

Quarterly Regional Report, Regional Health and Safety Committee

January – May 2017

Following the Regional NRC Council meeting held in Winter 2017 (January 28), members of the Committee immediately got busy finalising numerous files, namely the Committee's banner.

This winter the PSAC has sponsored spots for its members to attend the Mental Health First Aid course developed by the Mental Health Commission of Canada and delivered by the Joint Learning Program. This initiative enables 6 members from the various Committee to attend, 3 of which were from the Health & Safety Committee.

Every year on April 28 we pay our respects to, and remember, the thousands of workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness as a result of work-related incidents. Every worker has the right to return home safe and sound at the end of each work day. This year and as the case with past years, members of our Committee joined the many others in solidarity at Vincent Massey Park in Ottawa to pay tribute to all victims of a workplace accident.

One of the committee's on-going challenges and priorities is to expand its membership to the point where the majority of the components and DCLs, in the National Capital Region, are represented on our Regional H&S Committee. In the spirit of being pro-active to increase membership, the Committee will have an information table at the next Triannual Convention for the National Capital Region to be held at the Ottawa Congress Centre from May 5th to 7th.

The Committee is currently working on a health & safety initiative to enhance (improve ?) our next collective agreement to be negotiated as of 2018. The Committee proposes to add an article that will shift the responsibility to the employer to offer a supplement to our members while they wait for claims for workplace accidents to be processed by the various provincial entities. A

Sub-Committee has been created to look at the issue in order to identify which mechanisms are more appropriate to transform this proposition into reality.

Spring is upon us, I want to thank all the committee members, the PSAC staff and other representatives, and a special thanks to our regional PSAC Health and Safety Representative, Marc Béland, for their hard work and support over the last many months.

Just a friendly reminder again to all that the committee meets on the third (3rd) Wednesday of every month starting again on May 17, 2017. Please come out and join us! For the location of the meeting please refer to the PSAC regional website.

We encourage all components and DCL's to come out and join us.

Imre Bene, Sylvie Leblanc and Robert Basque,

Your committee executive,

PSAC Regional H&S Committee