May 16, 2018

**PSAC Atlantic Young Worker Director Report**

**Leanne Moss**

Since we met last November, I have been busy organizing and attending various meetings and events for our local PSAC regional committees and the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour (NLFL) Young Workers Committee (YWC). Following the National Leadership Training in Ottawa, I have attended many local events which included the vigil in St. John’s on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women on December 6, 2017. The PSAC regional committees collaborated to organize a PSAC holiday event in December, and I was selected to coordinate the event on behalf of the St. John’s Young Workers Committee.  On January 20, 2018 I joined in the Women’s March in St. John’s.

A few other events I would like to highlight include the Saint John’s Young Workers Committee’s (SJYWC) Interview with Brother Carl Gannon, the National President of the Union of Veteran Affairs Employees, on January 31, 2018. As Carl was a young worker when he was elected National President for his first term, for the interview, we canvased questions from young workers through the network developed by the SJYWC. The interview, which received a lot of great feedback, was coordinated online and promoted through PSAC Atlantic. I attended the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) National Lobby Training in Ottawa in early February where I participated in the lobby training session and was provided with the opportunities to lobby MPs, Cabinet Ministers and Senators.  I was also in Ottawa in late March to attend the Treasury Board National Bargaining Conference as a first time delegate. On March 5 & 8, 2018 in St. John’s, I participated in the International Women’s Day (IWD) luncheons organized by the CLC and PSAC, as well as the Rocky Harbour IWD luncheon on March 9, 2018 where I was an invited as a guest to speak on young worker engagement. I also had the opportunity to meet with young workers of the Union of National Employees local in the area on their coffee break.

At the NLFL Convention, May 13-15, 2018 in St. John’s, the NLFL YWC was responsible to coordinate the young workers caucus, presentations and activities for the delegates. We presented our proposal for a Youth Activist Development Camp in Newfoundland and Labrador, which was recently endorsed by the NLFL executive council, to the delegates on the convention floor.  We also launched our very own campaign called Brought to You by Unions! We selected five topics (Workers Compensations, Workplace Safety, Parental Leave, Employment Insurance and a 40 Hour Work Week) and we developed colourful postcards designed to grab attention of young workers and educate them about what unions have done for everyone. The information on the postcards highlighted a few points but the design incorporated a scan code linked to a website which contains further information on the chosen topics. For the launch, the NLFL supported the purchase of buttons and t-shirts which aligned with our campaign design. As Chair of the NLFL YWC, I am extremely proud of the work we have been doing to encourage engagement for all young activists across our province and educate.

I sit on the PSAC National Young Workers Working Group, and have participated in regular virtual meetings with my counterparts from across the country. In addition, I also had the opportunity to meet and work with them face to face at the PSAC’s National Leadership Training session in Ottawa. Although it’s been difficult at times to work virtually, I am thankful to discuss, at a national level, the issues our members are facing as young workers across the regions.

One of my main goals as Director for Young Workers has been to establish more PSAC Young Workers Committees throughout the region. I am proud to say that Fredericton YWC has officially been established with a full executive, and both Moncton and Charlottetown YWCs have been approved by the Alliance Executive Committee. I look forward to providing support to the YWCs throughout the Atlantic and I will provide any assistance required to ensure our region’s YWCs flourish.

I look forward to continuing my work as the Young Worker Director for our region.

In Solidarity,

Leanne Moss

PSAC Atlantic Young Worker Director