



YWC Activity Report for period January 1, 2017-March 17, 2017

We would like to begin by expressing our utmost gratitude to the PSAC, the Area Council, all committees and the Regional Offices who have continued to provide unparalleled support to young workers in the National Capital Region.

The 2017 year started out on a great note. After a few years of inactivity, the YWC had a re-launch event in January 2017 to celebrate the revival of the committee as well as its 5-year anniversary. Despite the weather, we had a great turnout and participation from young workers from various components of the PSAC. This informal setting gave way to great conversation and feedback from those who attended. Following this effort, we had a working plan for the 2017 year. In the month of January as a follow-up event to the re-launch, the YWC received an invitation from Sister Robyn Benson for an informal chat and pizza night. Present at this event was also Brother Chris Aylward & Brother Larry Rousseau. This event yielded great success, we left there with an idea for a young worker focused campaign, and an event that will get the regional REVPs engaged with members.

On February 7, 2017, the YWC held its Annual General Meeting where we elected a completely new executive. The committee welcomed Rhea Sandy and Matt McKenna as the new co-chairs, Heather Ross as Treasurer, Mary Ross as Secretary and Cory Conty as Communication Officer. During the AGM lots were accomplished, to name a few of the items discussed, the YWC established a proposed budget for 2017, the Terms of reference was updated, and a list of activities for the year. Some of these activities would fall in line with our priority to unit youths from each components & the NCR, collaboration amongst the PSAC NCR committees, member engagement , increased component visibility, as well as promoting the interests of the PSAC.

Most of our efforts in the first part of this year revolved around strengthening our committee through engagement. We have discussed collaborating and sharing ideas with the CLC Young Workers committee and other committees within PSAC. Thus far we have combined efforts with RVAC, ORWC, Pride & MDAC to organize an event for March 21, in recognition of the International Day for the elimination of Racial Discrimination.

One of the committee's objectives is to build networks with other young workers within the labour movement. Members of the YWC have recently increased engagement with the Inter-union Youth Caucus, a committee comprised of young workers from the various federal public service unions. In 2016, the caucus produced 'Millennial Voices: Informing the Future of Canada's Federal Public Service' a report summarizing the results of a consultation event featuring young public service workers. Following the report's presentation – an event attended by public service leaders and the Clerk of the Privy Council, Michael Wernick – the caucus met to form working groups to put into action the various recommendations laid out in the report. The purpose of the groups are to develop action plans to help realize such recommendations as: providing young/new workers with better orientation to public service work; expanded learning and professional development opportunities; and the unionization of student and casual workers.

In addition to this the YWC has played a key role in the ongoing development of an orientation manual for young and/or new union members. The manual, 'Your Union – Let's Talk!' is an initiative undertaken by the NCR Communications Committee, which seeks to provide useful information and to answer key questions on the concept of organized labour, the general structures of the PSAC and the work it carries out. The purpose is to provide this information in a format that is appealing to young members and written to introduce these concepts to those who may be learning of them for the first time.

We would also like to confirm our commitment to continuing the work of the Young Workers Committee in partnership with PSAC, the Components, & the community.

We are planning to hold social and developmental activities throughout the year in an effort to recruit young workers. As we continue to strive to grow, network, and prepare a succession plan for the future, we respectfully ask all local presidents, council members and regional committee members to help us in this endeavour and encourage young workers in their committees and workplaces to join the Young Workers Committee.

We are very excited for 2017 as we continue to grow and advance the mandate of the Young Workers Committee in the NCR. Please encourage young members within your workplaces to get involved!