

## Aboriginal Action Circle

### Regional Council Representative

#### Annual Report

The following will provide a summary of events and activities undertaken by the Aboriginal Action Circle (AAC) Representative on the PSAC NCR Council.

Given that the AAC is the only Committee within the NCR to elect a representative that seats on the NCR Executive Council to attend the NCR Council meetings as a member of the NCR Executive Council, the role of the AAC Rep is a vital role in the ongoing sharing of information to the members of the Circle. The voice of the AAC is represented through the elected representative and the person must commit to attending regular NCR Council meetings (Monthly & Quarterly) in addition to additional NCR Council functions and training events.

Over the past 11 months (January – November 2013), your representative on the NCR Council has attended the following regular NCR Executive Council monthly meetings; IN Jan , Feb Mar 2013, Apr 2013, May 2013, Aug 2013, Sept 2013, Oct 2013, Nov 2013

In addition, there were quarterly meetings of the NCR Council held in January, May and Oct which he was present. (Lac Leamy, Museum of Nature)

Activities undertaken/participated in over the past year include supporting the AAC in its' bid to buy and distribute "Red Feathers" in support of the **Idle No More** movement. The Red Feathers were Canadian made and were distributed at the Summer Solstice Festival & Pow Wow in June 2013. The feathers were also distributed to PSAC members during the year and most recently at the PSAC Equity Conference from Nov 18<sup>th</sup> to Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

The AAC also took participated in the training course for the "We are all Affected" campaign and has been actively soliciting members from his local to sign the pledge card. In addition, he also co-facilitated a number of workshops in the past year with Regional Reps from the NCR as well as two workshops during the PSAC Equity Conference. He was also in attendance at the meeting in October pertaining to the C-4 legislation being discussed (and passed in Dec) by this government.

In the spring, he attended the NCR Council Retreat in Maniwaki where issues and concerns were identified concerning the Labour Movement in general and a follow-up meeting is scheduled for early January to determine what can be implemented in the Region in the coming year.

Finally, the NCR Rep has actively worked with members of the AAC. He attended the planning session in February 2013 where he and another AAC member agreed to review and make recommendations regarding the current Terms of Reference. He played an instrumental role in revising the Terms of Reference for the Circle and plans to present the final version of the new Terms of Reference at the January meeting seeking approval from the members.



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The ACC Representative on the NCR Council is both honoured and humbled to have represented the Circle at the NCR Council during 2013. He has found this to be a rewarding and growing experience in his labour movement activities. Without the Circle, the voice of the Aboriginal members WOULD HAVE TO find another medium in which to bring to light a number of issues and concerns as they continue to struggle as they work in the federal public service.

In the spirit of sharing and in solidarity,

John Henri Commanda

AAC NCR Council Representative 2013

