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NEWSLETTER

Let's Look at Government Efficiency.

Normally when a government or political party speaks about finding efficiencies, paying down debt, or stopping "waste", that usually means slashing public services and programs and laying off workers.

Why is this the case? Study after study has shown that strong public services reduces inequality and strengthens the economy by providing support to the private sector. Why is cutting good jobs the answer? It's those same jobs that provide the purchasing power to support local businesses.

We have examples from countries around the world showing how austerity reduces economic output, while causing misery to so many.



There are better options that the government could enact right away to save money and protect the services and programs the public needs. In particular, remote work has been proven to increase productivity, improve work-life balance and save billions for the government. It's also better for the environment and lessens congestion across roadways.

Let's also stop all the contracting out, which is more expensive than having the public service take on that work. The federal government spent more than \$19 billion on external contracts and services in 2024-2025, more than double the \$8.5 billion in 2020.

Whether it's the Liberals federally, or the Progressive Conservatives provincially, governments should stop giving lucrative contracts to private companies and put an end to the waste.

Craig Reynolds

PSAC Ontario Regional Executive
Vice-President

Council Bios: Emily Green

My name is Emily Green, and I am your new Region 1 (Northwestern Ontario) Representative on PSAC Ontario Regional Council. I have worked for Service Canada for almost 10 years and am part of the Canada Employment and Immigration Union (CEIU) Component. I began my union activism with CEIU Ontario's Front-End Outreach Committee and Health and Safety Committee.

Working on a committee is a great introduction to getting involved in your union by focusing on a specific issue or concern. In 2022, I was appointed to a vacancy on my Local Executive and later was elected President of CEIU Local 623.

During the strike of 2023, I served as a picket captain in Thunder Bay. That same year I became secretary of the PSAC Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario Area Council. It is incredible working with union members from across Components and DCLs; the diversity of experiences and perspectives helps strengthen our union by ensuring inclusivity.



Emily Green

Region 1 (Northwestern Ontario) Representative

This past year I helped to reestablish the Thunder Bay Regional Women's Committee, where I currently sit as Chair. I am also the Vice-President of the PSAC Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario Area Council.

Those who have worked with me know my desire to impact change and my passion for justice. I am hoping to bring my tenacity and empathy to this role and represent our region well.



Labour Day in the Ottawa Valley

After nearly five years of no Labour Day celebrations in the Ottawa Valley, we decided that this was the year that we were going to restart things. To gauge interest, we kept it pretty low key. A BBQ, face painting and a golf mini putt. We invited all PSAC Locals in the Ottawa Valley, as well as the members from our District Labour Council.

We were nervous that no one would show up, but our members proved us wrong! We had a steady stream of members and their families all day. Many played mini putt, and the young, and young at heart, enjoyed getting their faces painted.

Many stayed for the duration of the BBQ and spent time chatting with each other and catching up. We had great collaboration between the three Local Presidents on the Base to pull off this event and make it the success that it was.

We look forward to being bigger and better next year with more collaboration with our District Labour Council, as well as other local unions. Special thanks to Forging Forward Counselling Services, Orbit Insurance, and Happy Valley Face Painting for joining us, as well as our fantastic PSAC staff rep Max, and to the members who helped make this day such a huge success.

Chandra Buschold

Regionally Based Separate Employer Locals Representative



Toronto Labour Day

PSAC members proudly marched together in the Toronto Labour Day parade, and it was amazing! The energy, the laughter, the music, and the sea of union members walking side by side made the day truly unforgettable. It was a celebration of workers' rights and solidarity, but also of our strength when we come together as one.

The PSAC Greater Toronto Area Council wants to thank every member who joined us; you made our presence loud, proud, and full of spirit. Your participation is what makes our union strong, and seeing so many of us, representing and supporting each other, was inspiring.

Together, we made this Labour Day one to remember!

Doron Jacob

Region 5 (GTA) representative



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30th, 2025, in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the PSAC London Area Council hosted a screening of the documentary, "Sugarcane". I'm honoured to share this powerful documentary with members in our region, along with a guided facilitation to support reflection and discussion. The film investigates the abuse and disappearance of children at a residential school, sparking a reckoning at the nearby Sugarcane Reserve.

This event was supported by the PSAC London Area Council, the PSAC Southwestern Racialized Members Committee, the Southwestern Pride Committee, and the Southwestern Members with Disabilities Access Committee.

Watching Sugarcane was a deeply emotional experience for me. I left the screening with a heavy heart, reflecting on the immense pain endured by the survivors and the continued need for truth, accountability, and healing. Engaging with history is part of our responsibility in reconciliation.

For me, it reinforced how important it is to keep listening, learning, and standing in solidarity with Indigenous communities. I'm grateful to be part of a union that creates space for these conversations.

Thu Trinh



Party in the Park

On August 9, 2025, the Region 3 (Kingston) equity committees, and the Kingston Area Council, jointly hosted a BBQ for all our members in the area. It was an event to get back to our roots and start working together as a community to support all our members.

With many members facing workforce adjustment, our Area Council and Committees decided to invite various community organizations that could provide support to our members with assistance such as resumé writing and interview skills, mental health supports, accessing food banks and addiction help. We saw many from our community at the event, while members and their families enjoyed hot dogs, cotton candy, bouncy castles and face painting.

We have since heard from many that attended that they enjoyed the event. Region 3's equity committees and Area Council look forward to planning and hosting more events, as well as hosting in multiple locations, given the size of the area. A special thank you to our committees and Area Council executive members who made this event possible, and to those who came out and helped.

Chandra Buschold

Regionally Based Separate Employer Locals Representative



PSAC Ontario Indigenous Gathering

As part of my union work with PSAC, and as the Indigenous Members representative for the Ontario Region, I was honoured and excited to have been able to Chair and participate in the first-ever Indigenous Gathering in Ontario, held on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation as well as the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee peoples, also known as Toronto on Sep 12th-14th.

The event was inspirational, uplifting, challenging, surprising, overwhelming, and overall amazing. From developing the agenda, carefully selecting and creating meaningful content, reviewing materials, reaching out to members to encourage participation, attending planning meetings — the whole process was such a great learning opportunity.

This of course would not have been possible without the wonderful and dedicated PSAC staff; Alex (Vital) Stuit, PSAC BC Regional Representative, Carol Fortin, PSAC Atlantic Regional Representative, Tammy Lucas, PSAC Administrative Assistant, Kingston, and Melissa Arsenault, PSAC Regional Representative, Sudbury.

To my REVP Craig Reynolds, thank you for believing in me and supporting my work and my vision. A beautiful thank you to my dear friend and union colleague Dolly Ablitt, PSAC Human Rights Officer/Indigenous Rights Officer for your ongoing support and encouragement. I appreciate you all more than you know.

Delegates came together, with the support of our in-residence Elder Valarie King, as a union family in a beautiful space; to listen, learn, discuss, share, laugh, cry, to sing and even dance. We shared personal stories of our lives and work as union activists, we sat in support of those who were hurting, laughed with joy and shed tears of sorrow. We came up with important resolutions to advance our work as Indigenous members, left feeling gratitude and appreciation. I met new members, made new friends, hugged those who have been in my life for a long time, and was overjoyed that people took time out of their lives and away from their personal responsibilities to travel and join me in making this memorable event.

Chi-miigwetch to Pat Mandy, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and to Ogimaa-Kwe (Chief) Claire Sault who joined us in our circle to open and close our memorable event.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Michelle Woods
Indigenous Members Representative



Pride Season

PSAC Ontario stands in solidarity with our 2SLGBTQIA+ members and union affiliates who came together at Pride events all across the province. Our participation for the summer 2025 Pride season brought our members participation to Toronto, Sudbury, Cornwall, London, Muskoka, Windsor, Minden and Peterborough this year.

Interested in participating or helping host a Pride related event in your area? Reach out to your Regional Council 2SLGBTQIA+ Representative!

Ted Cabanes

2SLGBTQIA+ Representative



Member's Corner: Elbows Up

How has the recent political climate affected us here in Canada? I ask myself as I look around the LCBO for a bottle of Jack Daniels and am unable to find it. So, I reach for J.P. Wiser's, distilled here in my backyard of Windsor, Ontario. Not that I am suggesting that alcohol is the solution to anything; but it stands as an example of a breakdown in a once respectable relationship with the USA.

Elbows up my friends - a phrase conjured up by the great Gordie Howe, nicknamed "Mr. Hockey", and known for his toughness. Canadians are known for our politeness and diplomacy, a nation of people who understand how to find common ground. How things have changed!

The disrespect President Trump has shown our country has resulted in a patriotic "Buy Canadian" campaign, with people foregoing American products and staying away from popular travel destinations like Florida and Vegas. Like many have chosen, my hard-earned dollars will stay in Canada supporting local businesses.

Even in these times of international political unrest and trade wars, I must admit I have never been prouder to say, "I AM CANADIAN".

Mel Lucier

UTE Local 00018 Secretary



Tell Ford and Carney to Deliver Mercury Justice

The Grassy Narrows community has been fighting for government support to address mercury contamination in their water and the health consequences the community has suffered because of it.

Support Grassy Narrows in restoring their community and way of life from the damage that mercury has done. Please sign and share the [email action](#) to demand that Premier Ford and Prime Minister Carney deliver justice!

Dan Mossip-Balkwill

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