Report to the PSAC Atlantic Regional Council

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| **Name: Michelle Neill** | **Date: May 9, 2018** |
| **Constituency (area, equity, etc.): Persons with Disabilities** | |
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| **Activities since the last Regional Council meeting** | |
| **Activities:** | **How it fulfilled my role on the Regional Council:** |
| Atlantic Council meeting (NS) > Nov 2017 | Learned about the following:   * Aboriginal culture regarding the meaning of drum-making as well as the learning circle and tradition of a gift of tobacco for the aboriginal person taking the time to open our meeting, conference, or conventions. * By-Laws and sections of the PSAC Constitution that apply to our Atlantic Council, including our sub-committees and various regional committees. * My and other council members’ roles on this council and how we can work together on various sub-committees or via sharing of information. |
| Leadership Training (Ottawa) > Nov-Dec, 2017 | Many tips and tricks regarding learning and passing on knowledge (i.e. reflection on learning and teaching styles, diversity, etc.). |
| National Human Rights Conference > Dec, 2017 | Collaborated with the National Working Group for Persons with Disabilities to review priorities, including the review and feedback on the draft Accessible Canada (Accessibility Legislation) prepared by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), led by the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities.  Provided feedback on additional penalties that should be imposed upon Employers that do not adhere to the Accessibility Legislation. |
| PEI Area Council (AC), Regional Women’s Committee (RWC), and Human Rights Committee (HRC) Christmas social and meetings > December 11, 2017. | Social event to invite all PSAC members to learn more about the various committees and their activities.  Each group also held a short meeting to update members on their specific activities planned for 2018. |
| PEI Area Council (AC) meeting > January 15, 2018. | Plans for Phoenix Day of Action, Pay Advocate Training, MP visits, and other activities. |
| PEI Human Rights’ Committee (HRC) AGM meeting > January 24, 2018. | Updates and plans for future, also dealt with questions regarding voting rights on committee. Will reschedule elections to February 8, 2018. |
| PEI Human Rights’ Committee (HRC) Special Meeting > February 8, 2018. | Held elections and provided remaining updates on 2018 plans, finalized budget. |
| PEI Area Council (AC) meeting > February 12, 2018 (by teleconference, due to being in Ottawa) | Updates on political actions and campaigns for the PSAC.  Also provided information to members about the draft Accessibility Legislation and asked for feedback, on behalf of the Persons with Disabilities national working group. |
| Phoenix Day of Action > Feb 28, 2018 | Supporting employees that have been affected by Phoenix-related pay issues. |
| Regional Women’s Committee conference call > Feb 28, 2018. | Updates on recent events and future plans.  This included IWD, Childcare updates, Domestic Violence, Employment Equity training, and latest RWC handbook updates). |
| PEI Regional Women’s Committee (RWC) > Mar 1, 2018. | Updates on committee actions and future events. |
| Charlottetown Soup Kitchen (food bank) event > Mar 3, 2018. | RWC, HRC, & AC event, included donation, preparation, and delivery of food to homeless and/or less fortunate residents of Charlottetown and area. |
| Regional Area Councils’ (AC) conference call > Mar 13, 2018. | Update on policy changes, financial rules, expectations for committee, etc. |
| UTE local 90002 Easter (Membership appreciation) event > Mar 28, 2018. | Included “Did you know” information for all members, so they can learn more about both UTE and PSAC (i.e. scholarships available, Education allowances, types of training available, etc.).  Received many questions from members to learn more about the training offered by both UTE and PSAC. |
| PEI Area Council (AC) meeting > April 9, 2018. | Updates on latest activities and plans for upcoming events. |
| PEI Regional Women’s Committee (RWC) AGM > April 10, 2018. | Updates on latest activities and plans for upcoming events. Provided updates from  Also held elections for executive positions. I now hold the position of Treasurer. |
| Atlantic Human Rights Committee (HRC) conference call > April 11, 2018. | Updates on HRC members, selection of chair and co-chair, updates on upcoming plans, and review of 3-year mandate. |
| PSAC National Convention in Toronto > April 28 – May 4, 2018. | Reviewed and voted upon various resolutions.  Also learned quite a bit about the Aboriginal Residential Schools issue, through the Truth and Reconciliation report (very emotional).  Met and talked with the various candidates putting their name forward for National President, National Executive Vice-President, and Alternate NEVP positions. |
| PEI Human Rights Committee (HRC) meeting > May 7, 2018. | Two presentations regarding Social Justice items from:   * Jessica Chaisson, who visited Guatemala as part of the PSAC Social Justice group in March 2018. * Gaylene Smith, who has done many visits to Kenya to help build schools and educate girls on the ways to control their monthly, so they can continue to participate in school each day.   Also, included updates and planning for future events. |
| **Challenges you had to cope with since the last meeting** | |
| Still having difficulty setting down a date for a PEI Childcare Advocacy event on PEI, due to Tara Peterson’s busy schedule – still working on this. | |
| **What would you like to work on next?** | |
| Still working on the Childcare event – likely to hold in September, now.  Would like to also bring Louise Casselman to PEI to speak about the Water issues and Social Justice issues campaigns that PSAC works on. | |