

Report to B.C. Regional Council

Name Paul Croes	Date 09 September 2011
PRIDE	
Activities since last RC meeting	
Activity	How it fulfilled role on B.C. Council
PRIDE Surrey	As my first event to attend I went to Surrey Pride which was empowering and exciting with Jennifer Ho, Tracy Shudo, Gary Fraser and several others participating enthusiastically to further the understanding of PSACBC to the general public. A lot of interested and education starved people who were eager to learn the jobs we do as Public Workers. A very community based and Diverse event with performances from all communities in Surrey. It was a hot day, so sunscreen was a hot commodity.
The North American OutGames International Human Rights Conference	First I would like to thank Andree Cote (Women's and Human Rights officer PSAC) for organizing the activist of PSAC together. We had members from across the country participate in this Conference. Truly inspirational and exciting. We all got together at the Fountainhead for drinks and than went for dinner at a Lebanese restaurant down the street. We were a true group participating together and learning together. The workshops were many and unfortunately we could not participate in all as some were given at the same time. But the "plenary" periods were of solidarity and cooperation.
Vancouver PRIDE	The parade was enormous. When you actually participate in the Vancouver Pride Parade you suddenly realize the enormity of it all. Well over 600.000 people lined the streets and there was an constant deafening roar of support for the PSAC BC contingent. WE had Bob Jackson and Terry Fanning, Timothy Hunt, Denis Roy, Karen Church and many others participate in our own section of Multi Union PRIDE. It was truly quite the experience. When we had finished the

	<p>parade Route we went to the booth at Sunset beach where Gary Fraser and Tracy Shudo and others had already been busy all morning talking to many people who stopped by. We had a visit from Nicole Turmel (Interim Leader of the NDP) who was almost as enthusiastic as the late Jack Layton when he used to walk in the Parade. Many people again were educated on the work we do as Public Workers and the excitement was definitely present every time we talked to people who walked by and visited our booth.</p>
<p>Montreal PRIDE</p>	<p>I had already booked a trip to Montreal prior to becoming the Pride coordinator and hence participated in the Montreal Pride festivities. The parade was exciting but not as exciting as the Vancouver parade. Denis Roy and Toufic El-Daher from Ottawa/Gatineau/Montreal who also participated in the Conference (above) were there and we had an amazing time in the parade and the street festival. There was a PSAC booth and a Multi Union float which was very well received. People were quite impressed that a PSAC BC PRIDE coordinator attended the Montreal PRIDE!</p>
<p>What would you like to work on next?</p>	
<p>I would like to participate in the Prince George, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Prince George and Victoria PRIDE's next year. New Westminster PRIDE was the same weekend as Montreal PRIDE.. Also I would like to participate more with the Multi Union PRIDE group for future cooperation on Floats and participation across BC.</p>	