regional offices later in the year. Participants learned a lot about the "herstory" of women in labour and the workplace, and in PSAC specifically, as well as the challenges women continue to face and their struggles to achieve equality.

"Unionism on Turtle Island" was held in Winnipeg in September 2012. The course brought together 17 PSAC members of varying age groups and experience levels from across the Prairie Region. The focus was Indigenous issues, including the history of oppression and resistance, Aboriginal issues at the bargaining table, creating a representative workforce, and opening the union to Aboriginal activists.

In October 2013, dozens of young workers attended a series of meetings aimed at bringing young workers together to strategize on the establishment of young workers committees. Young workers who attended the six meetings throughout the Prairies were

enthusiastic and interested in getting involved, and identified a need for education geared towards young workers. To build on the discussions and plans we're holding the Prairies Young Workers Conference in September 2014.

The 2013-15 PSAC Prairies Regional Education Plan has been completed after much consultation with members through a membership survey, town hall meetings and conference calls. The plan is designed to help us schedule events that meet members' needs on specific topics and skills, at a variety of times and locations, and using a variety of tools and methods. We also believe this plan will be flexible enough to adapt to emerging issues.

We are coming to the end of our three-year pilot project for Prairies Alliance Facilitators. This intensive program included a six-day training course followed by three assignments in facilitation and course design that members were required to complete to become certified Alliance Facilitators. We are pleased to acknowledge the alumni of the program Sisters Sandra Ahenakew, Teresa Eschuk and Nancy Johnson, and to congratulate the newest graduates Sister Maria Fitzpatrick and Brother Alec Goertzen. I was also fortunate enough to participate in this phenomenal program before becoming REVP.

As part of the Regional Education plan, we offered our first Aboriginal Awareness course in April 2013. The new course was co-facilitated by two members from the Northern Saskatchewan Regional Aboriginal Peoples' Circle (RAPC). Other new courses offered include a 1.5 day course on Canadian Labour History and "Health and Safety at PSAC Workplaces", a course which encourages all members to know and exercise their rights to build healthy and safe workplaces. Future initiatives under the 2013-2015 Regional Education Plan include Regional Activists Schools, and Mini Union Schools for Area Councils, Regional Committees and Locals.



20%

During the last education cycle (2010-2012) there was an increased membership involvement in the regional education program by almost 20%.



Six union activists have successfully completed the Prairies Alliance Facilitators Certification.

1200

Since the new Prairies website launched in September 2011, we've received over 1,200 online course applications.



The Prairie Region Council Education Committee 2011-2014:

**David Fandrich
Shaun Brennand
Tim Hogan
Judy Shannon**

ORGANIZING

Over the past few years we have welcomed hundreds of new members to our union. The momentum started to build leading up to the 2011 Prairies Convention with the certification of 150 employees at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and 400 at the University of Winnipeg, and only increased from there.

The Manitoba Labour Board certified PSAC as the bargaining agent for a group of about 30 English Language Program instructors employed at the University of Winnipeg in December 2011 and another 200 research assistants, senior research assistants and research associates employed at the University of Winnipeg in May 2012. The new bargaining units are part of the existing PSAC Directly Chartered Local 55600 at the University of Winnipeg, which already comprises about 400 teaching assistants, lab demonstrators, markers and tutors, certified April 2011.

Employees working for the Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development (CAHRD) have also joined the PSAC. The Manitoba Labour Board certified the unit on in September 2012. The more than 100 workers, ranging from employment counselors to childcare workers and teachers, join the nearly 20 other First Nations employers and bargaining units represented by PSAC.

In October 2012, the Manitoba Labour Board certified PSAC as the bargaining agent for all research assistants and student assistants employed at Brandon University. Local 55601 comprises nearly 400 members employed annually by the university.

Additionally, we organized four members who work in fuel distribution at the Churchill Marine Tank Farm, a subdivision of OmniTRAX and 35 members who work as Protective Services Officers at the Winnipeg Royal Canadian Mint facility.



Health and safety is a major area of interest for our members, and rightfully so. With rates of mental illness and mental health related compensation claims increasing at staggering rates, it's never been more important to understand health and safety rights to ensure protection on the job.

However, this requires committees and reps to know their authority and exercise it before an incident occurs. It's also helpful when committees can resolve an issue at the earliest stage possible, before it becomes a larger problem and more difficult to resolve. Health and safety means prevention, education, and awareness, and these are three areas we've paid special attention to over the past three years in our health and safety activities.

ASBESTOS AWARENESS

The PSAC Prairie Region was a partner in the campaign to create a mandatory registry of public buildings containing asbestos in Saskatchewan, a campaign led by the Saskatchewan Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (SADAO). On April 17, 2013 PSAC was one of only four groups invited to present as a witness to the Saskatchewan Human Services Committee as they debated Bill 604.

On April 18, 2013, I was honored to be in the gallery of the Saskatchewan Legislature to see our efforts pay off. Saskatchewan MLA's unanimously voted to make reporting of asbestos in public buildings mandatory by law. The legislation to amend the Public Health Act was aptly renamed "Howard's Law" in honour of our friend Howard Willems.

Brother Howard, a long-time PSAC member and activist, was diagnosed with mesothelioma (an asbestos related cancer of the lungs) and lead the fight for safe workplaces and the banning of asbestos exportation in Canada with SADAO. Howard died in November 2012, but his fight for a public asbestos registry carried on and the public attention intensified, resulting in this historic win.

Now that this unprecedented legislation has passed, advocacy groups can pursue similar legislation in provinces across the country and talk to government officials about the importance of asbestos awareness. This is an issue that affects all PSAC members working in federal buildings, as many of our members work in federal buildings that may contain asbestos and don't even know it. That's why PSAC plans to advocate for a public inventory of buildings with asbestos that are federally regulated.

BILL C-4

Bill C-4 was the omnibus budget implementation bill that was introduced in October 2013. It makes radical changes to federal labour law and, for the first time ever, makes major changes to labour relations law without warning or consultations with unions. The legislation is all about taking away our rights and affects everything from arbitration and essential services.

One of the most frightening parts about this legislation is that it removes health and safety protections, including changing the definition of "danger" in the Canada Labour Code. Workers in federal jurisdiction, including federal public service workers, will no longer be able to defend themselves from work that poses potential danger or damage in the future because the risk must be imminent. The authority and powers of health and safety officers have also been transferred to the Minister who can refuse to investigate if deemed to be trivial and can choose to provide virtual inspections rather than actually visit the workplace in person.

In November 2013 the Prairie Region hosted a telephone town hall with thousands of PSAC members to discuss Bill C-4. Members from the Prince Albert Area Council lobbied and sent letters to Randy Hoback, Conservative MP for Prince Albert, while members of the Lethbridge Area Council lobbied Jim Hillyer, Conservative MP for Lethbridge Constituency. The Winnipeg Area Council held a phone bank to inform locals about how Bill C-4 would affect them and collect contact information for follow-up activities.

The changes to the right to refuse will be a big issue going forward. We need to ensure that members know what the changes mean to them and how to resolve issues in the workplace now that the appeals process has been removed. PSAC is developing a national Bill C-4 course to help educate members on how they are impacted by this legislation and help health and safety committees navigate their role.

LOOKING AHEAD

Regionally, we're looking at training initiatives for health and safety committee members because we're finding committees aren't getting sufficient support from employer-sponsored training. Many committee members are not getting the requisite training they need as outlined in the Canada Labour Code Part II and other applicable legislation. A lot of issues can be resolved at the local level if committees are confident in knowing their rights and understand the power committees and representatives have in their workplace. An additional training need is to enhance education and awareness around disability insurance. All members benefit from knowledgeable, effective locals that understand the claims process who can assist members early on.

Clint Wirth, PSAC's Health & Safety Regional Rep for the Prairies, will tour the Prairies in the fall to meet with locals and hold town hall meetings to discuss current health and safety issues, such as Bill C-4 and the changes to the right to refuse legislation. The meetings are also meant to assess what information members need and support the committees require to do their work.

Claim suppression is a growing concern across the country and the Manitoba Federation of Labour is leading the charge in the fight back. Just recently, the Workers' Compensation Board came out with a report saying that up to 30 per cent of all WCB claims had been influenced by some sort of claim suppression. We're closely monitoring this issue, as well as Bill C-31, which calls for changes to Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHIMIS), Canada's national hazard communication standard.



Communication has always been a concern for members and we're looking at how to best utilize the resources and technology available to us to enhance and improve our internal communications among members, as well as our external communications to the public.

ONLINE

In October 2011 we launched the new PSAC Prairie Region website as part of a website renewal program that all regions underwent. Since the launch nearly three years ago we've had over 335,000 page views, with more than 56,000 unique visitors. The new website was designed to allow for improved navigation and to streamline course registration. With the capability to receive online registrations, we offered online registration for the Prairies Convention for the first time. In total we received 244 registrations online from delegates, alternates, observers and guests, which proves that it is the preferred method of registration for members. PSAC also introduced a new, contemporary look to the national website in October 2013, which was re-designed and re-engineered to serve PSAC members better.

The use of social media has grown substantially over the past three years. In 2011, 140 million tweets were posted daily; that number is now over 400 million tweets daily. Facebook usage has declined by 25 per cent among teenagers, but has boomed among older demographics, with a 40 per cent boost among 35-54 and a whopping 80 per cent increase in the 55+ demographic. Instagram also made a big splash into the social media market in 2012. Be sure to follow us on Twitter (@psacprairies) and Instagram (@psacprairies) and like us on Facebook (Public Service Alliance of Canada - Prairie Region) to engage with us and join the conversation. You can also subscribe to our channel on YouTube (PSACprairies) to watch all of our videos.

TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

To help us engage thousands of Prairies members at once we've hosted several telephone town hall events on various issues over the past few years. A telephone town hall offers us the opportunity to speak with and hear from thousands of PSAC Prairies members



Public Service Alliance of
Canada - Prairie Region



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at once. It's a cross between a large conference call and a talk radio show that helps to create energy and mobilize members beyond the town hall.

After hosting two telephone town hall events around the federal and provincial elections, we held a region-wide event regarding the WFA process in April 2012. Of the more than 6,500 people who answered the call live 88 per cent participated in a portion or all of the 1 hour and 13 minute call. We also held telephone town hall events around Bill C-4 and sick leave, which were well attended. Members appreciate the opportunity to hear from their union and engage in a discussion from right at home.

PRAIRIES VIDEO PROJECT

I am very proud to announce that we were awarded the Canadian Association of Labour Media (CALM) award for "Best narrative video, or video series documentary" for the Prairies Video Project. The project was produced with union labour by Road Dog Media (UNIFOR - Canadian Freelance Union Local 2040).

The Prairies Video Project is very important to me. Never before have we collected and shared members' stories in such an intimate and compelling way. I was lucky enough to be on location for the interviews across the Prairies and to speak with these members first hand. In total, we interviewed 43 people in eight different cities across three provinces, spanning component and equity lines.

For this project, we're not only putting faces to the work we do, but the experiences we've had. We want to preserve our stories and be able to share them with current and future members, as a reminder of where we've come from and where we're going. I'm delighted that everyone can share in the insights and experiences that these members shared with us and that the project is receiving national recognition.



REVP Prairies Activities

2012	
May 4	Oath of Office
May 4	NBoD Meeting
May 4	NJSSC Meeting
May 5	Travel to Saskatoon
May 8	AEC Conference Call
May 13	Travel to Ottawa
May 14	AEC Meeting
May 15	Special NBoD Meeting / AEC Meeting
May 16	AEC Meeting
May 16	Travel to Winnipeg
May 18	Travel to Saskatoon
August 30	PRC Conference Call
September 1	Travel to Calgary/CIU Branch Tour
September 2	Calgary Pride Parade
September 2	Travel to Lethbridge
September 3	CIU Port Tour - Southern Alberta
September 4	Travel to Winnipeg
September 4	Manitoba Federal Council Meeting
September 5	Prairies Separate Employer Conference - Planning Conference Call
September 6	Workers Help Centre EI Forum (sponsored by CUPE)
September 7	Special NBoD Conference Call
September 9	Travel to Ottawa
September 10 - 12	AEC Meeting
September 12	Travel to Winnipeg
September 13	U of M Bargaining Team Elections
September 14	Travel to Saskatoon
September 15	National Day of Action Pancake Breakfast – Saskatoon BBQ – Prince Albert
September 16	Travel to Winnipeg
September 18 - 21	Prairie Region Staff Conference
September 17	PIPSC/PSAC Website Review with MFC
September 18	AFC WTC/Bargaining Agents Conference Call
September 19	United Way Labour Breakfast
September 19	Parks NSCC Conference Call
September 19	AGR 50073 AGM
September 20	Protect the Prairie.ca Conference Call

September 20	CAHRD Meeting
September 20	Take Back the Night March
September 21	PIPSC Rally
September 24	AEC Conference Call
September 26	Prairies Separate Employer Conference - Planning Conference Call
September 27 - 28	MFL Executive Council
September 29	Greetings to Unionism on Turtle Island Participants
September 30	Travel to Ottawa
October 1	AEC Meeting
October 2 - 4	NBoD Meeting
October 4	Travel to Winnipeg
October 9	Meeting with CEIU National President in Winnipeg
October 10	Prairies Separate Employer Conference - Planning Conference Call
October 11	Travel to Regina
October 12 -13	Prairie Region Council Meeting
October 15	Meeting with FSIN – Protect the Prairie.ca Campaign
October 16	Youth Initiative Organizing Conference Call
October 16	Winnipeg HRC Meeting
October 17	AEC Conference Call
October 17	Winnipeg RWC Meeting
October 18	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
October 21	Travel to Ottawa
October 22	AEC Meeting
October 23 - 25	NBoD Strategy Session
October 25	Travel to Winnipeg
October 25	Protect the Prairie.ca - Conference Call
October 28	Travel to Regina
October 29 – November 4	SFL Convention
October 29	Regina AC Meeting
October 29	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
October 30	Organizing Protocol Conference Call
October 30	Regina HRC Meeting
November 1	Meeting with MLA Cam Broten & QP at Sask Legislature for introduction of Bill 604
November 5	AEC Meeting via Conference Call (a.m. session)
November 6	AEC Meeting via Conference Call (a.m. session)
November 16	Travel to Edmonton
November 16	Meeting with Gil McGowan - AFL President
November 17 - 18	Prairies Regional Health & Safety Conference

November 20	Parks Bargaining Team Conference Call
November 21	Parks NSCC Conference Call
November 27	CMHR Conference Call
November 27	SFC Workforce Transition Committee/Bargaining Agents Meeting
November 28	SADAO Meeting
November 28	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
November 29	Travel to Ottawa
November 30 - December 2	Leadership Summit
December 2	Youth Initiative Meeting - Youth Portfolio
December 3	Parks NSCC Conference Call
December 3	Travel to Brandon
December 3	Brandon University Meeting
December 4	Protect the Prairie.ca - Conference Call
December 5	MFL Kids Christmas Party
December 6	MFL Executive Council & Dec. 6 th Memorial Luncheon
December 7	MFL Executive Council
December 7	MFL & NDP Labour Liaison Meeting
December 7	CLC Kids Camp Meeting
December 11	Travel to Regina
December 11	Meeting with Minister Stewart for Protect the Prairie.ca
December 11	PRC Conference Call
December 11	Travel to Winnipeg
December 12	MFL Post Secondary Policy Review Committee
December 13	Travel to Brandon
December 13	Westman AC Meeting
December 16	Travel to Ottawa
December 17	AEC Meeting
December 17	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
December 18	AEC Meeting (a.m. session)
December 18	Special NBoD Meeting
December 19	AEC Media Training
December 19	Travel to Winnipeg
December 20	Travel to Brandon
December 20	Tour of CFB Shilo & Union Appreciation Luncheon
December 20	Travel to Winnipeg
December 21	Asbestos Registry Conference Call - Canadian Cancer Society & SADAO
2013	
January 2	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
January 4	Travel to Calgary
January 4	Meeting with First Nations representatives re: Hot Springs campaign
January 4	Travel to Saskatoon

January 8	Travel to Jasper
January 8	Parks Ratification Meeting
January 8	PRC Conference Call
January 9	Parks Ratification Meeting
January 9	Jasper Town Hall Meeting (Hot Springs Campaign)
January 10	Travel to Saskatoon
January 13	Travel to Ottawa
January 14-15	AEC Meeting
January 15	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
January 16	OPAC Meeting
January 16	Travel to Saskatoon
January 17	AEC Conference Call
January 17	MFL Post Secondary Policy Committee Meeting via Conference Call
January 18-19	Saskatchewan Women's Forum
January 21	Meeting with Brad Trost M.P. Saskatoon-Humboldt
January 22	Travel to Moose Jaw
January 22	Atco Strategy Meeting
January 23	Travel to Winnipeg
January 25	Conference Call with NAPC Prairies Reps Re: Idle No More
January 25	Asbestos Registry Conference Call
January 29	Prairies National Officers Conference Call
February 1	Travel to Regina
February 1	Tour of USGE - RCMP Depot
February 1-2	UNE SK & MB Regional Seminar
February 3	Travel to Ottawa
February 4	AEC Meeting
February 5-8	NBoD Meeting
February 8	AEC Sub-Committee Meeting
February 9	Travel to Saskatoon
February 9	Saskatoon District Labour Council AGM
February 11	Asbestos Registry Conference Call
February 12	PRC Conference Call
February 17	Travel to Ottawa
February 18-20	AEC Meeting
February 20	Travel to Winnipeg
February 21	CLC Presentation on Conservatives and the Union
February 21	MFL Post Secondary Review Policy Committee Meeting
February 22	Lunch with reps of Social Planning Council of Winnipeg
February 24	Travel to Regina
February 25	Casino Regina Bargaining Team Meeting
February 25	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call

February 26	CIU SK Branch AGM
February 26	SFL Collective Bargaining Committee Meeting
February 26	Travel to Winnipeg
February 27	Travel to Radium
February 28	Western Airport Strategy Conference Call
February 28	Meeting with First Nations representatives re: Hot Springs Campaign
February 28	Radium Town Hall Meeting (Hot Springs Campaign)
February 28	SADAO Conference Call
March 1	Travel to Calgary
March 1	Prairies Organizing Conference Call
March 1-3	Agriculture Union Alberta Regional Seminar
March 3	Travel to Winnipeg
March 7	Travel to Saskatoon
March 8-10	SK NDP Convention
March 10	Travel to Winnipeg
March 11-12	MFL Executive Council
March 12	PRC Conference Call
March 13	Travel to Regina
March 14	SK Legislature – Howard’s Law (Asbestos Bill)
March 15	Travel to Moose Jaw
March 15-17	Agriculture Union Saskatchewan Regional Seminar
March 17	Travel to Saskatoon
March 17	Travel to Ottawa
March 18-20	AEC Meeting
March 21	Travel to Toronto
March 22-24	CLC Political Action Conference
March 25	Travel to Winnipeg
March 27	Casino Regina Conference Call
April 4	Regional Women’s Conference - Planning Committee Conference Call
April 5	Panelist – Peggy Nash’s Tour Re: NDP Alternative Federal Budget
April 8	PRC Finance Committee Conference Call
April 9	Travel to Saskatoon
April 9	PRC Conference Call
April 9-10	USGE Prairies Regional Conference
April 10	Travel to Winnipeg
April 11	AEC/Component President’s Meeting via Conference Call
April 11	Travel to Montreal
April 12-14	National Health & Safety Conference
April 12-14	NDP Convention
April 14	Travel to Ottawa
April 15-16	AEC Meeting
April 16	Travel to Regina

April 17	Presentation to SK Committee of Human Services Re: Howard's Law
April 18	SK Legislature - Vote on Howard's Law
April 18	Travel to Calgary
April 18	Hot Springs Campaign Conference Call
April 19	PRC Meeting
April 20	Joint Meeting with PRC & Prairies National Officers
April 20	Travel to Winnipeg
April 22	Tour of Rainbow Resource Centre
April 22	Regional Women's Conference - Planning Committee Conference Call
April 23	Casino Regina Update & Strategy Conference Call
April 24	Travel to Edmonton
April 25-28	Alberta Federation of Labour Convention
April 28	Speaker at Edmonton DLC Day Of Mourning Event
April 29	Edmonton Regional Leadership Meeting
April 29	Travel to Calgary
April 30	Calgary Regional Leadership Meeting
May 1	Travel to Lethbridge
May 1	Tour of Bouvry Plant, Fort McLeod
May 1	Tour of AAFC Research Station
May 1	Lethbridge Area Council Meeting
May 2	Travel to Calgary
May 2	Travel to Banff
May 3	Tour of Banff Upper Hot Springs
May 3	UNE Local 30117 Executive Meeting
May 3-5	Prairies Regional Women's Conference
May 5	Travel to Winnipeg
May 6	MFL Post Secondary Review Policy Committee
May 7	Travel to Saskatoon
May 7	SADAO Meeting
May 8	Saskatoon Regional Leadership Meeting
May 9	Travel to Regina
May 9	Regina Regional Leadership Meeting
	FB Bargaining Tour – Regina Airport
May 10	Travel to Winnipeg
May 10	RAND Lobbying Conference Call
May 14	Winnipeg Regional Leadership Meeting
May 14	PRC Conference Call
May 16	Rainbow Resource Centre's Rally for the International Day Against Homophobia
May 17	Stewards Project Conference Call
May 21	Travel to Ottawa

May 22-23	AEC Meeting
May 23	Travel to Winnipeg
May 25	MB NDP Convention - Brandon
May 27	FB Meeting - Winnipeg Airport
May 28	PRC Finance Committee Conference Call
May 29	PRC Conference Call
May 30	CEIU Information Session
May 31	Meeting with United Way Labour Rep
June 6	Prairies Video Project Conference Call
June 9	Travel to Ottawa
June 10	AEC Meeting
June 11-14	NBoD Meeting
June 13	Parks Canada Bargaining Meetings re: CS claw back
June 11	PRC Monthly Update Conference Call
June 14	Travel to Winnipeg
June 17	Travel to Brandon
June 17	MFL Executive Council
June 17	Brandon Labour Council Meet and Greet
June 17	MFL Health & Safety Forum
June 18	Travel to Winnipeg
June 19	Freshwater Fish Campaign Meeting
June 19	Travel to Regina
June 20	SFL Labour Legislation/Political Strategy Committee Meeting
June 20	Alberta PRC Reps Conference Call
June 24	AEC Conference Call
June 27	Alberta Flooding Conference Call
July 2	Alberta Flooding Conference Call
July 3	AEC Sub-Committee-Videoconference with CURC
July 4	CMHR Museum AGM
July 5	Protect the Prairie Conference Call
July 8	AEC Conference Call
July 8	NBOD Standing Political Action Committee Conference Call
July 8	Travel to Regina
July 9	Casino Regina Ratification Votes (3)
July 10	Travel to Winnipeg
July 11	Deer Lodge RSCC Meeting
July 12	Travel to Calgary
July 12	Tour of Calgary Drop In Centre & SJF Cheque Presentation.
July 12	Volunteer with Food Prep & Service at Drop in Centre
July 13	Volunteer - Flood Relief in High River AB
July 14	Volunteer & Cheque Presentation – Siksika First Nation
July 15	Travel to Winnipeg

July 17	UTE 50031 – Pledge Form Signing
July 17	Winnipeg Airport Strike Vote
July 22	CMHR Strategy Conference Call
July 25-27	FTMS Pension Training
July 29	Hudson Bay Port Strategy Conference Call
August 1	Call with PRC Women’s Rep
August 1	Call with PRC GLBT Rep
August 2	Call with PRC PWD Rep
August 2	Conference Call with Alberta PRC Reps Re: Conservative Convention
August 5	Travel to Edmonton - Prairies Video Project Filming
August 6-7	Filming in Edmonton & area
August 7	Travel to Calgary
August 8-11	Filming in Calgary & area
August 11	Travel to Lethbridge
August 12	Filming in Lethbridge
August 12	Port of Churchill Strategy Call
August 12	Travel to Swift Current
August 13	Travel to Regina
August 13-14	Filming in Regina
August 14	AEC Conference Call
August 15	Travel to Saskatoon
August 15-16	Filming in Saskatoon
August 16	Travel to Prince Albert
August 17	Filming in Prince Albert
August 18	Travel to Brandon
August 19	Filming in Brandon
August 19	Travel to Winnipeg
August 20-22	Filming in Winnipeg
August 20	Winnipeg Airport GBU Ratification Vote
August 22	AEC Conference Call
August 26	Travel to Brandon
August 26	Conference Call with Alberta PRC Reps Re: Conservative Convention
August 26	Brandon/Shilo TC Ratification Vote
August 26	Prairies Video Project Filming
August 26	Brandon University AGM
August 27	Brandon University Ratification Votes
August 27	Travel to Winnipeg
August 28	ROB Review Conference Call
August 29	SFL – CIU Conference Call
September 2	Labour Day BBQ - Winnipeg
September 3	TC Ratification Vote - NHU Local 50012
September 4	Travel to Edmonton

September 4	Conduct Ratification Vote – Devon, AB
September 5	NHU Local 30016 - Pledge Card Campaign Meeting
September 5	NHU Local 30016 - TC Group Meeting
September 5	Meet & Greet at Edmonton Regional Office with National President
September 6	Conduct TC Ratification Votes (3 sessions)
September 6	Travel to Winnipeg
September 9 -12	AEC Meeting
September 9	Conservative Convention Rally planning conference call
September 13-14	NCR Young Workers Conference, Ottawa
September 15	Travel to Winnipeg
September 16	Component President Briefing conference call
September 16	Guest speaker at Save Our Science Rally – University of Winnipeg
September 17	Travel to Regina
September 17	TC Ratification Vote, Regina RO
September 18	Travel to Winnipeg
September 19-20	MFL Executive Council
September 20	Manitoba CCPA Annual General Meeting
September 24	Conservative Convention Rally planning conference call
September 26	UNE Local 50773 (CMHR) Strategy conference call
September 30-October 5	Vacation
October 6	Travel to Ottawa
October 7	AEC Meeting
October 8-10	NBOD
October 10	Travel to Winnipeg
October 11	Royal Canadian Mint Strategy conference call
October 15	Travel to Edmonton
October 15	UPCE membership meetings (2 locations)
October 15	Travel to Calgary
October 16	UPCE membership meeting
October 16	Travel to Winnipeg
October 17	UPCE membership meeting, Winnipeg
October 18-20	Prairie Region Council, Winnipeg
October 23	Conservative Convention Rally planning conference call
October 24	USGE Local 50015 AGM, Winnipeg
October 28	Travel to Saskatoon
October 28	Stewards Project conference call
October 28	Conservative Convention Rally planning conference call
October 29	AEC/Regional Coordinator Convention planning conference call

October 29	AEC Supporting Our Allies committee conference call
October 30 - November 1	SFL Convention, Saskatoon
October 30	AEC/Component Briefing conference call
November 1	Travel to Calgary
November 1	Common Causes Teach-In
November 2	Crash Their Party Rally
November 3	Travel to Ottawa
November 4-5	AEC Meeting
November 6	Special NBOD Meeting
November 6	Travel to Saskatoon
November 7	Travel Saskatoon to Winnipeg
November 7	National Officers conference call
November 7	Prairies C-4 Telephone Town Hall
November 13	PRC Monthly update conference call
November 14	AEC conference call
November 14	Meeting with Bob Kingston, Agriculture Union & Manitoba Minister of Agriculture Ron Kostyshyn, Winnipeg
November 14	NHU Local 50012 AGM
November 15	UNE Local 50773 (CMHR) Strategy conference call
November 16	Travel to Toronto
November 17	National Women's Conference Resolutions Committee meeting
November 17	AEC meeting/training session
November 18- 22	National Equity Conference
November 20	AEC Meeting
November 22	Travel to Winnipeg
November 26	FB Ratification Vote, Winnipeg
November 26	Travel to Saskatoon
November 27	USGE Convention Preparation Course
November 28	Prairies Staff conference call re: actions around C4
November 29	Travel to Winnipeg
November 30	UVAE Local 50021 Holiday Social
December 3	Federation of Labour VP's conference call
December 3	Joint Winnipeg HRC/RWC/Area Council meeting
December 4	UNE Local 50773 (CMHR) Strike Vote (3 sessions)
December 5	Travel to Thompson, MB
December 5	USGE Local AGM
December 5	CEIU Worksite visit
December 5	USGE NPB worksite visit
December 5	Travel to Winnipeg
December 6	MFL Executive Council

December 6	Dec. 6 th Day of Remembrance Luncheon, Winnipeg
December 8	Travel to Ottawa
December 9-10	AEC Meeting
December 11	Travel to Winnipeg
December 11	UTE Local 50031 Executive Meeting
December 11	Edmonton Area Council meeting (by phone)
December 12	Conference call re: RWC Handbook amendments
December 13	AEC conference call
December 16	AEC conference call
December 16-24	Winnipeg office
2014	
January 2-3	Winnipeg office
January 6-7	Vacation
January 8	Travel to Regina
January 8	Regina Area Council meeting
January 9 -10	Vacation
January 10	NBOD Political Action Committee conference call
January 12	Travel to Ottawa
January 13-15	AEC Meeting
January 15	Travel to Winnipeg
January 16	Component President Briefing conference call
January 18	Travel to Edmonton
January 18-19	UNE Regional Seminar
January 20	Deer Lodge Strategy Conference Call
January 20	Edmonton AC Meeting
January 21	Travel to Winnipeg
January 21	Local 55601 Service Agreement Conference Call
January 21	University of Winnipeg Membership Meeting
January 21	Calgary RWC via Conference Call
January 23	Parks Essential Services Conference Call
January 23	Regional Organizing Conference Call
January 24-26	AGR Manitoba Regional Seminar
January 28	Peoples' Social Forum Info Session
January 29	Casino Regina Conference Call
January 30	Travel to Saskatoon
January 31	Casino Regina Conference Call
January 31	Veterans Press Conference
January 31- February 2	Prairie Region Council Meeting
February 2	Travel to Winnipeg
February 5	Travel to Regina
February 5	Regina Area Council AGM

February 6	Worksite Visit & AGM - UEW Local 40721
February 7	Saskatoon and District Labour Council Community Service Award Dinner
February 8	Saskatoon and District Labour Council AGM-Presentation on Veterans Campaign and travel to Winnipeg
February 9	Travel to Ottawa
February 10-12	AEC Meeting
February 13-16	Treasury Board Bargaining Conference
February 16	Travel to Winnipeg
February 18	UNE 50757 AGM
February 21	PRC Resolutions Conference Call
February 23	Travel to Ottawa
February 24	AEC Meeting
February 25-28	NBoD Meeting
February 26	Parks NBC Conference Call
February 28	Travel to Red Deer
February 28 - March 2	AGR AB Regional Seminar
March 1-2	UNE SSO Education & AGM
March 2	Travel to Winnipeg
March 3	PRC Resolutions Conference Call
March 5	Travel to Regina
March 5	Meeting with the SK Opposition Leader re: sale of Casino Regina
March 5	Travel to Saskatoon
March 6	Speaker at SK CUPE Convention
March 8	Travel to Winnipeg
March 12	AEC Conference Call
March 12	PRC Monthly Update Conference Call
March 17 - 18	AEC via Video Conference
March 19	DCL Local 55602 (CAHRD) Membership Meetings
March 24	Meeting with SK Provincial Minister of Labour with Casino Regina Members re: potential sale of Casino
March 26	National Young Workers Conference Call
March 27	PSAC Comprehensive Strategy and Regional Plans Conference Call
March 27	Meeting with Deer Lodge Local President & RVP
March 30	Travel to Ottawa
March 31 - April 3	Meeting with EB Bargaining Team
April 1	NBoD Political Action Committee Meeting
April 2	AEC Conference Call
April 2	All TB Teams Meeting
April 3	Tour of Royal Canadian Mint – Ottawa worksite

April 4 - 6	Parks Bargaining Conference
April 8	Travel to Winnipeg
April 9	PRC Monthly Update Conference Call
April 13	Travel to Ottawa
April 14 - 15	AEC Meeting
April 15	Stewards Initiative Meeting
April 16	Travel to Winnipeg
April 22	National Officers Conference Call
April 23	National Officers Conference Call
April 24	Travel to Vancouver
April 25 - 27	BC Regional Convention
April 28	Travel to Winnipeg
April 29	Worksite visit of UVAE Deer Lodge Centre & Executive Meeting
April 30	Telephone Town Hall – Sick Leave
May 2	Travel to Calgary
May 3	CIU Alberta Executive Meeting & AGM
May 4	Travel to Montreal
May 5 - 9	CLC Convention
May 9	Travel to Winnipeg
May 12 - 13	AEC Meeting via Video Conference
May 14	Prairies Staff Conference
May 14	PRC Conference Call