**PSAC – Director for Visible Minority Members**

**Neville David**

**May 2015**

On April 7, 2015, I took over the position of Director for Visible Minority Members from Sister Ardith Jordan-Simmonds who resigned from her position.

I’m a member of UNE local 80178 and have been working with Statistics Canada in Halifax since May 2000. During the past 15 years in Public Service I have been an active Union member. I have taken various Education courses, attended Workshops, Seminars, Conferences & Conventions.

I am a visible minority member of Asian origin. I have played an active role in union:

* Presently serving on the Executive Committee of local 80178 as Human Rights Representative. I was elected to this position in 2011, 2012 & 2014 and again re-elected in 2015.
* Appointed to serve on the National Employment Equity Committee (NEEC) last year.
* For the past 2 years I have been actively involved in the Employment Equity and Diversity Committee for Statistics Canada Atlantic Region.
* Member of PSAC Atlantic’s Human Rights Committee for the past 2 years and was a delegate at two PSAC National Conferences for Racially Visible Members in Montreal & Vancouver.
* I attended the PSAC National Equity Conference in Toronto in 2013 as an Equity delegate.
* I participated at two National Bargaining Conferences.

Serving on these committees, I have fought for recognition and better working conditions for racially visible and equity members. Another area I have been pressing for is career advancement for racially visible members. Management now gives serious consideration in their recruitment efforts to increase the quota of new interviewers from visible minorities. There is more work to be done for recognition of racially visible members when it comes to promotions from within our ranks.

I want to play a more active role in Union affairs and with this in mind, I have submitted my application to attend the PSAC Atlantic School in May 2015 at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. This will equip me to be a strong union activist.

Besides my busy work schedule, I am involved in the community, serving as Secretary for the Society of St. Vincent De Paul Dartmouth Particular Council for the past 2 years. I also volunteer to teach tennis for the kids in Russell Lake west subdivision community where I live.

The knowledge, skills and experience that I have gained with the Union will help me to fight for the rights of underprivileged Union brothers and sisters to further the Union’s Agenda for fairness and better working conditions in my role as Director for Racially Visible Members.

I believe that unity and solidarity among our members is our guiding force. We have not won anything without a struggle. Together we can make a difference to build a stronger union and continue our fight for better working conditions.

If you wish to be added to my distribution list or if I can assist you in any way possible, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Neville David

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