



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

Memorandum

XO/28/15

September 2, 2015

To: NBoD

From: Robyn Benson

Re: PSAC Use of Unionized Facilities and Services

I am writing to clarify our position concerning the use of unionized facilities and services.

PSAC has a long standing practice of using unionized hotels, convention centres, airlines, taxis, and third-party suppliers (including technicians, printers, swag, on-site childcare, etc.) for our events. This practice is followed by the other affiliates of the Canadian Labour Congress, in supporting unionized labour across Canada.

This practice guides our work in planning for PSAC Triennial Conventions. Potential sites are assessed to ensure they meet specific criteria, which includes:

- availability of suitable unionized hotels;
- suitability of unionized meeting space meeting PSAC's requirements;
- accessibility of the location;
- air access and travel options;
- availability of unionized labour and third party suppliers; and,
- cost.

Given the growing size of the PSAC Triennial Convention, many cities are no longer able to meet our criteria. This is why large cities such as Halifax, Winnipeg and St. John's have not been selected as a convention site in many years. I am well aware that PSAC has a resolution of record to hold a Triennial Convention in St. John's. We continue to review the availability of unionized resources in Canada, in the hope that more cities will be able to meet our criteria in the future.

I assure you that a PSAC Triennial Convention would not be held in a city where the PSAC was not able to fully guarantee that every single delegate, observer and staff had accommodations in a unionized hotel. This fundamental criteria simply cannot be compromised. PSAC members attending union events expect to support unionized labour, including the use of unionized hotels and services.

As a proud member of the house of labour, PSAC supports unionized workers and services and encourages their expansion across the country. Please use this criteria when planning your events, as we defend union rights in Canada.

In Solidarity,

Robyn Benson
National President

c.c. Directors' Team