

UNION LIFE

CEIU BC/YT Newsletter

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Brothers, Sisters, and Friends

CEIU has been busy this last few months. In April, we held our regional Presidents Conference in Vancouver. We were fortunate to have several guests with us from the CEIU National Executive, including our National President Brother Eddy Bourque, NEVP Sister Crystal Warner, and NVPs Sister Fabienne Jean-Francois from Quebec, Brother Marco Angeli for the IRB, as well as several of our staff from across the country. We were also very fortunate to have guests from PSAC such as REVP Brother Jamey Mills, and A/REVP Brother Todd Smith.

We held training sessions on Health and Safety in the workplace as this has been an ongoing concern throughout the region. We had a presentation on pipelines and site C as well as sex work in BC. There was also discussions around the resolutions that would be discussed at the PSAC Triennial convention just two weeks later.

The conference had a full agenda and was well received. Once again a huge thank you to our staff as these events are not possible without them.

The NVP report can be found [here](#) if you wish to read it.

Next year the Presidents Conference will be held as a joint conference with all of the West. We will have break out rooms to ensure that business of the region still gets accomplished but there will be larger plenary issues that will be discussed as a WT region. Save the dates of June 4-9, 2019 for this conference.

PSAC Convention

April 29-May 4, 2018 was PSAC National Triennial Convention. This convention was held in Toronto and the region was able to send delegates and also able to send some observers. The convention saw Brother Chris Aylward elected to the position of National President and Sister Magali Picard elected to the position of National Executive Vice-President. As expected Sister Robyn Benson retired at the end of convention.

Highlights of the convention is that the floor passed a resolution which will be providing greater access to the regional conventions in 2020. With the current changes being implemented all locals regardless of size will be getting a fully funded delegate. For CEIU BC/YT this means that we go from having 11 guaranteed delegates to having 28. Further to this was the fact that the conventions will now be fully funded.

We continue to have work to do to fight for access for equity seeking members. Many resolutions went to convention about delegate entitlement for equity seeking members nationally. All unfortunately were not passed by the delegates.

Convention also passed a strong policy statement on Phoenix. This was also followed up with a commitment from the new leadership that there will be escalating action as we prepare for the next federal election in 2019.

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Bargaining Conference

March 26-29, 2018 was the PSAC Treasury Board Bargaining conference. This is for the major tables within Treasury Board. At this conference the bargaining team was elected and I am very proud to say that Sister Sargy Chima President of our Burnaby/New West Local, and A/District Coordinator for Metro Vancouver was elected to the team. I know that we will be able to support her as she takes on this very important role!

Overall CEIU did extremely well at the bargaining conference seeing 4 members elected to the team. Brother Travis Lahnalampi, Brother Brad Stoodley and Sister Michelle Henderson will all be members of the PA bargaining team. We also saw the election of several alternates from CEIU should any members of the team not be able to fulfill the duties

Education

The PSAC education program offers courses throughout BC/YT on a variety of topics. They range from a course on union basics, and understanding your collective agreement, to three - five day courses on advanced stewards training and duty to accommodate situations. These courses come with no strings attached. They are a great resource and there is no requirement to be a steward, or get any more involved with your Union. However, they provide valuable information about your rights at work. There are several advanced courses being offered this fall by the PSAC BC. You can access these [here](#), and I would very much encourage you all to sign up to take a course that is of interest to you. Further to this, if your local or area would like a specific PSAC course to be offered reach out to your local PSAC rep and they can look at what would be required to provide that training to you. If there are sufficient members for the courses they will work directly with the local to provide it.

Additionally CEIU has courses that we can provide to our members. If you are interested in getting a course for your local or area please contact myself, or your district coordinator and we will do our best to ensure that we work to provide the required training to all our locals. Currently we have commitments to provide training in the summer and fall for several locals but we are always taking requests and will start planning for the 2019 year as well.

As a save the date, September 14-16 CEIU will be providing women's training. More details will follow but for now if you are a women's rep or interested in the women's program keep checking back on the website for more details!

Finally, the Federations of Labour provide training as well. In a variety of locations throughout the summer and fall there will be training that can be tapped into. They travel to a variety of communities and their courses from the health and safety center are great resources.

CEIU Scholarships

The Canada Employment and Immigration Union is pleased to be able to offer fifteen (15) \$2,000 National Scholarships to CEIU members in good standing, their spouse, their common-law spouse (including same-sex partners) and/or their dependant(s). The deadline to apply is August 17, 2018. For full details and the application form click [here](#)

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Committee Updates

All three Regional Committees met in April for an in person meeting. They had very productive meetings where they were able to map out plans for the 2018/2019 year. From this there were a variety of initiatives being started.

The **HRRA Committee** will continue to work to provide onsite resources for locals. There will be a call out shortly as we are looking for a couple more members to join this committee in light of some vacancies that have arisen.

The **Womens Committee** has in-person training that will be open to women throughout the region on September 14-16, 2018 at the Coast Bastion Hotel in Nanaimo. This training will be the first of its kind offered in recent years and we are very excited to be able to offer this in the coming months.

The **Young Workers Committee** is working to engage more young workers and find out what issues are important to you as a young worker. If you are a worker aged 35 or younger there is a survey for you to complete. Please follow the link [here](#), and complete this survey for a chance to win some awesome prizes!



Education in Action

PSAC Social Justice Fund sent a delegation of participants on the "Education In Action" project in Guatemala for 2 weeks in March 2018.

Sister Kelly Megyesi was able to attend this course and has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with anyone interested. We were very happy to have her come and give a presentation to the Regional Executive Council and the Presidents Conference on her experience with the program. Each year this is a trip that is supported by the PSAC. So keep a watch on the PSAC website and we will circulate more information as we get it for the 2019 trip.

Contact Us

Vanessa Miller, NVP BC/YT
 Cell: (250) 816-0934
 Email: millerv@ceiu-seic.ca

CEIU RUO Vancouver Office
 Toll Free: (800) 663-3151
 Local: (604) 436-3120
 Fax: (833) 240-7871
 Email: bcytru@ceiu-seic.ca

Regional Website: www.ceiubcyt.ca

National Website: www.ceiu-seic.ca