

# VERNA MCGREGOR

Verna McGregor is from the First Nation Algonquin Community of Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg which is approximately 120 kilometres north of Ottawa, Ontario. Ottawa and Gatineau and forms part of the Algonquin Nation's traditional unceded lands.

Verna has remained firmly grounded in her community and nation. This includes the importance of the promotion of retention of the Algonquin language and culture which is so important when addressing issues.



# CHRIS AYLWARD

PSAC NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Chris Aylward was re-elected as the National President of the Public Service Alliance of Canada at PSAC's 19th National Triennial Convention in June 2022. He was first elected in 2018 and previously served as PSAC's national executive vice-president from 2012–2018.

Born and raised in Newfoundland, Chris has been an active PSAC member for over 30 years. His involvement in our union started when he became a shop steward with the Union of Taxation Employees (UTE) Local 90000 at the St. John's Taxation Centre.

Chris is a vocal advocate for the rights of all members to safe workplaces, fair wages, and strong collective agreements.



# SHARON DESOUSA

PSAC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE- PRESIDENT

Sharon DeSousa was elected as the National Executive Vice-President of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, a position she has held since September 2020, at PSAC's 19th National Triennial Convention in June 2022. She was first elected PSAC's alternate NEVP at the 2018 National Convention.

She became the first racialized regional executive vice-president (REVP) for Ontario in PSAC's history in 2011 and was subsequently re-elected in 2014 and 2017.

A passionate, driven and experienced leader within the labour movement, Sharon has a strong interest in grassroots activism and political action. She is committed to breaking down barriers, building a more inclusive and equitable labour movement, and raising employment standards for all workers.



# NICHOLAS THOMPSON

Nicholas Marcus Thompson is an award-winning advocate, labour union, and non-profit executive. He strives to dismantle systemic racism and discrimination from Canada's civil services, labour unions, and all other areas of Canadian life. He has been featured as a speaker at many prestigious institutions such as Amnesty International and the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Thompson has served in many elected roles in Canada's labour movement. Since 2018 he has served as the President of the Union of Taxation Employees Toronto North, representing workers at the Canada Revenue Agency.

Mr. Thompson's relentless advocacy for marginalized workers has led to legislative and policy changes to remove the barriers workers face.



# LAURA WALTON

Laura Walton was first elected President of CUPE's Ontario School Boards Council of Unions (OSBCU) in 2019, having served as the Council's vice-president immediately beforehand. Prior to that, she was president of CUPE Local 1022 which represents the education workers of Hastings and Prince Edward County District School Board.

Laura is proud of her rural roots growing up in Belleville where she worked in radio and marketing and supported children with special needs as an educational assistant.

With a firm belief in the socio-economic equalizing power of public education, Laura led her 55,000 coworkers across Canada's largest province to withdraw their labour for two days in November 2022 in protest of the Ford government using the notwithstanding clause to ram through a law imposing a contract on education workers.



# MAGALI PICARD

Magali Picard was elected to the position of President at the 33rd Congress of the FTQ, in January 2023, after having been Vice-President of the FTQ and the Fonds de solidarité FTQ, National Executive Vice-President of PSAC and President of the Quebec Council of the PSAC.

Magali Picard is a proud member of the Wendat nation and an activist for the rights of Indigenous peoples and women. Throughout her career, she fights for greater social justice for workers so that everyone can live in dignity. She began her career as a union activist in 1999 as president of Local 10042 of the Union of Veterans' Affairs Employees (UVAE) affiliated with the PSAC. Her great skills and her enthusiasm were quickly noticed, and she quickly rose through the ranks of the PSAC, affiliated with the FTQ.

Magali Picard is first vice-president of the board of directors and member of the executive committee of the Fonds de solidarité FTQ.

She also sits on the Canadian Council and Executive Committee of the Canadian Labor Congress (CLC) and the General Council of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

