

Report Of The Regional Executive Vice-President, Ontario To The National Board of Directors

June 1-4, 2010

It is a privilege to submit my report to the National Board of Directors. The report contains my activities as well as the work of the PSAC in Ontario.

Our Voice in the Region

The PSAC Ontario Council met on February 27-28, 2010, in Toronto. Some of the major issues that were discussed and reported on at the meeting include:

PSAC Ontario Convention 2011:

It was decided at this meeting that the Ontario Regional Convention 2011 be held at the Delta Meadowvale, Mississauga from May 13-15, 2011. Ontario Council members will be assigned to convention committees by the REVP respecting their choices as much as possible.

HANDS OFF our Pensions! Campaign:

The Ontario Region Pensions Campaign plan was presented to and discussed by members of the OC. Particular focus was put on the role of the OC members in the circulation of the petition and in mobilizing members to participate in plant-gating, town-hall meetings and lunch and learn events.

It was also noted at this meeting that the PSAC is endorsing and participating in the OFL/CLC Pensions Summit that will be held on March 27th in Toronto. \$3,000 was set aside to assist Area Councils to send delegates to the summit. PSAC members are encouraged to make every effort to circulate the petition at the summit and distribute our stickers, and pensions fightback materials.

G8 / G20 Mobilizations:

It was reported at the OC meeting that the PSAC is working with the CLC and our community allies in organizing events and demonstrations to coincide with the G8/G20 Summit in Toronto from June 25-27, 2010. Our goal is to ensure that our message in defense of quality public services both in Canada and internationally is heard loud and clear. The overall goal of the People's Summit is to present social and political alternatives to the policies of corporate globalization and to make sure that the people's voice is heard at these international forums.

Although the summit and the main events are taking place in Toronto, the PSAC action plan on this issue is looking to engage members from across our region and adjacent

ones (NCR and Quebec) and encourage them to partake in the actions in Toronto. We are also encouraging PSAC members to take part in events being organized by our allies across the country to coincide with the Summit in Toronto.

The Ontario Council will also be meeting in Toronto at the time and we will allow ample time for OC members to take part in the planned events and protests.

Key Dates for G8 / G20 and People's Summit:

June 25 (in Huntsville), 26 and 27 (in Toronto): The official G8/G20 Summit

June 18 to 20: People's Summit (Toronto).

June 26: A rally/demonstration will be organized and led by labour (CLC and affiliates).

PSAC Women's Forum:

A successful two day Women's Forum was held in Toronto on February 8-9, 2010, where the main topics of discussion focused on Child Care and Pay Equity. PSAC activists from across our region were joined by other women's activists from Toronto.

Collective Bargaining:

The info sheet on all Collective Bargaining dates was handed out to members of the OC. It was noted that the Regional Bargaining Conference for the Ontario Region and NCR is scheduled for November 27-28, 2010 in Toronto.

Political & Social Action

HANDS OFF our pensions! Campaign:

The goal of the campaign in our region was to reach out to as many of our members as possible and engage them in the campaign in defense of their pensions and in favour of a strong public pension system (CPP/OAS). To that effect, we organized plant-gating events and town-hall meetings in the following areas, where hundreds of PSAC members turned out to hear our message:

- Toronto / Scarborough (March 8-9)
- Hamilton (March 11 & 24-25)
- Toronto (March 22-26 & 29)
- Windsor (March 9)
- London (March 29-30)
- Kingston (March 15)
- Thunder Bay (March 18)
- Sault Ste Marie (March 11)
- Sudbury (March 23-24)

PSAC activists and leaders attended the CLC/OFL Pensions Summit in Toronto on March 27. We were very active on the floor and we managed to collect hundreds of signatures on our pensions petition in addition to distributing hundreds of our *HANDS OFF our pensions!* stickers and buttons.

We produced and widely distributed to all the locals, committees and area councils a YouTube Video encouraging members to sign the petition. We also prepared a guideline for writing letters to the editor along with sample letters dealing with our pensions fightback campaign.

Public Services Leadership Summit (Toronto: April 15, 2010):

Participants in the Leadership Phase II Training and other PSAC activists participated in a Public Sector Leadership Summit organized by the Toronto and York District Labour Council. The summit was attended by over 500 public sector trade union activists from across the GTA. The resolution unanimously adopted by participants called on all public sector unions to build a common front of solidarity in defense of public services and public sector workers.

Part of the resolution also called for the establishment of a Public Services Solidarity Network to carry out some of the campaigns in the GTA.

USW Local 6500 Strike Support Rally (Sudbury):

PSAC members and staff in the Sudbury area took to the streets in solidarity with the striking Steelworkers L. 6500 who have been on strike for 8 months.

Negotiations

It is my pleasure to announce that the following units / locals have reached new collective agreements and have been ratified by the membership. These include:

- North Bay Airport: Agreement ratified by members on January 26th.
- Weenabayko Hospital: Agreement ratified by members on February 12th.
- University of Ontario Institute of Technology: First Agreement was ratified by members on April 21st.
- Town of Moosonee: Agreement ratified by members on April 18th.

Organizing

We made great advances and gains in organizing new members into our ranks over the period of this report.

We were successful in organizing Over 1300 TAs and TFs at Queen's University in Kingston. The successful vote was held on March 23rd and we received OLRB certification on April 13th.

I would also like to welcome our newest members from an organizing victory at the **Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) – Woodbine on March 14th**. The OLRB certification to represent the 400 members was issued on April 27th.

Both of these organizing victories are extraordinary and significant for a number of reasons. In both cases, we won where other unions attempted and failed to organize them over the past 10 years. It should also be noted that while these two workplaces are very different, the commitment of these new members to the PSAC will only inject our union with much needed energy, youth and diversity.

Congratulations to all the volunteers, staff and above all else the members themselves for their hard work and victory.

Education

The Ontario Region concluded a successful Leadership Phase II Training in Toronto from April 15 – 17, 2010. The 36 participants in this phase of leadership training course were activists who have been elected to leadership positions on the Ontario Regional Council, Components, Directly Chartered Locals, National Equal Opportunities Committee and National Aboriginal Peoples Circle.

On the evening of April 15th all Leadership Training Participants attended the Public Services Leadership Summit organized by the Toronto and York District Labour Council.

National Portfolios

The following duties are my national portfolio assignments:

Collective Bargaining, Classification, Pay equity, Representation and Legislative Change; Health and Safety.

I am also the AEC officer responsible for the following bargaining units: SV; NAV Canada; and CSIS.

I sit on the following NBOD Committees:

Roles, Responsibilities and Structure; Health and Safety; and Privatization, P3's and Contracting Out. I am also assigned to the Health and Safety National Conference.

The report on these national portfolios is covered in the Report of the National President to the NBOD as well as in the Committee reports to the NBOD.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Halabecki
Regional Executive Vice-President, Ontario

REVP Ontario Activities for January 14 – May 14, 2010

- January 14 - Meeting with Regional Co-ordinator
- January 19 - Women's Forum Planning Meeting
- January 20 - Women's Forum Planning Meeting
- January 21 - United Way Celebration Dinner
- January 22 - Conference Call with Ontario Council UDP
Participants
- January 25 - Travel to Ottawa
- January 26 - FUJE Meeting
- AEC Meeting
- Travel to Toronto
- January 28 - Travel to London
- UDP II Panel
- Travel to Windsor
- Windsor Area Council, AGM
- January 29 - Travel to Toronto
- January 31 - Travel to Ottawa
- February 1 - AEC Meeting
- February 2 - NBoD Meeting
- February 3 - NBoD Meeting
- NBoD Collective Bargaining Committee Meeting
- February 4 - NBoD Meeting
- Representation Symposium Planning Meeting
- February 5 - AEC Meeting
- Travel to Toronto
- February 8 - Ontario Regional Women's Forum
- Happy Hour in Angry Times Reception
- February 9 - Ontario Regional Women's Forum
- Pension Campaign Meeting
- February 10 - Ship's Crews Conference Call
- February 11 - London Area Council AGM
- February 15 - Conference Call with GLBT Council Representative
- February 17 - Pension Campaign Meeting
- February 18 - Retirement Luncheon for Phil Trottier and David
Doyle
- Kingston Area Council, AGM
- February 21 - Travel to Ottawa
- February 22-23 - AEC Meetings
- February 24 - AEC Meeting with Regional Political Communication
Officers
- February 24 - Travel to Toronto
- February 26 - Ontario Council Finance Committee Meeting
- February 27-28 - Ontario Council Meetings
- March 2 - OFL Conference Call
- March 3 - OFL Executive Council Meeting

- March 3 - OFL Executive Board Meeting
- March 4 - AEC Conference Call on Federal Budget
- March 5 - Travel to London
- March 6 - UDP Level III, Mock Convention and Graduation
- Travel to Toronto
- March 8 - AEC Conference Call
- March 9 - Pension Fight Back Town-Hall Meeting, Scarborough with John Gordon
- March 10 - OFL Conference Call
- GTAC Meeting
- March 11 - Travel to Sault Ste. Marie
- Pension Fight Back Town-Hall Meeting
- March 12 - Travel to Toronto
- March 23 - GTA Aboriginal Committee Meeting
- March 24 - FUJE Meeting via Conference Call
- March 25 - Pension Fight Back Town-Hall Meeting, Hamilton
- March 26-28 - National Pride Conference, Toronto
- March 27 - OFL/CLC Pension Summit
- March 29 - AEC Meeting
- Pension/Federal Budget Fight Back Town-Hall meeting, Toronto with Patty Ducharme and Robyn Benson
- March 30-April 1 - CLC Leadership Forum on Structural Review
- April 6 - Emergency OFL Executive Board Meeting
- April 9 - Meeting with Ontario Council Representative for Members with Disabilities
- April 13 - Component Presidents Briefing
- April 15-17 - Leadership II Training
- April 15 - Public Sector Leadership Summit
- April 19 - NBoD Collective Bargaining Committee Review
- April 20 - AEC Conference Call
- Windsor Airport Strategy Committee Conference Call
- April 21 - University of Oshawa Institute of Technology (UOIT) Ratification Vote, Oshawa
- April 22 - Travel to Kingston
- USGE Regional Bargaining Conference
- Travel to Toronto
- April 23 - Addressed Regional Women's Conference Organizing Committee
- April 25 - Travel to Ottawa
- April 27-29 - PSAC Representation Symposium
- April 28 - DCL 802 Representation Meeting
- OFL Conference Call
- April 30 - AEC Meeting
- Travel to Toronto
- May 5 - Travel to Ottawa

- May 5 - NBoD Local Development Committee Review
- May 6 - Travel to Toronto
- May 10 - Employer Scrutineer for Staff Representation Vote
- May 11 - OFL Executive Board Meeting
- May 11 - UWO Post Doctoral Local Strategy Committee Meeting
- May 11 - Meeting with Regional Coordinator and Political Communication Officer – Fight Back Campaign
- May 12 - NBoD Health & Safety Committee Review
- May 12 - GTAC Meeting
- May 14 - AEC Conference Call