

**Report of the  
Regional Executive Vice President  
National Capital Region  
May 2017 (covering January 1 to March 31)**

**PART 1: ACTIVITIES AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES**

**Regional Council – activities, successes and objectives**

- The Regional Council met on January 28 and, amongst others, discussed regional finances, the new PA agreement, and Ottawa ACORN's 'Agenda for Change' project.
- The Regional Council Executive met in February.

**Regional offices**

- The regional offices are currently fully staffed.
- A competition is currently underway for the Regional Education Officer as Johanne Labine will be retiring later this year.

**Regional communications**

- Members received information about PSAC from the website, e-mail newsletters, and social media posts. The REVP's office continues to be heavily solicited by the news media with requests for interviews dealing with public services, union issues, social justice issues, and the flawed Phoenix pay system. A considerable number of interviews on the federal budget were also given around March 22.
  - The REVP Newsletter now has approximately 14,000 subscribers.
  - The PSAC NCR Facebook page now has over 6,200 fans, Thanks to paid boosting, posts from the Facebook page reach tens of thousands of targeted Facebook users per week.
  - PSAC NCR is also present on Instagram, Twitter and YouTube. Instagram engagement is growing quickly too, with around 270 followers.

**Phoenix Pay Debacle**

- The Phoenix Pay issue continues to be a top concern and PSAC has issued regular communication to members on the evolving situation.
- Considerable progress has been made on fixing pay-related problems for workers on parental leave and disability leave. PSPC expects to reach a 'steady state' by the end of April.
- On February 23, the first anniversary of the Phoenix pay system, PSAC joined other unions in calling on the Liberals to announce a \$75 million contingency fund from which departments could draw on to fix Phoenix pay problems. PSAC NCR also held a Phoenix day of action along with PIPSC in Gatineau on February 24.
  - PSAC expressed public disappointment at the March 22 federal budget did not include and of the funding requested for Phoenix.
  - PSAC expressed further disappointed when it was publicized in the media that 340 PSPC executives were getting bonuses while tens of thousands of public service workers continue to experience pay problems.
- As a result of the December 2016 Federal Court Order, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) has had to closely consult with and seek input from PSAC on fixes to Phoenix. Consequently, PSAC has been able to ensure that the Canada Revenue Agency have made preparations to handle unusual tax issues experienced by those affected by the Phoenix pay system.

## **Collective Bargaining and Ratification**

### *Treasury Board*

- Following more than two years of bargaining and the tentative agreement for the PA unit reached in December, the EB, TC and SV units also reached tentative agreements by January.
- Ratification votes began in the National Capital Region beginning on March 1 and were scheduled to end in early April. Thousands of ballots had been cast by the end of March.
- FB bargaining stalled in early February. On February 8 PSAC filed for a Public Interest Commission (PIC) report.

## **Education**

- Participation levels in the NCR education courses in the Winter of 2016 were very good overall, especially with the basic courses. Courses included Talking Union Basics, Grievance Handling, and Duty to Accommodate.

### **Campaign for the Canadian Labour Congress**

- At the end of March, I announced my decision to run for Executive Vice-President at the CLC's Triennial Convention in May. My campaign is endorsed and supported by the PSAC National President, Alliance Executive Committee and National Board of Directors.

### **PART 2: NATIONAL PORTFOLIOS**

- Social Justice Fund
- Official Languages
- Collective bargaining: FB unit
- Public Service Dental Care Plan
- Local Stewards and Development Initiatives
- Joint Union-Management Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion

### **PART 3: REVP ACTIVITIES, LEAVE & ATTENDANCE**

- The REVP participated and attended many activities in locals, regional meetings, conference calls, and other events to inform and mobilize our activists as well as our members on how to protect our public services, and defend and promote our collective bargaining rights and provisions.
- A full accounting of travel outside the region has been submitted to the National President.
- A full accounting of the REVP's expenses has been submitted to the National President.
- A full accounting of leave taken for the period has been submitted to the National President.
- All overtime requests for certain weekend activities have been submitted.

#### *Scheduled activities*

- Alliance Executive Committee, Ottawa, January 9-10.

- Joint Union-Management Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, Ottawa, January 13.
- CFIA 70067 AGM, Ottawa, January 18.
- Joint Union-Management Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, Ottawa, January 19.
- UTE Local AGM, Ottawa, January 24.
- NCR Council, Gatineau, January 28.
- FB Bargaining, Ottawa, January 30-February 3.
- CEIU National Convention, Gatineau, February 6-7.
- NCR Executive Committee, Ottawa, February 6.
- OFL Board Retreat, Toronto, February 8-9.
- Alliance Executive Committee, Ottawa, February 13.
- National Board of Directors, Ottawa, February 14-17.
- Joint Union-Management Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, Ottawa, February 21.
- Local 70013 AGM, Ottawa, February 23.
- Phoenix Day of Action, Gatineau, February 24.
- Public Service Dental Care Plan Board, Ottawa, February 28.
- First TB Ratification Session in the NCR, Ottawa, March 1.
- St. Paul University Local AGM, Ottawa, March 1.
- CLC General Resolutions Committee, Ottawa, March 3
- Joint Union-Management Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, Ottawa, March 6.
- Social Justice Fund Steering Committee, Ottawa, March 21.
- Federal Budget media and briefing, Ottawa, March 22.
- National Equity Conferences, Toronto, March 24-28.
- Disability Insurance Discussion Forum of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, Ottawa, March 29.
- Ratification votes throughout the NCR during the entire month of March into early April.

Respectfully submitted,

**Larry Rousseau**  
**NCR REVP**