

Report of the Vancouver and District Area Council President

I am pleased to offer my President's report following our PSAC BC regional convention where our previous President, Jamey Mills, was elected Regional Executive Vice-President for PSAC BC.

Our Area Council continues to be incredibly active around issues affecting us in our workplaces and communities. Throughout 2017 we led multiple events around Phoenix including rallies, tabling at public events, intersActions, hosting region-wide Phoenix action calls, developing and delivering a lunch and learn (for which the template has been used in other areas), and lobbying MPs. In addition to our actions around Phoenix, which remain the biggest issue affecting our membership, we also participated in a number of other activities and actions. We supported and volunteered for progressive candidates in the provincial election which saw PSAC member Bowinn Ma elected in the riding of North Vancouver-Lonsdale and past PSAC Regional Coordinator Janet Routledge elected in the riding of Burnaby North. Some highlights from our community involvement over the last year include Vaisakhi, May Day, Canada Day, our annual softball tournament fundraiser for the Metro Vancouver Alliance, Fusion Festival, marches and support of actions against Kinder Morgan's Transmountain Pipeline Expansion project, Labour Day, and supporting CUPE 1816 during their lockout. We certainly accomplished a lot in 2017.

We're nearing the completion of our current convention cycle with the PSAC National Convention taking place this April. Our Area Council submitted 16 resolutions addressing many issues around equity, the environment, Area Council training and funding, young workers, childcare, and the policies and structure of our union. I am grateful and honored to have been chosen as our delegate to the convention where I will represent our Area Council and work towards seeing our resolutions passed.

Through the time each of us have spent working on Area Council activities and participating in meetings we have a solid foundation from which to build on in 2018. I would like to thank everyone for their contributions.

In Solidarity,

Todd Smith