



Hello everyone,

I became A/REVP in October 2024. It's been a bit of a whirlwind!

The first endeavor was the Remote Works campaign. This was a joint effort with the Ottawa Area Council (OAC) and the REVP. We had a rally in front of Treasury Board with Ruth our REVP, Nate Prier the president of CAPE, David Neufeld, the President of the Union of Safety and Justice Employees (USJE) as well as the Mayor of North Grenville Nancy Peckford as speakers. We did distribute the new Remote Works merchandise to all who came. As luck would have it mother nature decided to bestow us with our first snowstorm and turnout was less than expected but we were there and did make a presence.

As a Regional Vice President (RVP) for USJE, I continue to educate USJE members on the relationship we have with PSAC and to become involved with the Region. Letting our local and USJE know what resources we can share between the two entities. USJE National has been visible in the NCR on many occasions with the Remote Works campaign. The public safety sector has been very strict and rigid in bringing us back as much as possible. Each time we have a rally or plant gate I have reached out to PSAC to be involved as well. I feel that its important to keep the lines of communication going between PSAC and components. This is something I will continue to do.

The new year brought us into an election frenzy!! With the snap election call for the Ontario provincial government, there was a flurry of activity. The OAC sprang into action and with the help of the REVP's office, we managed to put together three town halls to introduce members to their candidates in three ridings in Ottawa where there was no clear favorite. Ruth Lau MacDonald, Will Tait and I hosted one townhall each. I'm pleased to say that they all went well, and we had a great turnout for a first-time event with little notice (thanks, Doug Ford!). I'm happy to report that in those three ridings, one voted in a Liberal candidate and the other two voted in NDP candidates!!

The work doesn't stop. There are plans to address the upcoming federal election that are gearing up. I will be participating in more online townhalls as well as working on providing our members in the NCR material that will be useful when speaking to their candidates. Sound exciting?? Come and join us in the OAC.....

Lastly, I'm so looking forward to exploring more committees and getting to know more of the folks that make committees happen. I attended many events and am impressed with the efforts of our membership. These committees are important to our community they educate, embrace and provide a community for us where we can grow and come together.

In solidarity,

Sonia O'Brien Colterman

A/REVP, NCR