

PSAC Union Development Program



Building skills.

Building confidence.

Building activism.

Building our union.



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

Are you passionate about standing up for workers' rights?

Do you believe in social justice and human rights?

Are you active in your union and interested in deepening your knowledge and skills?

The PSAC Union Development Program (UDP) is an opportunity for you to prepare yourself to assume leadership roles in your union and in the broader labour and social justice movements.

The in-residence course is offered in three modules, held over two, five-day periods and one, six-day period.

Participants will be assigned a project to work on between modules, giving them a chance to practice their new skills in their workplaces, locals and communities.



Here is what some UDP grads have to say about what they gained from attending:



“ The Union Development Program allowed me to develop leadership skills which have assisted me to carry out my role as a chairperson of my regional human rights committee much more effectively. This program is built on solid union principles and was truly an inclusive program for all union members, including equity seeking members. ”

– *Marlene Hoce, Chairperson of the Regina Human Rights Committee*



“ As the young workers’ representative on my regional council, this training has given me the knowledge and experience to represent my fellow members with confidence. ”

– *Ryan Ayres, PSAC Ontario Council Young Worker Representative*



“ UDP was the turning point for me, in developing the skills and learning from others, the role of leadership at the workplace, in my community and in my union. ”

– *Jeannie Baldwin, REVP Atlantic Region*

“ As a leader, what did I take from the Program? I learned that if you don’t ask, chances are you’ll get nothing or barely anything. You have to know what your needs are, and what goals you want to achieve. I also learned never back off. As the saying goes, no is not an answer. You have to keep on knocking on doors, to use other means. ”

– *Marcelle Perron, Conseil de région, Québec*

“ PSAC’s structure is complex and somewhat onerous to a newly elected local union activist. The UDP effectively mapped the structure and the roles and responsibilities of each organization. ”

– *Rotha Lennox, PSAC Local 70713*



“ I had the opportunity to be a participant in the pilot project for the Union Development Program in 1975. This education opportunity came right on the heels of the General, Labour and Trades strike in 1974. This program was the highest level you could take, and I was lucky to have had the chance to attend. I believe that this changed my outlook on how to become an active part of PSAC. I also believe that the Union Development Program’s continuation has been instrumental in the development of our union. ”

– *John Gordon, PSAC National President*

For more information and to apply,
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