

**Report of the
Regional Executive Vice President
National Capital Region
September 2016 (covering May 1 to August 31)**

PART 1: ACTIVITIES AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Regional Council – activities, successes and objectives

- The Regional Council met on May 7 and 8 (AGM) and adopted resolutions, notably to implement the National Convention resolution on Regional Health & Safety committees, as well as making the NCR Communications Committee a statutory committee of Council. Elections were held notably electing 3 members-at-large and their alternates.
- The Regional Council Executive met in June and August.

Regional offices

- All staffing actions to fill permanent and term vacancies have been completed.

Regional communications

- Members sought information on Phoenix related problems from the website, e-mail newsletters, and social media posts. The REVP's office was heavily solicited by the news media with requests for interviews dealing with collective bargaining, the Phoenix debacle, as well as (during April and May) the OLG lockout.
 - The REVP Newsletter has more than 12,000 subscribers.
 - The PSAC NCR Facebook site now has nearly 6,000 'likes'. 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.

Connecting with the new government

- Political lobbying by members in the NCR is a priority. David McGuinty is now the Chair of the Liberal NCR Caucus, and the REVP's Office will coordinate specific issues directly with Mr. McGuinty who if necessary will act as liaison with the 11 other Liberal MPs in the NCR.

Phoenix

- During the months of May, June, July and August, the REVP gave numerous media interviews on the Phoenix debacle. Many cases directly reported by members were submitted to our National Executive Vice President, Chris Aylward, as well as the National President of Government Services Union, Donna Lackie. The REVP would like to especially thank both Brother Aylward as well as Sister Lackie for their tremendous work in successfully dealing with these cases of members who have been so badly frustratingly impacted by these pay system anomalies and insufficiencies. Needless to say, pressure on this government to fix Phoenix as well as satisfactory compensation for losses incurred by our members will be a priority in the coming months and year.

Collective Bargaining and Mobilization

OLG Lockout

- The lockout at the OLG Rideau Carleton Slots came to an end on June 2 with members returning to work pending a decision through arbitration of the financial matters upon which the parties could not agree. Thanks to the lobbying efforts of the members, the Kathleen Wynne government finally applied enough pressure to bring this dispute to a close which, if having been left up to the Employer alone, would still have the picketers out on the line to this day!
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Treasury Board mobilization

- After three fruitless sessions at the bargaining table with Treasury Board, the bargaining team members for all 5 Units came together in June for a marathon session which led to not much further progress than had been achieved during the previous sessions. Impasse was not declared however, and the parties agreed to meet again at the end of the summer in September.

Organizing

Support for CUPA

- Postdoctoral researchers at Carleton University voted to join the ranks of PSAC. The process is now underway to establish a Local as well as a functioning executive with by-laws. The Unit will be serviced through the Ottawa Regional Office.

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Solidarity activities

- PSAC-NCR, with support from the Education Committee, is now co-sponsoring 'Reignite Learning', a discussion series on public interest issues originally started by CAPE. The goal is to make Reignite an important forum for PSAC and CAPE members to discuss public policy matters.
- The Fight for \$15 and Fairness campaign is in full swing and Council members have expressed their support.

Education

- A training module called "Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples" was presented to non-Indigenous members. This project is a result of collaboration with the national aboriginal rights program and the Chair of the Aboriginal Action Circle. We also designed a new training to strengthen leadership capacity at UTE to prepare and lead strikes. This training was followed by several strike training sessions. To prepare OLG members to face their intransigent and disrespectful employer we designed and delivered training to encourage solidarity among the members and prepare them for their return to work. We also tested a project for designing evening modules designed and facilitated by Alliance Facilitators, which was very successful. A detailed report on training in the NCR is included in the Education Program report.

PART 2: NATIONAL PORTFOLIOS

- Social Justice Fund
- Official Languages
- Collective bargaining: FB unit
- National Joint Council: Joint Employment Equity Committee
- National Joint Council: Joint Task Force on Inclusion and Diversity in the Federal Public Service
- Public Service Dental Care Plan
- Local Stewards and Development Initiatives

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 the Phoenix debacle, on-going collective bargaining, and related political lobbying.

- 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

- May 2 – OLG General Meeting
- May 5 – Zone bargaining mobilization meetings
- May 6 – Luncheon with Kathleen Wynne (direct action event – OLG)
- May 7-8 – NCRC AGM
- May 11 – Social Justice Fund Steering Committee
- May 18 – Diversity in Parliament Reception at Ottawa City Hall
- May 24 – The Sharing Economy book launch, Octopus Books
- May 25 – CEIU Local AGM
- May 26 – UCTE Annual Golf Tournament
- May 30 – OSSTF Rally
- June 1 – National Joint Council Meeting
- June 6-7 – AEC
- June 8 – Collective Bargaining rally at Tunneys Pasture
- June 9 – Salvation Army Local ratification vote
- June 11 – NCR Womens Conference
- June 12 – NCR Women's Conference
- June 13 – JLP Mental Health in the Workplace Workshop
- June 15 – NJC JEEC meeting
- June 16 – Vigil on Parliament Hill for Orlando shooting victims
- June 20 – AEC
- June 21 – 23 – NboD
- June 28 - TPP Roundtable discussion (Common Frontiers)
- July 4 – NJC Joint Union Taskforce on Diversity and Inclusion in Federal

PS

- July 13-18 – IFEBP Pension Training, Halifax
- August 2 – NCRC Executive meeting
- August 3 – Panelist, Delivering Community Power Forum
- August 9-15 – World Social Forum and Montreal Pride
- August 23 – Phoenix Webinar

- August 25 – NJC Official Languages Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Rousseau
NCR REVP