

# **Report of the Regional Executive Vice-President, Ontario to the National Board of Directors**

**October 3-6, 2006**

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.

## **Ontario Regional Council**

The PSAC Ontario Council met from June 16-18, 2006. Our Council meeting was livened up somewhat when the entire Council hopped on the subway during lunch to participate in a rally to support our Ekati Diamond workers, who were still on strike. Unfortunately, the jewellery store earmarked for Toronto decided to close its' doors rather than face the PSAC's "unruly mob".

We were fortunate to be holding our meetings a week after the AEC Strategy Session. Council was briefed on some of the new National President's priorities; namely, Defending Quality Public Services, Political Action and Bargaining Differently. As well, Council was briefed on the new assignments given to the AEC.

Council discussed the Regional Convention slated for 2008 including lengthy deliberations over the host city as well as hotel selection. Due to the defeat of Resolution 41A at Convention, the Ontario Council struck a Delegate Assistance Committee. From now until Convention it will be up to this body to recommend how and in what manner we subsidize delegates attending our Regional Convention.

As Co-Chair of Collective Bargaining I was able to give the Council an idea what has happened and what needs to happen as far as collective bargaining goes. Finally, the Health and Safety Committee of the Ontario Council has established dates for their regional conferences this fall. Plans are to conduct six workshops, one in each of Ontario's sub-regions.

## **Political & Social Action**

Ontario's Area Councils were instrumental in getting PSAC members involved in various Labour Day activities. As a result, members in eleven different communities participated this year, clearly showing the broader labour movement as well as our coalition partners that PSAC Ontario is a force to be reckoned with.

Ontario's Area Councils will be coming to Toronto for a conference at the end of September. Plans are to introduce lobby kits for childcare, equal marriage, anti-scab legislation and pay zones to the participants. Panel members from Federal, Provincial, and Municipal

governments will be on hand to provide expertise in lobbying elected officials. I wish to express my thanks to Brother Ed Cashman for his assistance with the session.

## **Education**

As this goes to press, Ontario's UDP Level I training gets underway. We have another fine mix of members who once finished all three levels, will be of great value to the Region, Components, Locals and ultimately, the membership.

## **Regional Activities**

Although the summer months are usually a slower period, the Ontario Region was extremely busy with regional negotiations. As a result, I attended several Strategy Committee meetings and ratification votes for our Peel Commissionaires, Local 802, UCTE Local 4 at Pearson Airport as well as our Local at Georgian Downs. I am pleased to announce that we were able to reach agreements with all of the employers without having to go out on strike. My thanks and congratulations go to all of those responsible for securing fair, progressive agreements for our members in Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Halabecki  
Regional Executive Vice-President, Ontario