### Report to the PSAC Atlantic Regional Council

### Steve Johnson

### June 2014 – April 2015

The following is a brief summary of most of my Council activities since being elected at the Atlantic Triennial Regional Convention last year:

**June 19 - 23, 2014:** Attended the 6th PSAC Triennial Atlantic Regional Convention in Saint John, NB. The convention theme was - **“We Are All Affected. Stronger Together!”** It was here that I was elected to the PSAC Atlantic Regional Council into the position of Director – Newfoundland and Labrador for a term of three years.

**July 18 - 25, 2014:** Attended the 16th UCTE Triennial Convention in Vancouver, BC. The convention theme was **“Moving Mountains Together!”**

**September 19 - 21, 2014:** Attended a planned **Strategic Summit in Halifax, NS. This was a series of sessions designed to develop a fifteen month operational plan of action for the Council. This plan would be focused on supporting three key objectives as put forward by the PSAC National Board of Directors:**

1. Defend our collective agreements, which includes pushing back against concessions and takeaways at the Treasury Board tables.

2. Defend public services, which includes continuing with the “We Are All Affected” campaign and underlining the importance of the services our members provide to all Canadians.

3. Build opposition to Conservative policies on public services and worker’s rights.

Council members as well as key activists throughout the Region attended this summit.

**October 20th, 2014:** Assisted in organizing and participated in a Gander Area Council community BBQ and Public Service awareness event.

**October 24 - 28, 2014 – 5 days:** Attended **Atlantic Council Team Building Retreat** at Oak Island, NS. Designed to introduce all of the new Council members to each other and to the intricacies of Council’s operations, goals and purpose. This proved to be a very valuable series of exercises that allowed us, as strangers with common ideas, to jump right into working together as a collective team.

**November 20 – 23, 2014 – 4 days:** Attended regular Council meeting in Halifax, NS. Was selected to sit on the Political Action Committee and the Health, Safety and Environment Committee. Reviewed our operational plan and received Council member handbooks.

**January 07th, 2015:** Missed Political Action Committee conference call due to work; reviewed minutes.

**January 22 – 25, 2015 – 4 days:** Attended “Leading Change” Leadership Training in Halifax, NS. This training was in lieu of the National Leadership Program that was originally scheduled for delivery in November 2015.  The focus was on the current political context and the critical need to mobilize our members for Treasury Board bargaining and in preparation for the 2015 federal election.

**March 19, 2015:** Assisted in organizing a public rally in Gander in support of the national program on that day of promoting healthier workplaces.

**March 24, 2015:** Participated in Council teleconference.

As can be readily seen, these are busy times. Given our country’s current political environment and the pillage taking place in the Public Service, each and every one of us should realize the gravity of where we might end up if we don’t do our part to change this extreme right wing government.

One little rally here, one letter there, one step at a time, we can do this…We must do this.

Respectfully in solidarity,

Steve Johnson