



National Capital Region

Alternate REVP Report – Rapport du VPER Suppléant

January 1st – April 30th 2019

Prepared April 29th

Report by Alex Silas, A/REVP PSAC-NCR

Since my election as Alternate REVP in December I've endeavoured to hit the ground running and be a strong presence & voice for members of the NCR. As your A/REVP I've been an active participant & organizer for Treasury Board Bargaining Mobilizing and we remain active in our fight against Phoenix to put pressure on the government to fix its broken pay system. I've continued my involvement in our "Heat Is On" Campaign and we have made headway fighting privatization in the NCR. I've focused on engaging Young Workers in our union and have been active in our YWC which has grown not only in membership but in activism. I've continued to work towards engaging DCL members and creating a network of NCR-DCL locals. I've also remained on-hand and at the disposal of our equity & action committees and have strived to be an ally to promote and support diversity & equity in our union. I've taken part in lobbying of elected officials on both local & national campaigns for the public service and the broader labour & progressive movement and have provided testimonial & media interviews as an elected union official. I've prioritized advancing my union education to further develop my skillset & knowledge-base as a labour activist. I've sought to build links inter-regionally and across our union's components to work together to face common challenges. I've organized & rallied with aligned labour & community organizations seeking to strengthen the bonds of solidarity within our movement, with a priority on community involvement with the intent that solidarity means community. I've been an active militant in political actions & rallies in our region standing in solidarity alongside our comrade activists to demand progress and to fight for the rights of workers. I've remained available and at the disposal of our leadership, PSAC staff, and with utmost dedication to the members of our union.

It's been a great kick off to 2019 comrades, sisters, brothers, and friends! I look forward to continuing to mobilize & build with you all and all the progress we can achieve together!

<p>January 10th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with MPP Joel Harden (NDP – Ottawa Centre) to provide testimonial as part of “Heat Is On” Campaign to fight privatization/P3s • Meeting with Rideau-Rockcliffe By-Election Candidate Peter Heyck to provide testimonial as part of “Heat Is On” Campaign to fight privatization/P3s • Consultation Meeting with “Heat Is On” Campaign Economic Researcher
<p>January 10th</p>	<p>Attended YWC AGM. New Committee Executive elected in. Discussion on mandate for 2019, new approach to how committee will be run, and outreach to recruit more members.</p>
<p>(away out of country on vacation January 11th – 27th)</p>	
<p>January 28th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led rally & participated in petition-action on Sparks street as part of “Heat Is On” Campaign to fight privatization/P3s. • Our goals with this action were to spread information & increase public awareness/support on the issues, to gather with allies in our effort, and to put pressure on the government to stop plans to privatize downtown Ottawa heating plants. • Gave interviews as part of the “Heat Is On” campaign to Radio Canada Ottawa-Gatineau “Les Matins d’Ici”, The Hill Times, and iPolitics.
<p>February 4th</p>	<p>Provided testimonial as PSAC-NCR elected official to House of Commons</p>

	Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO) as part of Heat Is On Campaign
February 5th	Attended YWC Meeting.
February 6th	<p>Signed on as initial sponsoring supporter for House of Commons e-petition with calls for the Government to:</p> <p>1) Stop the privatization of the National Capital Region central heating plants and related infrastructure as described in the Energy Service Acquisition Program; and</p> <p>2) Call on the Ministers responsible to work with the personnel who currently operate the plants, and with them, develop a plan to meet the goals while ensuring that these assets, and their maintenance and operation, stay completely in the public sector.</p>
February 6th	NCR-DCL Caucus Q1 2019 Meeting. Discussed plans to create DCL Education Workshop, Caucus mandate for 2019, upcoming National DCL Academic Sector Roundtable, Establishing NCR-DCL Committee and increasing DCL engagement.
February 19th	Attended meeting of Education Committee.
February 21st	Meeting with MP Steve MacKinnon (Liberal – Gatineau) to provide testimonial as part of “Heat Is On” Privatization Campaign.
CLC National Lobby Day 2019	

<p>February 25th : CLC Lobby Day One</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended PSAC Caucus. Discussed Treasury Board Bargaining and lobbying MPs for TB Bargaining. • Attended CLC Lobby Day Orientation. Presentations on Pharmacare & Pensions campaigns.
<p>February 26th : CLC Lobby Day Two</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby Meeting with MP Karen McCrimmon (Liberal – Kanata-Carleton). Lobbying for Pharmacare, Fair Pensions, Right to Strike, and TB Bargaining. • Lobby Meeting with MP Elizabeth May (Green Party Leader – Saanich-Gulf Islands). Lobbying for Pharmacare, Fair Pensions, TB Bargaining, and Heat Is On Privatization Campaign. • Met with Minister of Employment, Workforce, and Labour MP Patty Hajdu (Liberal – Thunder Bay-Superior North) along with members of PSAC-NCR YWC during social event to briefly discuss issues affecting young workers and plan for future lobby meeting.
<p>February 27th</p>	<p>Participated in PSAC Rally Training for following day's rally on Phoenix. Prepped materials & made signs for rally.</p>

<p>February 28th: PSAC Day of Action on Phoenix</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in rally and marched in downtown Ottawa. Stood in solidarity with hundreds of PSAC members to demand that this government hear us, fix Phoenix, and pay public servants what we're owed. • Hosted Live Stream on PSAC National Facebook Page. Provided on-the-ground reporting of rally and interviewed members & PSAC elected officials present at rally about our action.
<p>March 5th</p>	<p>Attended PSAC-NCR YWC Meeting.</p>
<p>March 7th</p>	<p>Meeting with Emilie Taman (NDP Candidate for Ottawa Centre Federal Riding) to provide testimonial as part of "Heat Is On" Campaign.</p>
<p>March 12th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with OSAN (Ontario Student Activist Network) to discuss building relationships/networking with PSAC NCR-YWC and the fight against the Ford Government. • Attended 15andfairness Ottawa Organizing Meeting
<p>March 13th</p>	<p>Attended Ottawa Area Council 2019 AGM</p>
<p>March 22nd</p>	<p>Attended "Bullying in the Workplace / Intimidation Au Travail" Training</p>
<p>March 22nd</p>	<p>Participated in OCAF (Ottawa Coalition Against Ford) Protest Rally at Ontario Conservative Party Event in Barrhaven/Nepean alongside aligned labour & community</p>

	organizations protesting the Ford/Conservative Government's cuts.
March 24th	Organized & participated in Inter-Region Academic DCL caucus leading up to National Academic DCL Roundtable. Discussed key issues & challenges faced by Academic DCLs.
Broadbent Institute Progressive Summit 2019	
March 27th – 28th	<p>Networked & connected with labour & progressive leaders from across Canada.*</p> <p>*(unfortunately I was unable to attend the full day of programming on the 28th due to conflicting work schedule).</p>
March 29th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heard from speakers Jaclyn Corin (March For Our Lives), Charles Taylor presenting the award in his name to Akwasi Owusu-Bempah (Criminologist & Cannabis Amnesty Advocate), Rick Smith (Broadbent Institute), Oliva Chow presenting the Jack Layton award to Leilana Farha (Canada Without Poverty), and John Horgan (BC Premier and Leader of BC NDP). • Attended panel discussion on Democracy in the Digital Age.
March 29th (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel of Indigenous Women Leaders Tanya Talaga (Author), Nahanni Fontaine (Manitoba NDP MLA), and Si Sityaawks/Jessica Wood

	<p>(Assistant Deputy Minister, Reconciliation, Transformation and Strategies).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heard from closing speakers NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh and Rayne Fisher-Quann (March For Our Education). • Attended Reconciling for the Future: Social Movements and Reconciliation workshop offered by Canadian Roots Exchange.
March 27th	<p>Attended Treasury Board Bargaining Mobilization Committee Meeting. Brainstormed ideas & strategies. Discussed plans for mobilizing in NCR & nationally.</p>
March 28th	<p>Took part in sit-in action at MP David McGuinty's constituency office (Liberal – Ottawa South) to ask for support for progress in TB Bargaining.</p> <p>Protested outside office after MP refused to meet with PSAC members & constituents and threatened to have us arrested for trespassing.</p>
April 1st	<p>Attended Virtual Activity & Presence Training.</p>
April 4th	<p>Meeting with Elizabeth May (Green Party Leader) to provide testimonial & lobby support as part of "Heat Is On" Privatization Campaign.</p>
April 5th	<p>Participated in Acorn Ottawa's "Trivial Beer-Suit" Fundraising Event as part of PSAC-NCR Team.</p>

<p>April 6th & 7th : PSAC-NCR H&S Conference</p>	<p>Heard from speakers & presenters at 2019 PSAC-NCR Triennial Health & Safety Conference. Speakers included Elizabeth Manley, Tina Vincent, Mark Barnes, Samuel Breau and PSAC Health & Safety Officers Marc Beland, James Infantino, Andrea Peart, Denis St-Jean on topics ranging from mental health, opioids/naloxone, workers compensation, workplace health & safety, domestic violence + more.</p>
<p>April 7th</p>	<p>Participated in planning committee for Treasury Board Bargaining Mobilization at Tunney's Pasture. "Return to Sender" Plantgate Action planned for April 25th.</p>
<p>April 8th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropped off donation on behalf of Young Workers Committee to Moon Time Sisters Menstruation Products Collection Drive for Northern Communities. • Attended PSAC-NCR Regional Executive meeting
<p>April 10th</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended OAC Meeting • Attended (by teleconference) Planning Meeting for 15andfairness MayWorks May Day event
<p>April 12th</p>	<p>Participated in Ottawa Acorn Ford Fight Back Rally & letter delivery action at MPP Jeremy Roberts' constituency office (PC – Ottawa West-Nepean) along with aligned labour & community activists.</p>
<p>April 15th</p>	<p>Participated in OFL Power of Many province-wide telephone town hall on</p>

	the new Ontario Provincial Budget put forward by the Ford/Conservative Government, its impacts, and how we mobilize to fight back.
April 16th	Attended Young Workers Committee Meeting.
April 17th	Participated in full-day planning & organizing meeting for upcoming TB Bargaining Mobilization Actions. "Return to Sender" Plantgate Actions planned for April 25 th at Tunney's Pasture and April 26 th at Place du Portage. Bargaining Team Support Rally Action planned for May Day (May 1 st) on Sparks Street.
April 17th	Participated in OFL Power of Many/Rally for Education Ford Fight Back Rally at MPP Jeremy Roberts' constituency office (Conservative – Ottawa West-Nepean) alongside community & labour allies.
April 22nd	Attended Planning Meeting for 15andFairness/MayWorks May Day "Workers Cabaret: Resistance Is Beautiful" Event
April 23rd	Participated in Workers Action Centre' Know Your Rights Train the Trainer Workshop (offered by Workers Action Centre/15andFairness Ottawa)
April 24th	Attended NCR-DCL Caucus Meeting. Discussed submission of NCR-DCL Committee Resolution. Discussed upcoming DCL workshop.
April 25^h	Participated in "Return to Sender" Action at Tunney's Pasture as part of TB Bargaining Mobilization.

April 26th	Participated in “Return to Sender” Action at Place du Portage as part of TB Bargaining Mobilization.
April 26th	Dropped off donation to YSB (Youth Services Bureau Ottawa) Cleaning Products Drive on behalf of PSAC-NCR YWC. Donations will be used to build cleaning product kits for youth escaping homelessness.
April 28th	Attended Workers Day of Mourning Ceremony.
April 29th	Submitted “Establishing NCR-DCL Committee” resolution for consideration & review by membership at AGM on behalf of NCR-DCL Caucus.
April 30th	Participated in National PSAC Young Workers Coordinators Monthly Call.

Moving forward in my mandate I plan on continuing to build on the work we’ve started together this year, continuing to find new ways to engage with & support the members of our union, and to continue taking on an active role as your Alternate REVP.

With a federal election looming it will be crucial to make labour priorities election priorities and that as public servants we stand firm and demand the fair treatment we deserve from our employer.

I believe there is much we can accomplish together friends, brothers, sisters, comrades.

I’m fired up!

Solidarity/Solidarité,

Alex Silas