Prince Edward Island Provincial Director’s Report

to the June 2018 Council Meeting

Heather Ford

I am very excited to submit my first ever Director’s Report.

Since elected at the last regional convention, it has been very busy.

One of the first things that happened after convention was our Pride Parade in Charlottetown. I was very happy to attend the parade and walk in solidarity with our members and other Unions.

I attended the PE Federation of Labour Convention held in Summerside, PE. It is always great to meet new and returning union members from across our great Island.

I attended the first meeting of our Regional Council in Halifax and greatly enjoyed all the learning of a first time council member.

I did my first ever phone interview with CBC radio in regards to the PSAC big win for improvements to the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP). It was very moving to be able to speak about what that means for our members. On a personal note for this one, I want to thank Sebastien in the Regional Executive Vice-President’s office for all his support in preparing me for the interview.

I dealt with Phoenix related issues within my workplace and in coordination with the Prince Edward Island Area Council. I am currently looking at setting up meetings with the MP in my area to speak about Phoenix issues, child care concerns and Bill C 27 and our members’ pension plan concerns.

Through my component (UTE), I sit on a national committee for the Employee Assistance Program. In 2018, I have met with the employer twice in Ottawa to discuss the importance of the program and have been briefed on changes coming to the program. I challenged some of those changes as I did not feel they were in the best interest of our members.

I currently sit on two committees within our Regional Council: Political Action Committee and Women’s Committee. I participated on teleconferences for both these committees and I am committed to working with these committees during this cycle.

More recently, I am back from the PSAC National Convention held in Toronto. As a Political Action Committee member of the Regional Council and being involved with the PE Area Council, I was very happy with the resolution that passed to increase funding for Area Councils. Area Councils are the Political Arm of the labour movement and I know that funding in these areas have been a challenge in the past. I feel with more funding, we will be better able to attract more activists and apply more pressure to the government of the day.

I am very much looking forward to meeting with everyone again in June. We have a lot of work to do and of course Phoenix is at the forefront. I know with such a wonderful Regional Council and great leader (REVP) Colleen, that we can move mountains.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Ford

Prince Edward Island Director