**Education Committee of Council**

November 13, 2015

**Report**

**Committee members:** Angela Decker, Shanny Doucet (Co-Chair), Jody LaPierre (Co-Chair), Chris DiLiberatore, Bill Bennett, Chris Lansdell, Mike LeBlanc

**Guest:** Jeannie Baldwin, REVP

**Staff Resource Person:** Lesley Thompson, Regional Education Officer

**Regional Programming**

The Atlantic successfully delivered two in-residence advanced trainings this fall.

27 members from the region’s 19 Directly Chartered Local attended the Advanced Local Officers Training for DCLs in Halifax from October 24-26, 2015. Worker Educator Training was also delivered in French in Moncton, NB, on November 6-8, 2015, to 5 members.

Even after delivering these two courses, the region still has some remaining funds in the Education Budget, upwards of $50,000. When last the committee met, it was thought the surplus would be $27,000, and that that sum could be used to make a down payment on the Atlantic School. We have since learned that we are unable to carry funds forward to another budget cycle.

Several factors contribute to this significant surplus, included the reduced size of the Atlantic School and the low uptake on the French Worker Educator training. The region has also been occupied operationalizing national programming which has come with resources attached.

The region intends to disperse as much of the surplus funding as possible among the four provinces.

**National Programing**

*Internal Investigations Training for DCLs*

22 members of Atlantic DCLs will be traveling to Ottawa this month to take Internal Investigations Training for DCLs. The courses are being delivered on November 16-18 and November 23-25, 2015.

*Violence Prevention in the Workplace*

A two-day Violence Prevention in the Workplace training has been delivered in each province this fall. A second offering open to all of Nova Scotia will be delivered at the end of November. The course is one element of a national campaign arising out of the priorities from the last national convention. The campaign also features a 45 minute lunch and learn as well as a webinar which will be delivered in the Atlantic in English on December 1and in French on December 2, 2015. The two day course will become part of the regular course offerings.

*Union Development Program*

The deadline for applications for the 2016 UDP closed on October 23, 2015. The Atlantic Region received 32 applications for the English East UDP and 7 applications for the French UDP. The ranking and the selection process is currently underway. Members who are selected as participants and alternates, and those who weren’t accepted, will be notified in December.

**2016-2018 Education Plan**

Work has begun on drafting a Regional Education Plan for the 2016-2018 cycle. The Education Committee met of 1.5 days in September to begin the work. Input was also sought from Regional Representatives in the Atlantic. The Regional Education Officer seek further input by conducting a survey of the membership to determine members’ needs.

The National Education Program is currently in planning for the next cycle and the committee will adapt the plan to also reflect national priorities.

In December, the committee will be notified of the amount the region will receive for the next cycle. We believe the amount will be no more than what was allocated in the previous budget cycle of 2013-2015.

To seek more detailed input from the membership, the committee and the REO will create an education survey to circulate in early January.

The committee will continue discussions, especially in the wake of the federal election, in hopes of having a plan to formally present to the Council at its next meeting.

**Atlantic Council Member Participation at the Atlantic School**

The Committee has drafted a regulation outlining Education Committee member participation at the Atlantic School and has referred it to the Finance Committee.

**New Human Rights Activism Course**

A new 2.5 day Human Rights Activism course has been developed nationally. The Committee sees delivering this course as a priority in 2016 and will incorporate its delivery in the three-year plan.

**Co-Chair!**

Sister Shanny Doucet was elected as the Co-Chair of the Education Committee.

**Mark your Calendars:**

Atlantic School Dates: May 11-15, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Jody LaPierre, co-chair

Shanny Doucet, co-chair

Regional Education Committee