

Public Service Alliance of Canada
7th Triennial Atlantic Regional

CONVENTION CALL

Attention: All Locals, Branches, Component National Officers, Atlantic Regional Council, Area Councils, Regional Women's Committees, Human Rights Committees, Young Workers Committee, National Officers, National Human Rights Committee and National Aboriginal Peoples Circle Representatives – Atlantic Region

The Seventh Triennial Atlantic Regional Convention
will be held at the

Saint John Trade and Convention Centre

in Saint John, New Brunswick

beginning **Friday, June 23** and concluding **Sunday, June 25, 2017**

Deadline for receiving resolutions: Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Deadline for receiving delegate names: Wednesday, May 3, 2017

**This is a Scent Free/Smoke Free
Convention**

The Convention Theme

The theme of the 2017 PSAC Triennial Atlantic Convention reflects on us – PSAC members. The tree leaves symbolize the diversity of our membership and the hand which acts as the roots reminds us that we all work together as a grassroots organization to build our union. We are strong, supportive of one another and proudly stand side by side.



Who can be a delegate to the Triennial PSAC Atlantic Regional Convention?

Section 8 of the Public Service Alliance of Canada Atlantic By-Laws determines who can be a delegate at the Atlantic Regional Convention.

SECTION 8

REPRESENTATION AND VOTING AT THE TRIENNIAL PSAC ATLANTIC REGIONAL CONVENTION

Sub-Section (1)

Each Local or Branch shall be entitled to one delegate up to the first 200 members and one additional delegate for each additional 100 members or any part thereof.

Sub-Section (2)

One delegate from each active Regional Women's Committee, with a minimum of two (2) delegates from each of the four Atlantic Provinces.

Sub-Section (3)

One delegate entitlement from each of the four Atlantic Provinces (i.e. four (4) delegates from each province) to represent each of the following equity groups:

- 1) Aboriginal members;
- 2) Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered members;
- 3) Members with disabilities; and
- 4) Racially visible members.

Sub-Section (4)

One francophone delegate from each of the four Atlantic Provinces to represent francophone groups.

Sub-Section (5)

All Component National Officers who are members of an Atlantic Region Local shall be entitled to attend the Triennial PSAC Atlantic Regional Convention as delegates.

Sub-Section (6)

(a) One delegate for each active Area Council from each of the four Atlantic Provinces to represent Area Councils.

(b) PSAC members who hold a position as a National Aboriginal Peoples Circle (NAPC) Representative, or as a Component National Officer and who are members of the PSAC Atlantic Regional Caucus, shall be entitled to attend the Triennial PSAC Atlantic Regional Convention as delegates.

(c) All Officers outlined above who are unable to attend the Atlantic Regional Convention are entitled to be replaced by an Alternate recognized from their organization's structure providing they are a member of the Atlantic Regional Caucus.

Sub-Section (7)

PSAC Atlantic Regional Council members shall have delegate status to the Triennial PSAC Atlantic Regional Convention.

Sub-Section (8)

One young worker delegate from each of the four Atlantic Provinces has a seat as a delegate to the PSAC Regional Convention to represent young workers.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions to the PSAC Triennial Atlantic Convention can be submitted by Component Locals, Directly Chartered Locals, Area Councils, Regional Women's Committees, Regional Human Rights Committees, Young Worker Committee, and Regional Council.

Resolutions to be considered must be received by e-mail at atlconvention@psac-afpc.com, no later than:

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

We urge you to forward all resolutions at the earliest possible date.

Resolutions will be referred to one of the three Pre-Convention Committees – By-Laws, Finance or General. Resolutions will be sent to the PSAC's National President to ensure they are in order.

To provide a uniform format that will facilitate the production of the National Triennial Convention Resolutions books in both official languages, mandatory Convention Resolution formats are outlined on the next page.

TRADITIONAL FORMAT	CLEAR LANGUAGE FORMAT
<p>SUPPORTING THE COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM</p> <p>WHEREAS the court challenges program, which provides funding to challenge laws and policies that violate constitutional equality rights, was abolished by the Conservative government; and</p> <p>WHEREAS in the past, this program allowed citizens to defend their fundamental rights - rights that many would not have had the financial means to defend without this program; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, without the court challenges program, only people with means have access to the legal system to challenge unjust laws:</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC support the rights of citizens by taking a public stand in favour of re-establishing the court challenges program; and</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PSAC support all campaigns to have the court challenges program re-established in its entirety.</p>	<p>MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE WORKPLACE</p> <p>BECAUSE mental health issues affect 20% of our members and is a leading cause of stress in the workplace; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be an increased awareness of mental health issues; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be consistency in dealing with mental health issues:</p> <p>THE PSAC WILL develop a presentation document on mental health and make it available to all locals to increase awareness on mental health issues in the workplace.</p>

A GOOD RESOLUTION...

- uses clear simple wording;**
- is concise and focused – respects the word limit (i.e. 150 words for the PSAC Convention)**
- deals with just one topic (problem) and has one major objective;**
- clearly identifies the problem;**
- specifically outlines the required action;**
- builds in accountability i.e. deadlines, who will be responsible for implementing the proposed action, what resources will be required;**
- ensures the action proposed is within the jurisdiction of the organization to implement;**
- isn't something that is constitutionally dealt with in another way (i.e. bargaining demands)**
- allows for flexibility in implementation - it's the end result that counts;**
- is submitted on time (is not a late resolution);**
- isn't about something that is already enacted;**
- applies the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHY and HOW test.**

DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT

Section 8, Sub-Section (1) of the PSAC Atlantic By-Laws, reads as follows:

Each Local or Branch shall be entitled to one delegate up to the first 200 members and one additional delegate for each additional 100 members or any part thereof.

REGISTRATION

Delegates will have their registration fee deducted from their expense claim. Therefore, delegates are not required to send payment.

Observers are required to pay the \$50 registration fee prior to Convention.

Registration cheques can be made payable to *PSAC Atlantic* and mailed to:

- Public Service Alliance of Canada, Attention: Convention Registration, 301-287 Lacewood Drive, Halifax, NS B3M 3Y7

Registration will take place at the Saint John Convention Centre as indicated below:

Thursday, June 22, 2017:	4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, June 23, 2017:	7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

All delegates attending the Convention must register by completing the registration form. Delegates may register by any of the following methods:

- by paper copy to the REVP's Office, attention Convention Registration, 301-287 Lacewood Drive, Halifax, NS, B3M 3Y7; or
- by email to atlconvention@psac-afpc.com; or
- by fax to 902-443-8291.

<p>The deadline for registration is:</p> <p>Wednesday, May 3, 2017</p>
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EXPENSES / LOSS OF SALARY

- Please refer to the Convention Guidelines for detailed information about expenses that are covered.
- **There will be no compensation for loss of salary.**
- Family Care will be provided in accordance to the Family Care Policy. Upon request, consideration will be given to special needs or unusual circumstances resulting in costs which exceed the outlined policy expenses allowable. Detailed information must be provided in advance for pre-approval. Such request can be sent to atlconvention@psac-afpc.com. Please see the Convention guidelines for additional information and for the full policy.

TRANSPORTATION / HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

As per the enclosed *Convention Travel Guidelines*: beginning **April 5, 2017**, delegates will be able to contact W.E. Travel to make their travel arrangements. Travel must be booked on or before **Wednesday, May 31, 2017**.

For those using their privately owned motor vehicle, please see the attached diagram in the *Convention Travel Guidelines* when calculating approved mileage.

A block of rooms has been reserved at two hotels for our Convention. **All delegates are responsible for making their own room reservations.** Claims with receipts will be reimbursed up to the PSAC negotiated rate for a standard room. Please ensure you book before the outlined cut-off dates. Additional information can be found in the guidelines.

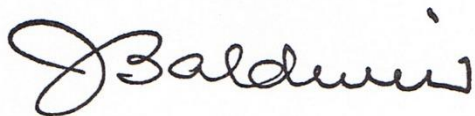
Registration must be completed prior to making any hotel and travel arrangements.

SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

Arrangements have been made for the simultaneous translation of the proceedings at the plenary sessions of the Convention. Sign language interpretation and alternate formats will be provided based on needs identified on the registration form.

Details of the Convention agenda and program, rules of procedures, copies of resolutions as well as any other items of interest, will be available on the PSAC Atlantic Website in due course.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeannie Baldwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeannie Baldwin
Regional Executive Vice-President, Atlantic
Public Service Alliance of Canada

Encl.: Convention Guidelines
 Registration Form / Accommodation for a Disability Form