



Tuesday, May 13, 2015 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Gatineau Regional Office – Philippe-Célestin Boardroom

**Present:** 19 members and André Poliquin (PSAC)

**Guests:** Chantal Crête (NDP), Larry Rousseau (PSAC), and Luc Carrière (PIPSC)

1. Welcoming remarks

2. Special guest: Larry Rousseau, REVP

Members want action, not resolutions. We need to take strategic action and develop strategies geared to the needs of each riding. In our region, we have four NDP ridings. The Conservatives are weak in our region but not on the Ottawa side. PSAC will be targeting specific regions. Our members in Alberta have come out in large numbers and are very active, but we cannot assume we will achieve the same results in October. It is very important for members to participate in activities. We need to ask the right questions and demand answers. We need more activities on the Ottawa side. Rather than organize new activities, CRAPO should support those proposed by other organizations.

3. Presentations

The CRAPO executive has appointed an acting treasurer until the next AGM.

4. Approval of agenda

5. Report on May 1 (Chair)

The BBQ was a great success. The coalition (CSN, FTQ, PSAC and others) marched from Place du Portage to the Casino. This was one of the largest marches to date. Unfortunately, there was not much local media coverage. A huge rally is being planned for Public Service Week (May 25-26).

Members asked whether it would be possible to have a LeadNow member come to a future meeting.

6. Report on PSAC National Triennial Convention (Vice-Chair)

She handed out copies of a report she prepared after the convention. Five resolutions from the region were defeated. Brief overview of other resolutions. One member said it was a very good convention.

7. Report on Broadbent Institute Summit (Chair)

The Progress Summit went very well but focused too heavily on the U.S. rather than on Canada.

8. Report on FTQ training in Quebec City (Chair)

Very good training with many simulation exercises. She suggested the training be offered to CRAPO members so that they can apply these actions in our region.

The Chair also said that training on writing editorials for the media would be offered in June. She encouraged members to register for it.

9. 2015 federal election

- a. Special guest: Chantal Crête, NDP candidate in Argenteuil–La Petite-Nation  
Chantal introduced herself and explained how she has had to do her own fundraising since she is the very first candidate in her riding. She invited CRAPO members to join her campaign and perhaps carry out a concrete action to support her, on June 13 (NDP Day of Action), for example. Possibility of offering training on going door to door so that members can join in the events.

- b. Door-to-door training (Ottawa-Orleans, Ottawa West-Nepean)  
CRAPO members who would like to help members in the targeted ridings on the Ottawa side (Ottawa-Orleans and Ottawa West–Nepean) were encouraged to register for the training to be offered to PSAC in these ridings.

Training scheduled for Ottawa West-Nepean on May 29 and 30 and for Ottawa-Orleans on June 26-27.

- c. Targets in the Outaouais (retirement homes, associations of retired persons)

One member said that there were a lot of activities aimed at seniors in late May and that CRAPO should participate in those activities.

We need to win the public over to our side and highlight the issues important to them, such as rising cost of living, the scaling back of old-age programs, cuts to public services and the closure of Service Canada offices.

We should also target associations of retired public servants such as APSAR (Association of Public Service Alliance Retirees). CRAPO should train and launch its door-to-door teams very soon.

Another member believes we should explore the possibility of taking more daring strategic actions.

A member said that members in his local will not be voting. They are disappointed with the system, they have lost interest and trust and they do not feel properly served or represented. How can this situation be addressed?

**Be it resolved that CRAPO donate \$500 to LeadNow on the condition that the money be used for activities in Ottawa-Orleans.**

**m/s/c**

10. Resolution for PSAC-NCR Regional Council AGM

CRAPO feels that the preparation of resolutions should begin as soon as possible, not a few weeks before the meeting. CRAPO should draft a resolution on human rights for next year.

11. Other business

12. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. // Next meeting: June 17, 2015