

Annex A:

Campaign & Issues Updates:

Campaigns: There are at least eight on the go at the moment and there is campaign fatigue across our membership unless there is a burning interest related to impact on self. There was a feeling that PSAC needs to look at its priorities and determine which are the most important and actually rank them as it's the same group of activists working on many of them.

We need to find a means to create interest in individuals who may be willing to take on a specific project for a specific time frame but not get tied into a cycle of meetings.

In terms of women the main priority is child care and domestic violence but we also looked at cultivating strong leadership, empowering women, confronting the "isms". As part of the program in the coming year with convention cycles we need to look at how we can leverage our working relationships with community based organizations such as child care coalitions in each region to continue to profile the message. The message needs to be clear and simple such that it catches the attention of members – in child care our allies are young families and grandparents.

The next phase of the child care agenda must be discussed and approved by the AEC so we are not sure what is to come next.

Domestic violence – there is a draft action plan and it is extensive and needs study. This issue touches so many areas of the union it cannot be relegated to a women's issue. Question is how we have the conversation across the board on this issue and who we begin to train such that locals can build a resource base to support victims of violence in their workplaces.

Link to regional or component priorities

Across the board the message was one of almost everything we do at some point has an intersection with government policy, promise or funding allocation.

A big part of our role as activists will be to monitor and lobby for certain agenda items. We need to be aware of who may be our best allies and develop plans to not only create an initial awareness but how we enhance that awareness in a strategic manner. What we can do may be a function of where we are located but we must never underestimate the awareness of our communities about the services we provide and why we fight for issues that impact our communities as well as our members.

Mental Health- awareness of what is happening at the national level is important such as the psychological health and safety standards, hazardous workplaces, steering committee mandated with changing the culture of the federal public service in working with members with mental health issues.

On issues management there is a role for champions but that role must be defined and the person must have awareness beyond a figurehead title.

Suggested Actions in Region or Component

Across the board sisters said there needs to be much more training and direction on how to write proper resolutions such that they will not be ruled out of order and can be moved through committees as well as components.

With the coming convention cycles we need to connect with regional and component organizers to build in time for a briefing on specific issues such as child care, find an event where we can produce a show of strength with a local organization and ask for display space where issues information can be provided.

Closer connections with provincial child care coalitions such that we can work cooperatively on activities that create awareness

Seek out processes within our locals/components whereby we are able to create interest and awareness in a particular issue be it child care or safe drinking water. What are the cross-overs that will allow us to stretch our resources to maximum visibility and effect?

Required Follow-Up and Timeframes:

As the regional women's representative I have the following to do:

- (a) Provide sisters in all regional RWCs with a batch of reports and information from this meeting. That will be done as soon as the electronic documents are received from Ottawa

- (b) Contact with organizers of the Prairie Regional PSAC Convention to determine if booth space is available at registration evening for a childcare location and if there is an event that can be coordinated in Winnipeg as part of the convention-time line – mid-October.

- (c) As soon as we receive the list from Ottawa on what range of conventions may be taking place in this region in 2017 look at who is where and determine what might be possible in conjunction with the new child care initiative coordinator working half-time at PSAC HQ.

- (d) Prepare report for Regional Council to be an appendix to my main report on RWCs in the region.

- (e) Create connections with child care coalitions across the region such that introductions can be made to local RWCs if that has not already taken place.

Next Meeting (if known): The next connection for the team will be at the National Access Conference in March 2017 but Andre plans to organize conference calls as required on issues as they evolve. I have been placed on the resolutions committee for the women's section of the national access conference and as such will have automatic delegate status to the conference.