



Robyn Benson

Public Service Alliance of Canada
Regional Executive Vice-President
Suite 460 - 175 Hargrave Street
Winnipeg MB R3C 3R8
Phone: Office (204) 956-4625, Cell: (204) 782-0040
Fax: (204) 943-0652
Email: bensonr@psac.com

November 23, 2009

To: All Locals/Branches

Re: Human Rights Day 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

December 10 is [Human Rights Day](#). The United Nations established this day to celebrate the proclamation of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#) on December 10, 1948.

In its preamble, the Declaration states that “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”

It is an inspiring document. However, without the active, ongoing commitment of citizens in every country, it risks being “just a piece of paper.” Human rights are under attack throughout the world, and even in Canada we cannot let down our guard. With current political sentiments and public attacks on human rights commissions and activists, we must be vigilant and vigorous in defending the rights we have gained through collective bargaining, organizing, representation and litigation and political lobbying and mobilizing.

As unionists we know that an injury to one is an injury to all. Defending and extending human rights is at the top of the PSAC priority list and the union provides many opportunities for members to become involved.

I encourage you to celebrate Human Rights Day 2009 in your workplace and your communities. Use this day to rededicate yourself to the cause, because human rights are what unions are all about.

In Solidarity,

Robyn Benson
REVP – PSAC Prairies