

PSAC ONTARIO NEWSLETTER



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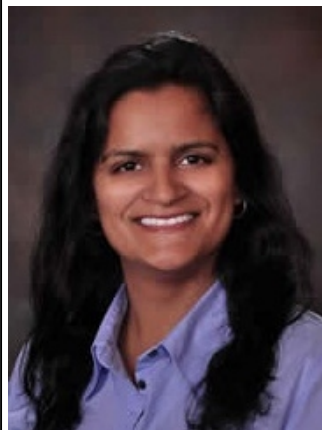
PSAC ONTARIO

SEE LAST PAGE FOR DETAILS
ON OUR EXCITING VIDEO CHALLENGE!!

Message from the Regional Executive Vice President

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Members are engaging in their Union, speaking out and taking a stand for public services. This newsletter provides a forum for members to make your voices heard on important issues. Also, it provides members with a means of seeing your Ontario Council in action. As elected leaders we have



a responsibility to report back on our activities and carry your message forward;

while continually fighting for your rights. My role as REVP allows me the opportunity to reflect your priorities at PSAC's national level. I will work with our region's 30,000 members to build our union's capacity and promote our values of equality and social justice.

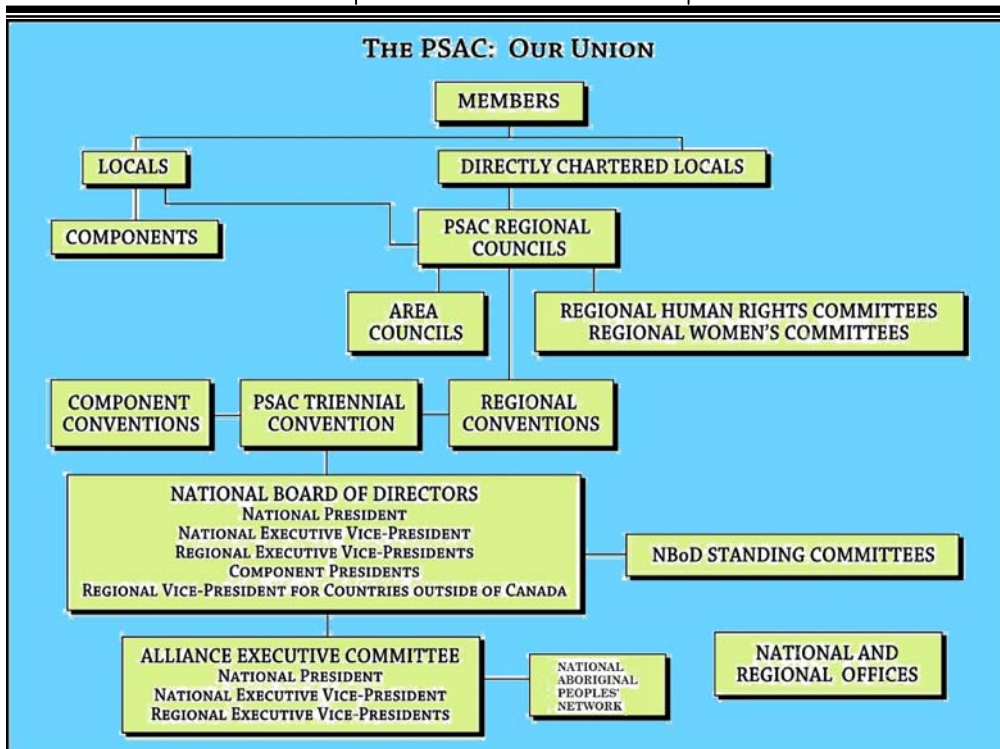
Sharon DeSousa, REVP

Find us online!
www.pfac.com/ontario



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Representing You! A Welcome Message from Your PSAC Ontario Council

Thank you for reading the very first issue of the PSAC Ontario Council's newsletter! We would like to introduce PSAC Ontario members to who Council is and what we do to represent members. Ontario Council is made up of elected members, to be the political voice of members in our region and work with our elected leader, Sharon DeSousa, Regional Executive Vice-President

for Ontario. The Regional Council is elected to three-year terms at regional conventions. This council was elected in 2011 and will hold office until the 2014 convention. Council brings together PSAC members from all corners of the province, from every equity group and from the various components, Directly Chartered Locals and

workplaces locals. The council consists of twenty-two people, representing members based on where they work, their type of workplace and equity seeking groups. Visit the PSAC Ontario website to learn more: www.psic.com/ontario This issue will have articles introducing the Ontario Council, the PSAC structure, our commitment to equity and ways to get involved in your

union. As you can see, the council makes sure to represent members in as broad and comprehensive a manner as possible. If you have any questions, you can go to the council's official webpage at <http://ontario.psic.com/ontario/council/council.shtml> Christo Aivalis, Young Worker Representative, PSAC Ontario Council 2011-2014



Standing Together We Build Our Union!

Members are the union! PSAC would not be able to function without the commitment and dedication of our membership. Members ensure that their Collective Agreements are being respected in the workplace and play active roles within their locals. Locals form the foundation of the union. The Local is where members go for help, where they meet to discuss workplace concerns, where they elect their representatives and where they vote on proposed contract settlements.



Members are responsible for raising awareness of workplace issues and promoting campaigns through their locals. The success of our union relies on members being active within their locals and through PSAC's structures, including: Area Councils and Human Rights committees. It is your volunteer work and activism that makes our union great!



OUR UNION, OUR POWER
PSAC National Convention:
April 28 to May 4, 2012

Conventions are extremely important events that help decide the direction of our union and are an opportunity to elect leaders who will promote members priorities.



There are three types of conventions; the PSAC National Convention, Regional Conventions and Component Conventions; with each being held every 3 years. At Conventions members are able to elect their leaders, debate resolutions pass budgets and make changes to the governing constitution or bylaws.



The National Board of Directors (NBoD) consists of the National President, the National Executive Vice-President and the 7 Regional Executive Vice-Presidents, along with the 17 Component Presidents. The NBoD meets quarterly, or as needed, to implement and act on major decisions between National Conventions.



The Alliance Executive Committee (AEC) is made up of the National President and National Executive Vice-President, in addition to all 7 Regional Executive Vice-Presidents across Canada. The AEC meets monthly, or as needed, to ensure that the day to day operations of the PSAC are functioning smoothly.



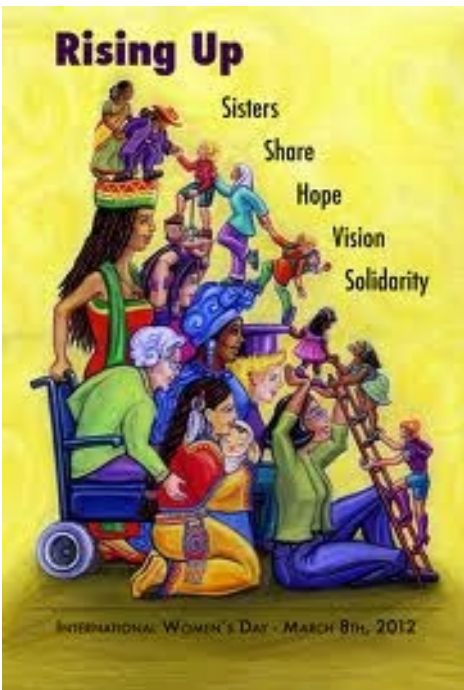


PSAC ONTARIO NEWSLETTER

Our Union is Diverse and Constantly Evolving: Get Involved!

Regional Women's Committees

welcome all members who self-identify as being a woman and are organized by geographic area. Each RWC sets their own goals and priorities, which relate to gender equality and tackle issues such as pay equity, childcare access, maternity leave, and increasing women's participation within PSAC and the larger labour movement.



RWC members participate in social justice events and are politically active, lobbying different levels of government on important issues. For more information on a RWC near you, contact your regional office, or Colleen Wice, the Ontario Council's representative for RWCs.

Wicec@psac.com

PSAC Area Councils are PSAC's political action bodies and are welcome to all members. Members meet to discuss issues facing our members and what actions can be taken to place political pressure on politicians to address these issues.



Area Councils help to organize members for demonstrations, pickets, phone banks and a variety of actions to lobby all levels of government.

For more information on an Area Council near you, contact your regional office, or speak with Debbie Willett, Ontario Council's Area Council's Representative.

Willetd@psac.com



Human Rights Committees include: **Racially Visible Action Committees, Members with Disabilities Action Committee, Pride Committees, Aboriginal Circles** and **Regional Women's Committees**.



These committees were established to deal with bringing together members from specific equity groups to create safe spaces to discuss issues and barriers affecting marginalized groups.

These committees identify, raise awareness and participate in actions that would help to create a more equal society by working to



eliminate discriminatory attitudes, practices and laws.



PSAC PRIDE • FIERTÉ DE L'AFPC

PSAC Ontario Council has equity member representatives for each of the five equity seeking groups.



The Harper government is making sweeping cuts to Public Services that affect Canadians and our way of life. To bring these issues to the forefront, the PSAC Ontario Council is launching a video challenge aimed at reminding Canadians of why Public Services are so important.

MY COMMUNITY ~ MY FUTURE ~ MY PUBLIC SERVICES

YouTube VIDEO CHALLENGE

WHAT DO PUBLIC SERVICES MEAN TO YOU ?



SHOW US IN A 45 TO 120 SECOND VIDEO!

Work alone or as part of a team (maximum three members per team) and you could become the next YouTube star while promoting Public Services in Canada!

The competition will be launched May 16th and close July 31st

TWO CHANCES TO WIN!!

A panel of Ontario Council members will select the first winning video, which will be announced August 24th

Evaluations will be based on originality, audiovisual quality and message effectiveness

Of the remaining videos, 5 will be selected to be posted on the PSAC Ontario YouTube page for the **People's Choice Award**

The winner of the People's Choice Award will be the video that receives the most "likes." Winner will be announced September 21st

Each member of the winning teams will receive a Blackberry Playbook



Show your talent while you stand up for Public Services!!

Complete information and rules can be found at www.pfac.com/ontario

