

Committee Reports

Education Committee

The purpose of the Education Committee is to keep our members informed and up-to-date with a view to broadly promote our union and to expand upon education opportunities for members interested in taking on an activist, leadership and/or a representative role. Providing members and members' families with educational opportunities through the scholarship program and setting criteria for selection processes.

The SEIU-West Education Committee maintains the Scholarship Program, which offers ten scholarships for members and ten for members' children. You can find more information about the program, including application forms and criteria, on the SEIU-West Website—just type “scholarship” into the Search Box on the upper right corner of the Home Page.

In 2019-2020, we received a record number of applicants in both categories. The committee reviewed each application and read every essay. We select our winners on a number of factors to ensure equity across the province. We start by ensuring all criteria is met: receipts attached, essay attached, completed application submitted prior to deadline, the education occurred within the correct calendar year, etc.

From there, we base our decisions on the principles of equity and fairness. We try to ensure that there is broad representation from all of our sectors and geographic localities. It is a tough job but one we put a lot of effort into as it is so much appreciated by our recipients. All twenty scholarships were awarded and the recipients were thrilled to accept. We encouraged the remainder of applicants to try again next year. It is a task that we enjoy doing and it is one of the main responsibilities of our committee.

Due to Covid-19 hitting us in 2020, the number of educationals that were normally provided to the SEIU-West membership by the various institutes/technical bodies, the SFL, and the CLC were cancelled or postponed, we the Education Committee were able to provide an extra ten scholarships to the members. All ten members that received the additional scholarships were very thankful for the support during the difficult year.

We also sponsor up to six members to attend the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour's (SFL) and Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) Spring School. In addition, we sponsor up to five members to attend the SFL Prairie School for Union Women. Both will be held virtually in 2021.

Our committee is proud to sponsor up to four delegates to attend each of the Annual

Committee Members:

Colleen Denniss, Chair
Carmela Verwimp,
Communicator
Charlene Redekopp
Jacqueline Dovell
Jessica Eastveld
Janice Platzke (Ex-Officio)



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General Meetings and Conferences of:

- *The Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiology Technologists*
- *The Saskatchewan Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists*
- *The Saskatchewan Association of Combined Laboratory and X-ray Technicians*

We are also able to offer sponsorship for up to two delegates to the:

- *The Pharmaceutical Association of Saskatchewan annual conference*

We were pleased to see the interest from our members within the technologies sector and look forward to providing this opportunity again.

We continue to look for educational opportunities for our members and encourage everyone to participate in all that we offer for our members to grow and learn. Please continue to watch the SEIU-West website and Facebook for upcoming educational opportunities in 2021.

Thank you to the Operations Department for all their assistance throughout the year, as well as a big thank you to Shawna Colpitts, and Sinda Cathcart for all their continued support. A special thank you to Catherine Gendron for her support in 2019-2020.

I personally would like to thank the Education Committee Members:-Carmela Verwimp, Charlene Redekopp, Jessica Eastveld and Jacqueline Dovell as well as Janice Platzke for all their contributions, dedication, hardwork and laughter. A great job by all.

In Solidarity,

Colleen Denniss
Chair Education Committee, SEIU-West

