

**PSAC NCR's Indigenous Action Circle****June to October 2025****Executive Members: Sonya Driscoll (Co-Chair)**

I am proud to highlight our region's strong commitment to Indigenous issues. Over the past two years, we have actively supported local Indigenous artists and craft makers by distributing Seal Skin Poppies to our Regional Locals and members at conventions and conferences.

The PSAC has a longstanding history of protecting and advocating for the rights of Indigenous Peoples both in Canada and internationally. Our Indigenous members work tirelessly to advance this commitment through research, education, advocacy, and awareness campaigns. Current initiatives include:

- **Truth and Reconciliation Resources:** Providing National Day for Truth and Reconciliation materials for learning and reflection.
- **Uncovering the Truth of Le Estcwicwéy:** Supporting efforts to address and reveal historical injustices.
- **National Inquiry into MMIWG:** Advocating for stronger government action and raising awareness through the Red Dress Campaign.
- **Clean Drinking Water:** Urging the government to fulfill promises to supply clean drinking water to all communities.
- **Still Thirsty for Justice:** Highlighting ongoing challenges regarding water rights.
- **Indigenous Languages in the Public Service:** Collaborating with the Treasury Board on a joint report about the use of Indigenous languages.

We have also been providing regular updates on these efforts and other related activities via the PSAC NCR Website to keep members informed and engaged.

Unfortunately, our NCR Indigenous Action Circle (IAC) has faced some challenges this year. We lost our long-standing co-chair and Treasurer, reducing our Executive team to just two members. Additionally, one Executive member is currently on a three-month personal leave, which has made it difficult to maintain our usual level of activity.

Our goal for the coming year is to grow our membership and broaden our educational outreach by organizing events that focus on environmental activism, collective bargaining, and Indigenous rights. We plan to host panel discussions and other engagement opportunities to strengthen awareness, learning, and solidarity among members.

We are also eager to collaborate more closely with other PSAC NCR committees to leverage our collective strengths and volunteer capacity. By working together, we can organize invigorating activities across the NCR region that promote inclusion, unity, and action.

Together, we remain deeply committed to strengthening our community and advancing Indigenous issues in meaningful and lasting ways.



Over the years, I have seen and heard so much from our members—their struggles, hopes, and dedication. During major assemblies, such as the recent PSAC National Bargaining Conference, we are reminded of the power, strength, and advocacy that unite us on a national front. Yet, the legacy of colonization and intergenerational trauma remains present, even within the public service.

As a visionary and someone devoted to multiple roles, I feel a personal responsibility to move forward—to help heal and address issues not only for our Indigenous members but for all members. I am proud to stand as a lifelong union activist, committed to seeing our causes through to fruition.

We face challenging times ahead, and the last thing we want is for reconciliation and our hard-fought rights to fall by the wayside due to budget cuts or shifting priorities. We must prepare ourselves on all fronts. Keeping the circle of reconciliation strong means continuing to train, mentor, and uplift diverse voices within PSAC. By providing members with the skills and opportunities to grow, we can develop the next generation of union leaders—rooted in unity, respect, and a shared commitment to progress.

**Events, Conferences, Meetings, etc.**

- PSAC Leadership Course – Completed (Nov 2024).
- Environmental Racism Project – Panel Discussion – Participated as a panelist (photos available).
- PSAC NCR Suicide Prevention Pilot Course – Completed (May 2025).
- Mandatory Indigenous Learning Advocacy – Advocated for inclusion of truth-based Indigenous learning within CSPS courses.
- Seal Skin Poppy Campaign – Continued campaign in support of Indigenous artists and awareness.
- National Representatives Coordinating Committee (NRCC) and Ottawa Area Council (OAC) – Attended meetings and gatherings to strengthen collaboration and member engagement.
- PSAC Training Sessions – Participated in a range of PSAC-sponsored training to enhance knowledge and representation skills.
  - What event? Or training did you attend?
    - NCRCC
    - OAC
    - PSAC
- Algonquins of the Kitchissippi Watershed Event – Attended event held at the National Geographic Society building (April 2024).
- Movement is Medicine 5K Run – Promoted health and wellness by participating in the annual event (May 2025).
- Aqsarniit Trade Show & Conference (formerly Northern Lights Trade Show) – Attended February 2025 in Ottawa.



- Regular PSAC Human Rights Committee Meetings – Ongoing participation.
- PSAC National Bargaining Conference – Attended as a confirmed delegate (Feb 2025). Represented and advocated for member interests.
- PSAC National Health and Safety Conference Sept 2025

<b>Upcoming Events</b>
PSAC National Human Rights Conference
PSAC National Women's Conference
PSAC National Equity Conference - Planning to attend if selected as a delegate.
PSAC Regional Health & Safety Conference

<b>Budget Update</b>	
Starting Balance (as of last report)	End Balance (last day of current report)
\$8,000	\$8,000