# North East BC PSAC Regional Council Report For October 20, 2011

# **Patt Holmes**

I traveled Europe for most of the month of September. It was the "best holiday" I have ever had. I remember thinking to myself: "What we desire for ourselves, we wish for all" as I visited places with visible poor working conditions and poverty stricken villages.

I was elected as the Regional Council Rep for North Eastern BC on May 15/11 at our BC PSAC Convention. Anne Evasin, UTE is my alternate. I am very thankful to have a working alternate for this term of office to support me in covering off a very large region.

I have outlined below my North Eastern solidarity building activities and union educational engagements to help better motivate and assist the PSAC members in my region.

### DATE & LOCATION

#### **DESCRIPTION**

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1. APRIL 8-9th, 2011 Vancouver, BC	Regional Council Meeting
2. May 8-12, 2011	CLC Convention – Good Jobs, Better Lives
3. MAY 13, 2011 Vancouver, BC	PSAC Task Force Mtg. Reg 15A - Patty Ducharme
4. MAY 13-16th, 2011 Vancouver, BC	BC Regional Triennial Convention: Public Services Not for Sale
5. MAY, 16th, 2011 Vancouver, BC	Regional Council Meeting-Four Seasons Hotel
6. JUNE to OCT, 2011 Prince George, BC	CEIU on going National Elections for NVP BC/YT & Alternate, NVP for Women West & Alternate, PSAC convention delegate from the North
7. NOV. 2010 & on going 2011/12/13 Prince George/NE BC	NO CUTS National Campaign

8. JUNE 2-4th, 2011 Prince George & NE BC	BC Federation of Labour Conference for the first time in the BC Heartlands/North – Building a Brighter Future for BC Resource Towns (North of the 51 <sup>st</sup> Parallel)
9. JUNE 3rd/2011	Jim Sinclair as key note speaker at the front of the Prince George Post Office with striking workers, families and various union representatives. Solidarity rally with speakers. New Area Council banner used.
10. JUNE 4th, 2011 Prince George, BC	Labour Council Strategizing Meeting for the North
11. JUNE 21, 2011	Donation - Walk for Justice - Vancouver to Ottawa
12. JULY 14, 2011	Conference Call for the Regional Council - absent as at SIFW & sent regrets
13. JULY 13-17th, 2011 Victoria, BC	2011 Summer Institute for Women and PSAC meeting for RWC Chairs
14. JULY 29th, 2011 Ottawa	Incoming announcement that our Nycole Turmel would be interim NDP opposition
15. SEPT 16-20th, 2011 Halifax	CEIU National Component Convention: I sent an alternate Kiera MacCormick
16. OCT 15&16, 2011	RWC Meeting: Workshop on "How to Get Started on Retirement Planning for Women"
Prince George, BC (Postponed till November 2011)	
17. OCT 19, 2011 Vancouver, BC	Meeting of all PSAC RWC Chairs in BC
18. OCT 20-22/2011 Vancouver, BC	Regional Council Meeting
19. OCT 29, 2011 Vancouver, BC	All PSAC Local Presidents Meeting
20. NOV. 2011 (DTBA) Prince George, BC	PSAC Christmas Social & JLP session
21. Dec 6th, 2011 Prince George, BC	Events to Stop Violence against Women
22. Dec 2011 or Jan 2012 Prince George, BC	Elections of Local CEIU #20921 Executive

#### UNION CAMPAIGNS:

- \* NO CUTS Fightback
- \* Hands off our Pensions
- \* Fight for Fair Taxes
- \* Political Elections

GRIEVANCES: Duty to Accommodate and Job Classification Shop Steward activities

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

I attend ongoing monthly UMCC and Health and Safety Meetings for CEIU Members and assist members in other Components from time to time. In addition to Local meetings I also attend meetings for our Regional Structures. I am the Chair of the Northern PSAC Women's Committee and work on the fight for equality campaigns in our region and with Kelly Megyesi, RC Coordinator on operational plans for the future. I look forwards to working on the Regional Council Committees as assigned.

## **CLOSING:**

I give a very, very big "Thanks" to both Carol Pegura and Kay Sinclair for their support in my role as a union activist and Regional Council delegate. I also thank the PSAC staff, my regional council brothers and sisters and members at large for keeping me on track to resolve and protect our member's workplace rights.

In the NE part of BC our members only had sun on about 5 days from June to the end of August! In the North usually our Regional and local meetings are suspended in order to allow our activists time for summer family vacations. We will resume union work place visits and education this fall. Several PSAC courses scheduled for the North were postponed but hopefully we will fill a class in Oct/Nov 2011.

I welcome our "newly elected" REVP, Bob Kingston "on board" and look forwards to our union challenges that lie ahead in 2011, 2012 & 2013. Hopefully we will have a good turn out of our Regional Council at our upcoming PSAC Convention to promote, lobby and resolve our emerging issues. In Solidarity we Stand!

IN SOLIDARITY
PSAC PATT OF THE NORTH EAST