

Binny Sivia

I'm asking for an opportunity to continue serving as the Chair of our Local. I was first elected as the local chair in 2015 and since that time, our local has made many gains for our members. We have been able to;

- Successfully stop the British Columbia Nurses Union (BCNU) from raiding one of our facilities, Elim Village.
- Put on advanced stewards training twice, to provide specific training for our healthcare stewards to better deal with situations at work and support our members.
- Organized and taken part in various membership engagement activities, including the carnival BBQs, learn to fish events and others.

Bullying and Harassment are ramped in the healthcare sector and if elected, I will work with our members to provide with additional training and tools to deal with bullying and harassment in the workplace.

The next three years is an important time for our local as many of our valued members go into bargaining. We need a leader who understands the issues facing our members working in various healthcare fields. So I ask that you vote for me as the Chair of Local 404.

A little bit about myself, I have been working for Fraser Health for the past 8 years, in the role of an Environmental Health Officer. I live in Surrey and I am actively involved in the local community.

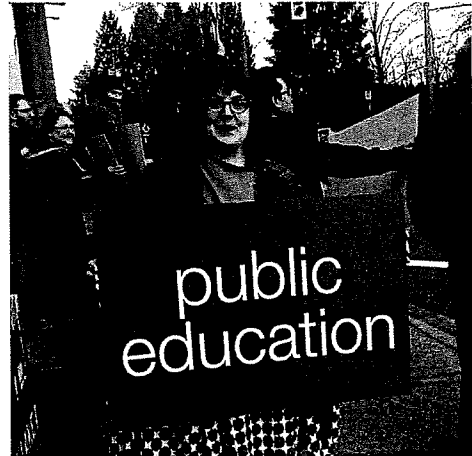
Thank You!

Candidate Information Sheet for

Verity Howarth

I have worked as a speech-language pathologist in public health since 2000. During that time I have been involved with our union in several ways. I was a shop steward as well as a Fraser Valley Labour Council delegate and a member of our union's political action committee.

The last 3 years I have been an active member of our local 404 executive. I have spent most of this time volunteering to organize social and educational events for our members through the union cross component committee. I have also been advocating for earlier and more organized bargaining among health science professionals. If elected my priorities would be:



1. Improving representation for BCGEU health science professionals, especially around bargaining.
2. Improving access to stewards for all sites in our local. Over the past few years I have heard from many members that it can be challenging to find a steward. This should be a focus of our local so that members have quick access to support when needed even if they work in a small, isolated facility.
3. Improved communication among all members of our local. We can only be strong if we are all aware of issues and opportunities available to us.

Please contact me with any questions or ideas you have. My phone number is 604-467-3448. Email is verity@telus.net.

Marilyn Mclean – “Choice for Chair of Local 404”

I am very honored to be nominated for the position of Local 404 chair. I have accepted this nomination for local chair because this position requires robust leadership and I am dedicated and up to the challenge. As local chair, I shall focus on communicating and expanding our support of current and new members, member mentorship, advocacy work, support and educational opportunities for all in our exceedingly diverse worksites.

My activism includes:

- Occupational Health and Safety representative
- Occupational Health and Safety facilitator in Basic OHS, Incident Investigations, Bullying and Harassment
- Elected on Provincial level as recording secretary and executive table officer to component 4.
- Elected to and served as member-at-large on both Locals 403 and 404
- Supported members as a steward for 8 years
- Trained organizer and have worked several targeted membership drives
- Elected past bargaining committee and Joint Labor Management
- Membership voice on Employees Council
- Union observer



The centre of my attention, as local chair, will be concentrated on meeting the needs of members in all of our worksites as issues, questions and challenges arise, to listen to members concerns to support resolution at the provincial tables. And to actively increase member engagement through member outreach projects, steward networks and cross component activities.

I respectfully ask for your support in our upcoming local election to give me the opportunity to continue this very essential work on behalf of all of our members.

Greetings. My name is Deborah Saunders, I would like to take this time to tell you a little about myself and why I would like to be voted in as a member at large.

I work in the health care sector, providing services for a healthy and supportive environment for seniors. My employer is Chartwell, I work at two of their residences, Hampton House and Lynnwood Retirement Residence. Both homes are classified independent living.

I have been employed with Hampton House for almost four years, presently I am classified as a casual worker. I work in most departments, office, dietary and housekeeping. We belong to HEU.

It will be three years in July that I have been working at Lynnwood. I started casual night shift. When a posting for part time server came up I applied for and got the line, not a lot of hours though. About a year ago they posted a part time position for night shift. Even though the shift starts at midnight and ends at 8am I applied for it since the hours were double that of the serving line.

I work alone. I am basically a housekeeper in charge of 120 or so residents, and the premises. The workload is heavy, there is a lot to be done throughout the night. I don't mind hard work and it makes the night go by pretty quick. Some nights there doesn't seem to be enough time to get everything done. Quite often I have to call an ambulance for a resident in distress. These are the times I really feel like a valuable part of the home. I love the fact that my attitude and abilities can make a difference in the lives of the residents. They are at a delicate stage in their lives and I think the care they receive and the environment they live in are huge in respect to their happiness and comfort level.

I am the OH&S rep at the Lynnwood. I have been since April of 2017. When I became the rep I started taking more of an interest in our BCGEU and learned of all the opportunities that were available to its members. Until then I really didn't know too much about programs and how I can take an active role.

Just recently, I took on the role of shop steward. Still very fresh at this and am looking forward to learning as much as I can to represent and support my fellow employees to the best of my abilities. I am proud to hold this title and it makes me feel like I make a difference. My goal is for coworkers to feel comfortable to be able to come to me for support. Being able to answer their questions and concerns with the tools and knowledge gained through taking part in programs and classes offered by the union.

I would love the opportunity to take an even more active role. Becoming a member at large would be a great way to do this. I love learning and organizing. It makes me feel like I have a purpose which helps me in more ways than I can even explain. Being a part of such a supportive and important union can be life changing.

In solidarity

Deborah Saunders

My name is Nav Mahanger,

I have accepted the nomination for one of the positions of Member at large to represent BCGEU local 404.

A little about myself, I was born in Vancouver BC in the early 70's to recent immigrants and raised in Whalley of Surrey BC.

I complete High school and then proceeded to colleges in the lower mainland while working various jobs and then completed the Environmental Health program at BCIT and later obtained National Certification as a Public Health Inspector / Environment Health officer.

I have been working in the field for nearly 20 years as a Public Health Inspector in the Fraser Valley and I can definitely say things have not changed for the better for our members and communities, I have only seen degradation.

Our wages are amongst the lowest in the country, not even taking into account the extraordinary cost of living and taxation in BC. Some job classifications have a wage differential of up to 43% compared to other provinces.

Our benefits have been whittled away. Action is required to bring attention to the glaring issues we face. We must take action and demand fair and equitable wages, benefits and treatment.

I have not served the membership on an official capacity before, this is new to me. I have contacted members in various areas of the province and we all face the same challenges. I have participated and expressed my concerns vehemently over the past 10 years when it was apparent that there was not an end to the degradation.

I hope I will be able to serve the membership while being a member of the sandwich generation, taking care of children and aging parents.

In Solidarity

Nav Mahanger

Hello I am running for the office of Member at Large. My name is Bonita Miller, I am a laboratory technologist in the largest private medical laboratory in British Columbia. I have worked in both hospitals and private laboratories during my career. I grew up in a small town, attended BCIT and did my practicum at Royal Columbian Hospital. After several years of working graveyards and weekends I found a job at Ridge Meadows Hospital. While I worked at Ridge Meadows I became a union steward. I attended training workshops and convention, helped win grievances and was site leader during the first HSA strike in 1986. I was a steward from 1985-1991.

I became a BCGEU steward in 2015 at Lifelabs BC's Surrey medical microbiology laboratory. In the last 3 years I have assisted many coworkers. I have been to several workshops and training sessions. I was chosen to attend the CLC Winter School in January 2017 and took their Bullying and Harassment course. Last summer I was a delegate at the BCGEU Triennial Convention.

In British Columbia, due to our aging population increasing the need for health care and the shrinking dollar, work in health care has been geared for the highest production of results for the lowest cost and this creates a lot of pressure to work beyond our limits. The same is true in every health care position. We deserve fair pay for a job well done so we can support ourselves and our families proudly and with dignity. The only way to make things better is to get involved.

If you elect me to the position of Member at large, I will help you have more input in our union by communicating more. I hope to be able to gather your ideas and speak to the committee on your behalf. I urge every member to use the BCGEU website. Keep your info up to date and read the communications, join the Forum and ask questions.

I hope you take the time to vote for your executive. The union is made strong by people like you and me. I promise to get involved and keep you informed. Thank you for your support,

Bonita Miller, Steward, Lifelabs BC.

Hello my name is Bonita Miller I am running for the position of Treasurer on your Local executive. I am a laboratory technologist in the largest private medical laboratory in British Columbia. I have worked in both hospitals and private laboratories during my career. I attended BCIT and completed my practicum at Royal Columbian Hospital. After several years of working graveyards and weekends I found a job at Ridge Meadows Hospital in my home town. While I worked at Ridge Meadows I became a union steward. I attended training sessions, workshops and convention. I helped win grievances and was site leader during the first HSA strike in 1986. I was a steward from 1985-1991.

I became a steward again in 2015 for the BCGEU at Lifelabs BC's Surrey medical microbiology laboratory. In the last 3 years I have assisted many coworkers. I have been to several workshops and training sessions. I was chosen to attend the CLC Winter School in January 2017 and took their Bullying and Harassment course. Last summer I was a delegate at the BCGEU Triennial Convention.

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I am running for the position of "Member at Large" on the Local 404 Executive team. I hope to help members have more input in our union by communicating more. I hope to be able to gather your ideas and speak to the committee on your behalf. I hope to get more members thinking about what we need as workers and how we can make change happen. I urge ever member to use the BCGEU website. Keep your info up to date and read the communications, join the Forum and ask questions.

I hope you take the time to vote for your executive. The union is made strong by people like you and me. I promise to get involved and keep you informed. Thank you for your support,

Bonita Miller, Steward, Lifelabs BC.