

Shawn Walker Activity Report, 2014-2015

I have had a fairly busy season since obtaining my status as a Member-at-Large for the Region. I work on several campaigns, committees, councils, and outside partners events.

My ongoing activities and positions include being the General Building VP for my local, a delegate to OAC from my local, Citizen's Academy Alumni, Vice-Chair for the GottaGo!! Campaign and an active member of the Pagan community in the region.

In January I was accepted to be a participant on the Union Development Program (English East). The UDP has been an invigorating and enlightening experience which has provided me some insight and contacts to advance my ability to advance our goals.

I attended the Leading Change training, for two days I made efforts to network and make contacts with individuals that I had not met before. This training yielded mixed results and I discovered a few tricks that I have begun applying to my interactions.

While attending UDP part 2 in Toronto it became evident to me that a training course for the politics of the union would be well received. I put pen to paper and wrote a proposal which I presented to the Education Committee for just such a training course, which was well received.

In the light of the bargaining we are currently undergoing, the committees struggling to get members involved, and the constant barrage of misinformation from our employers I set out to revive the PSAC-NCR Communications Committee. After initial consultation with the REVP and the regional communication officer the inaugural meeting was held on April 14th with a group of 10 people. At the time of writing this report there is a plan to have the first elections and bylaw ratification on May 19th.

The CLC hosted a Political Action Conference on Feb 27 & 28. The Conference was well attended and I spoke to several members from other components who were looking for more information about regional events and committees.

Some other events that I have attended were The Truth About Stephen Harper, hosted by PSAC and Octopus Books, the Broadbent Institute's Progress Summit, and the PSAC's screening of Citizen Four. Each of the events were excellent and enlightening in their own ways.

As I write this I am planning my attendance to the PSAC Triennial Convention in Québec City. My presence will be that of an observer, and I plan on putting my freedom to work in support of a couple of resolutions while there. I specifically will be supporting the resolution to change the age requirement for the definition of Young Workers to include people up to the age of 35.

This summary of activities and events has been a pleasure to write as it has given me the opportunity to reflect on the season that we have just completed. The bitter winter is over and the spring is upon us, the signs of renewal are blooming and as we shed the protective layers of snow and welcome the warmth of the sun let us all renew our commitment to our causes.