

## **NVP IRCC Spring 2019**

It has been a personally turbulent few months since the last report.

There was a National Executive (CEIU) meetings October 19<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> with Committee work being done the 13<sup>th</sup>. The meetings were good and much was accomplished.

November 12<sup>th</sup> I attended the national Labour Management Consultation Committee and the national Policy Health and Safety Committee. Much was discussed including workload, less times per file to do the work and no increase in processing staffing to speak off. An increase in lack of integrity of the program was discussed in relation to “over the phone” final interviews for people becoming Permanent Residents. Eddy Bourque (President of CEIU) eloquently pointed out many points for improvement and opportunities for collaboration and consultation.

I attended the BC Federation of Labour Convention. Many significant victories not the least of which was the election of an NDP government in BC. The move towards the \$15/Hr minimum wage and further stabilization of the labour force. A New executive was voted in as both the incumbents did not seek re-election.

February 4<sup>th</sup> there was an inperson Mental health (IRCC) meeting to finalize the new Mental health “incidence reporting mechanism” which will have a finite processing time and complete confidentiality. This is a new and government wide standard to be followed. After these meetings the NLMCC and NPHSC meetings happened and again discussions ensued regarding consultation and cooperation. It seems that management is more and more willing to actually put action into words on these items. On February 6<sup>th</sup> there was a short meeting with the Office of Conflict of Resolution. It was discussed to revive the OCR Network and volunteers have been selected to participate in a meeting in Ottawa around the same dates as the next NLMCC and NPHSC and Mental health meetings.

I have been dealing with a lot of Emails in relation to Phoenix and member complaints which I have dealt with in the immediate.

As some of you might know, my husband of 28 years was diagnosed with Lymphoma last August and by December it became clear that this was a losing battle. My husband passed away on January 15<sup>th</sup> in my arms. To that end I took time off work (to be with him) from January 4<sup>th</sup> until March 29<sup>th</sup> (I had been off work already from December 03<sup>rd</sup> but with A/L S/L etc. officially I started my time off in January) Chris Aylward responded within 5 minutes to indicate I should continue as NVP IRCC as most of my work can be done remotely.

Thank you for your patience over the last few months and I respectfully submit my report herewith.

In Solidarity,

Paul Croes  
NVP/VPN IRCC.