

Report of the Provincial Director for New Brunswick  
Darlene Bembridge  
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Thanks for allowing me to be your PSAC Director for NB, I want to do more, but I need to be made aware of what is happening in your locals. I have stated many times please reach out and I will gladly participate in meetings or events being held by your local or committee. Participation in meetings has changed since the beginning of the pandemic and I will gladly attend virtually or in person, whatever works best for you.

I have attended area council meetings virtually and in person in Saint John and Moncton and I provided an update from the REVP's office. I have attended AGM's and chaired elections. I will participate in activities if I know they are happening.

Just a note for the future, if you have a child attending secondary school after high school, both the PSAC and the NB Federation of Labour offers scholarships. The costs are significant to attend secondary school so with a little work the student can apply and potentially be successfully awarded a scholarship, and we know every little bit helps. Check the applicable websites to obtain deadlines for the next year.

There is interest in the Saint John area to start a Young Workers committee, if you know of components or DCL's that have members interested in participating, please reach out. If you know anyone interested in participating in the committees included under the PSAC Constitution, please just drop me a note and I will ensure you receive an invitation to future meetings or work on organizing a committee in your community.

With the government's mandate to have members in the office 3 days a week, this is a decision that members are finding challenging as they know they are capable of doing their respective job in the comfort of their own home, not dealing with the added cost of travelling to an office. The PSAC is encouraging members to grieve this decision, reach out to your respective components and/PSAC Regional offices or me for more information.

The number of workers in the Government grew during the pandemic to meet the needs of Canadians. The workplaces are now being hit with reduction to budgets which means a reduction in people doing the jobs. The term populations are being hit hard and there is even talk of Workforce adjustment for permanent employees. The PSAC collective agreements have a strong Workforce Adjustment appendix that every Union member should make themselves familiar with.

Our world has changed, since January due to the change to the government south of our Canadian boarder. There is a threat to our sovereignty, there is a big threat to democracy, and there are continuing threats to free speech, that is just the tip of the iceberg. I believe we as a Union need to be more united than ever, we have to stand strong, we are leaders in our workplace, in the community, in Canada as a whole. We as Union members have to be united and be prepared for the fight.

So much work to be done, so let's work together to protect our Rights. Please reach out if I can help in anyway and if you want me to attend your event.

In solidarity,  
Darlene Bembridge

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