



February 2nd, 2016

TO: Local Presidents
Atlantic Health & Safety Network
Workplace Health and Safety Committee Members and Representatives

RE: ATLANTIC REGIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY CONFERENCE

The Public Service Alliance of Canada Atlantic Health & Safety Conference is scheduled to be held on **April 22-24, 2016** at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia. This conference is open to PSAC Health & Safety Local Committee members and/or Health & Safety Workplace Representatives. Only those persons will be accepted as delegates.

The theme of the conference is **"Health and Safety: Back to the Basics."** This conference will increase member awareness on Health and Safety thus providing more confidence when talking with other members about their Health and Safety rights.

We are very pleased to have special guest speaker Robyn Benson, PSAC - National President, who will provide an up-date on the PSAC – Treasury Board National Mental Health Task Force. In addition, we will be joined by Megan Leslie who is now employed with the World Wildlife Federation. Megan will speak about environmental sustainability and how we must work together to build a future that involves healthy communities.

WORKSHOPS

Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in two 3-hour workshops on Saturday. The workshops will be on "What Stewards Need to Know About Health and Safety" and "The Basics: Getting to Know the Legislation." Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in both workshops, however, priority will be given to conference delegates.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

The PSAC has reserved a block of rooms at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, 1181 Hollis Street, Halifax, at a group rate of \$119.00 per night which is equivalent to the government rate. This rate will include parking, internet and local telephone calls. The block rooms are released for this rate on March 21, 2016. This hotel is unionized and accessible. Please contact the hotel at 1-888-627-8553 and you must quote the Conference when registering. You cannot obtain the conference rate by registering on-line.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee for delegates attending the conference is **\$50.00**. Please make the cheque payable to the Public Service Alliance of Canada. A receipt will be issued upon request.

SUBSIDY ALLOCATION FOR DELEGATES

There are some limited funds available to assist local members to attend the conference. The Details regarding the subsidy allocation are outlined in the conference application form.

OBSERVERS

PSAC members in good standing may also apply to attend the conference as observers, however, observers will be responsible for all costs associated with their participation, including a conference registration fee of **\$50.00**. Please note that the number of observers may be limited to the space available at the conference. Observers will be able to participate in the workshop session discussions.

SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

If you are selected as a delegate or as an observer to the conference, you will be advised by e-mail and/or telephone within 10 days following the deadline date.

DEADLINE DATE FOR APPLICATION FOR BOTH DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

The deadline date to apply for the conference is **March 11, 2016**. Please mail, fax or email your application to the Halifax Regional Office.

Previously, some Employers have provided Health & Safety Committee members with vehicles to travel to the conference. Some have paid registration fees, hotels and meals and have generally assisted members in attending. You may want to put this on your Health & Safety Committee meeting agenda under the topic "training." Under Part II of the Canada Labour Code and under Provincial Occupational Health & Safety Acts the Employer is required to provide training in Health & Safety matters. **Please request that the Employer assists you as a committee member to attend this conference.**

We are looking forward to the upcoming Regional Health & Safety Conference and see it as an opportunity for our members to continue the important work of

maintaining and improving activism of the Union in the struggle to improve the working conditions of all PSAC members. **"We Are All Affected!!"**

If you require additional information and/or clarification please do not hesitate to contact Nancy MacLean, Regional Representative - Health & Safety at (902) 443-3541 or toll free at 1-800-839-6661.

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

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
PSAC-Atlantic

Att. (1) Application form

cc: Gaby Levesque, Regional Coordinator - Atlantic
Nancy MacLean, Regional Representative – Health & Safety
Denis St. Jean, National Health and Safety Officer
Mark Pecek, Director – Regional Offices Branch
Suzanne Brandon – Programs Coordinator
Regional Representatives - Health & Safety
Atlantic Regional Council
Atlantic Region RVP's / NVP's
Atlantic Regional Offices