

2016 BC Federation of Labour Convention Report

Joshua Miller

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the 2016 BC Federation of Labour Convention in Vancouver, from November 28 - Dec 2 2016. I was able to attend only due to the funding I received from PSAC BC regional. This opportunity greatly enhanced my understanding, passion and enthusiasm for the labour movement. As this was the first BC Federation convention that I have had the opportunity to attend as a delegate for the entire time, it really opened my eyes to the size and strength that is behind us.

During this convention, I was approached by a sister from another union and asked if I wished to be on the balloting committee; as I was not aware of what that was, I happily accepted. While very educational, the elections were less than rambunctious, and the clear winners were elected. It was still a very good experience however.

I was also very impressed with the size and composition of the PSAC delegation. It was great to see the caucus, and the discussions that we had. I also managed to get to a mike, and speak to a young worker resolution. This was very exciting for me as I had never spoke in front of such a large audience. Only through the support of the PSAC was I able to gain the courage to stand up and speak for issues that mean the most to me.

The information I gathered from this convention and the contacts made through networking is enormous. I have started to prepare a lunch and learn at my CEIU local to get some of the information I learned to my members. Furthermore, I am in the process of creating a poster which will be posted throughout my office with facts and photos from the 2016 BC Fed convention.

In the end, the experiences I had at the BC fed were very positive, and I very much thank you for your support.

In solidarity,

Joshua Miller