

**Appendix A – Prairie Region Council Rep Reports
February 2022**

Position	Name	Rec'd by Deadline
REVP	Marianne Hladun	Yes
Young Workers Rep	Neha Channan	Yes
Racially Visible Persons Rep	Jennifer Chieh Ho	Yes
Persons with Disabilities Rep	Tim Hubick	Yes
Regional Women's Committees Rep	Sherry Hunt	Yes
Indigenous Peoples Rep	Janette Husak	Yes
Directly Chartered Locals Rep	Michelle Lang	Yes
Northern Alberta Geographical Rep	Stasi L'Hirondelle	Yes
South-East Manitoba Geographical Rep	Gus Mardli	Yes
Southern Alberta Geographical Rep	Danielle Poissant	Yes
LGBTQ2+ Persons Rep	Steve Sukhbir	Yes
Alternate REVP	Krysty Thomas	Yes
Separate Employers Rep	Amanda Wakeford	Yes

Southern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep	Brea Baresinkoff	No Report
Northern Saskatchewan Geographical Rep	Dawn Montgrant	No Report
North-West Manitoba Geographical Rep	Michael Weisgerber	No Report

**REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, PRAIRIES
TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL**

February 9 – 11, 2022 via ZOOM

This report covers the period from the last PRC meeting in December.

Sisters, Brothers and friends,

It is unfortunate and disappointing that 2022 has not started off well for our families, friends, and communities. The sustained surge of Omicron is a setback for everyone across the prairies. I would like to acknowledge the continued resilience and dedication our members continue to demonstrate even in the face of sustained difficulties. It is the strength and sense of community fostered in our union and the broader labour movement that keeps me going in the darkest times. Together we will get through this pandemic and ensure the rights of workers are preserved, expanded, and fought for especially around the bargaining table.

REVP Activities

One on One Conversations with Prairie Region Council (PRC)

Over the reporting period, I along with the staff met with members of the Prairie Region Council. Conversations were both rich in detail about plans for terms but also provided an opportunity to get to know each member better. The discussions have also provided my office with a better understanding of how we will be able to work together to ensure members reach their goals. I look forward to continuing these conversations and working with PRC members to ensure they have the tools and support they need to succeed in their elected roles.

Prairies Banner Campaign

As per the discussion and direction at the last PRC meeting, my office reached out and secured meetings with leading progressive communications firms. Firms were selected based on shared principles and values; each firm is focused on working with progressive organizations. We met with NOW Communications, Point Blank and StratCom. We discussed the needs of PSAC Prairies and our expectations for the campaign. Proposals were received and reviewed closely to make a recommendation to the PRC for consideration at this meeting.

Regular Communications with Regional Committees, PRC and National Officers

In keeping with Regulation 4 of the Prairie Bylaws, I held meetings as follows:

- January 13/22 with PRC Geo Reps, AC Chairs Call
- January 18/22 with PRC RWC Rep, RWC Chairs Call
- January 20/22 with PRC Equity Reps, HRC/RIPC Chairs Call

Regional Highlights

Committee Engagement

Throughout the reporting period, I have encouraged all committees and area councils to focus their energies on reimagining what membership recruitment will look like into the next year. The shifting realities and constraints associated with the pandemic must be considered as we move forward, this includes a critical assessment and consideration of how to conduct outreach in our new lived reality with COVID19. This will include the need to ensure meeting and events are hybrid and considering using new digital organizing tools to aide in reaching members.

Season's Greetings on behalf of Prairie Region Council

To mark the holiday season and give a word of thanks and recognition to our members and staff on our mailing list. My office sent out a special newsletter with season's greetings on behalf of the PRC and staff. The message was accompanied with a screenshot of the PRC during our last meeting. To date, my office has received positive feedback on this message.

COVID-19 Membership Impact

Casino Regina

Due to public health orders, Casino Regina has had to reduce their capacity and more than once, close completely to the public. All public health orders in Sask. have been withdrawn and the Casino has returned to full operations.

Airports

The impact of COVID has been significantly felt with our airport members. Previously, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, and Winnipeg airports have all had layoffs both temporary and permanent. While many members have been recalled from layoffs, we continue to support UCTE locals as they face unique challenges related to the aviation industry.

Universities

We continue to push for health and safety protections for our members and find ways to connect with members now that some may not even be physically in the same city. A number of campuses have switched to remote learning as Omicron cases skyrocket, such as the University of Winnipeg.

Organising

Alberta Academic Sector Organizing

With the change to legislation in Alberta, academic workers will be able to officially organize into unions effective 2022. Through a term organizer hired to work specifically on this campaign in Alberta, we have reached out to associations to discuss interim service agreements and the possibility of membership in PSAC in 2022. We have received a positive response from many groups and continue discussions with interested academic institutions.

Solidarity & Political Action

PSAC Local 55602 CAHRD

Local 55602 is currently in bargaining with the employer and to raise awareness and foster solidarity amongst members, we are organizing letters of support from locals and allies for the bargaining team and members. Additionally, we will be encouraging folks to participate in the valentines themed social media campaign to garner additional support.

REVP Office

Over the reporting period, the posting for an Executive Assistant to the REVP was posted and interviews were conducted.

Negotiations

National Bargaining Units

As the AEC Officer assigned to PA and Common Issues, I continue to attend caucus and bargaining for both units when available.

Royal Canadian Mint –Notice to bargain issued October 2021. Proposals being prepared.

Regional Bargaining Units

SRG – Notice to bargain issued April 2021

Edmonton Airport Firefighters & Captains – Notice to bargain issued September 2021.

Edmonton Airport GBU – Notice to bargain issued November 2021.

CAHRD – Negotiations ongoing.

Protec Calgary – Negotiations ongoing for a first collective agreement with this newly organized unit.

University of Saskatchewan Research Associates – Arbitration held in October 2021 for a first collective agreement. Arbitrator’s decision not yet received.

University of Saskatchewan Postdocs – Proposals prepared and setting dates.

Brandon University – Tentative agreement was ratified in November 2021.

ATCO (15 Wing, Moose Jaw) – Tentative agreement reached and ratified in December.

Freshwater Fish Marketing Board – Notice to bargain has been served and awaiting dates.

Canadian Museum for Human Rights – Negotiations continue.

Casino Regina – Notice to bargain issued October 2021.

Royal Canadian Mint (Protective Services) - Notice to bargain issued October 2021

Bouygues Energies and Services Canada Limited – Notice to bargain issued January 2022

Lastly, you will find enclosed the details of the REVP’s activities from November 2021 – January 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President, Prairies

REVP Prairies Activities

	NOVEMBER 2021	
22	Labour College Procedure Discussion	Teams
22	Union School Check-in	Teams
22	AEC Update	Zoom
22	National Education Budget	Zoom
22	Brandon University AGM	Zoom
23	Organizing Update	Teams
23	PRC Finance Committee	Zoom
24	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep	Zoom
25	CAHRD Action	In Person
25	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep (6 calls)	Teams

25	Brandon University Ratification Votes	Zoom
26	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep (3 calls)	Teams
26	PDPS Meeting	Zoom
23 – 28	PSAC National Equity Conferences	Virtual
29	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep	Teams
29	AEC Update	Zoom
29	Labour College Jury	Zoom
29	U of W Presentation	Virtual
30	NBoD Conference Call	Zoom
30	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep (2 calls)	Teams
30	Labour College selections	Zoom
30	Prairie Region H&S Committee Annual Town Hall	Zoom
	DECEMBER 2021	
1	1:1 Chat with PRC Rep (2 calls)	Teams
1	PRC Strategy Prep	Teams
1	Labour College selections	Zoom
2 – 4	PRC Meeting	Zoom
2	National Officer's Update	Zoom
6 - 7	Union School Panels	Virtual
6	AEC Update	Zoom
8	Labour College Final Selection	Zoom
9	Special AEC Meeting on TB Bargaining & NEC Resolutions	Zoom
10	U of S Discussion	Teams
10	Constitution Resolutions Review Committee	Teams
11	CMHR Virtual Tour	Virtual
13 - 14	AEC Meeting	Zoom
13	MFL Executive Council Meeting	Zoom
13	SJF Meeting	Teams
13	Constitution Review Committee	Teams
15 - 17	Special NBoD Meeting	Zoom
15	NDP Federal Council Meeting	Zoom
16	AGR 40022 AGM	Virtual
20	SFL Central Strategy Committee Meeting	Zoom
21	Constitution Review Committee	Teams
	JANUARY 2022	
10 - 13	PA Caucus and Bargaining	Virtual
10	Special NBoD Meeting	Zoom
10	Prairies Banner Campaign Meeting x 2	Zoom
12	Organizing Budget Discussion	Teams
12	Prince Albert Area Council Meeting	Zoom
13	Prairies Banner Campaign Meeting	Teams
13	PRC Geo Reps, Area Council Chairs Call	Zoom
17	AEC Meeting	Zoom
17	Call Centres: Joint Union Management Recommendations	Zoom

17	MFL Executive Council: Special Meeting	Zoom
18	AEC Meeting	Zoom
18	NBoD Meeting	Zoom
18	Constitution Resolutions Committee Initial Meeting	Teams
18	PRC RWC Rep, RWC Chairs Call	Zoom
19	AEC Retreat	Zoom
19	Executive Council Meeting	Zoom
20	AEC Retreat	Zoom
20	Prairies Nego Assignments	Teams
20	PRC Equity Reps, HRC/RIPC Chairs Call	Zoom
21	CCPA MB/PSAC Prairies Research Project Discussion	Zoom
21	AEC Retreat	Zoom
24	Staff Interviews x 3	Teams
24	AEC Update	Zoom
25	National Panel on Equity in the Workplace	Virtual
25	AGR Local 50056 AGM	Virtual
26	Organizing Discussion	Teams
26	Manitoba Health Coalition AGM	Online
27	SJF Steering Committee Meeting	Teams
28	Keep the RCMP in Alberta campaign meeting	Teams
29	AGR Union Manitoba Regional Seminar	Virtual
31	Common Issues Caucus and Bargaining	Zoom

NEHA CHANNAN, YOUNG WORKER REPRESENTATIVE

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Activities:

November 30 - YW and REVP Call (Marianne Hladun)
December 2 to 4 - PRC Meeting
December 15 - Regina RWC Kitchen Table Conversation
January 20 - PRC / Equity Committees Call
January 21 - YW and PSAC YW Rep Call (Tina Matias-Bouchard)
January 25 - PSAC National Panel on Equity
January 26 - PSAC Young Workers and Equity Discussion

The previously scheduled Young Worker's Trivia Night that was originally planned on November 3, 2021 has been rescheduled for March 9, 2022. The event will be comprised of trivia, quizzes, music and social networking. The event is available for all Prairies members who identify as young workers. The hope is to increase registration by being more inclusive to all young workers at the onset. In addition, there will be no requirement to register in teams, this will remove any barriers, complications, or hesitations that some members may have had the first time when considering registration for the event.

In terms of the Education Committee, a meeting was held on November 16, 2021 and no subsequent meeting has been held in the new year. An Education Input call was sent on January 28, 2022 from the Calgary RO. A list of available course modules was also circulated and a survey is open until January 31, 2022 for members to provide their input.

Should you have any questions about my report, please contact me directly.

In Solidarity, Neha Channan

JENNIFER CHIEH HO, RACIALLY VISIBLE PERSONS REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

I am pleased to submit my activity report for the period of December 12th, 2021 to January 31, 2022.

December 2021:

12-06 to 12-07:

Prairies connecting with members education course

12-08: PRC Bylaws Committee meeting #2

12-09: Equity Matters meeting

12-10: Virtual Tour of the Canadian Human Rights Museum – Community

12-11: Virtual tour of the Canadian Human Rights Muzeum – available Prairie wide

12-13: Calgary HRC meeting

12-15: Edmonton HRC meeting

January 2022:

01-03: Donation to Mama Clan Winnipeg

01-16: Asian Heritage Month Society of MB meeting

01-19: PSAC National Program Officer HRC

01-20: PRC/HRC chairs

01-21: Winnipeg HRC meeting

01-23: Asian Heritage Month Society of MB meeting

01-24 to 27:

UNE National Executive Meeting

01-25: PSAC townhall meeting on Equity in the Workplace

01-26: The Coalition of MB Cultural Communities for Families Inc (CMCCF)

01-28: St. Andrew's Community Outreach Committee Meeting

01-30: Canadian Labour International Film Festival meeting

Prescheduled Upcoming activities for February 2022:

Black History Month celebrations:

*The theme for Black History Month 2022 is **February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day.***

I am working with the Winnipeg HRC in organising a Prairie wide virtual event to celebrate the 2022 Black History Month. We have reached out to Uzoma Asgarawa, MLA for Union Station Winnipeg and Nadia Thompson, Chairperson of the Black History Month Committee of MB. Event is on Feb 28th from 7 pm to 8 pm Central time. Speakers will speak for up to 20 minutes followed by a Question and Answer Period. Plans to be finalized and information to be shared as soon as possible.

For MB, <https://www.bhmwinnipeg.com/black-history-month-2022-calendar>

For SK, <https://sachm.org/events/celebrations-and-revelations-2022>

For Alberta: <https://socialwork.ucalgary.ca/about/about-faculty/anti-black-racism-task-force/black-history-month-2022>

Black History Month group in Edmonton: <https://www.nbccedmonton.ca/black-history-month/#toggle-id-3>

02-03: PSAC National Officers meeting

02-08: PRC Education

02-07: Winnipeg RWC

02-09: PRC Bylaws

02-09 to 02-11:

PRC meeting

02-23: Winnipeg HRC

02-24: Black History Month Committee meeting

02-20: Asian Heritage Month Society of MB general meeting

02-24: Asian Heritage Month Society of MB Education Meeting

02-28: Celebration of Black History Month 2022

Some highlights:

On December 10, to mark International HR Day, two virtual tours of the HR Muzeum; one for a community group and the other for PSAC members in the Prairie Region. Ian Martens, a PSAC UNE member and secretary of UNE Local 50773 was the guide. He did a fabulous job with the understanding of what kind of presentation was appropriate for the two different groups; for the community group; the focus was on the Holocaust section in the museum. It was democratic story of a very weak democracy turned into a fascist Nazi state and how important it is to keep democracy strong

And the second one was organised for PSAC members in the Prairie Region focusing on union engagement in Canada. He talked about the 1919 General Strike in Winnipeg and how it was the largest strike in Canadian History.

It's an hour long virtual tour and it's interactive, so audience get to ask questions. If this is something you are interested in organising for your members in your respective components and committees, as an educational and awareness piece, please feel free to reach out.

<https://humanrights.ca/exhibitions-and-events/exhibitions>

Upcoming Plan and Activities - February and March:

02-07 to 02-24:

Volunteer training at Siloam Mission Winnipeg; a 4 week online training session that will be 1.5 hours covering topics such as basic needs poverty, trauma, systemic injustice, methods to reduce homelessness and advocacy for systemic change.

03-21: – presentation to mark International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination

Guest speakers are Gus Mardli, Khalid Ahmed and potentially, Danielle Dubuc, PSAC member from Quebec who is also the Workers of Colour Representative on the CLC council. Lastly, I would like to thank PSAC staff from the Regional Office and the REVP office, for their continual assistance during this period and I look forward to working with everyone.

Thank you.

In Solidarity,
Jennifer Chieh Ho

**TIM HUBICK, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL**

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

It has been a slower time since our last meeting with fewer activities.

Activities and events.

- * I continue to contact all the members in the region who self identified as a person with a disability via an email. (68) people in total.
- * I attended all committees meeting for all committees and PRC reps.
- * I have a member from DND wanting to know with a duty to accommodate in their workplace. They wanted more education and recourse they could use in the workplace.
- * I attended all HRC call.
- * I attended all Area council meeting.
- * I attended the health and safety committee call.
- * I attended the health and safety town hall.
- * I chaired the second communication committee meeting.

- * I attended the Calgary human rights committee.
- * I attended the Southern Saskatchewan human rights committee.
- * I attended the national equity panel discussion around bargaining.

Current and up and coming events

- * National equity caucus follow up to equity conference February 3
- * PRC meetings February 9-11.
- * SFL equity members reps meeting February 15
- * South Saskatchewan HRC AGM February 15
- * SFL equity conference February 16

Challenges and goals for the coming months.

Challenge with the large demographics of the region and not being able to have face to face meeting it is hard to keep members engaged. This has always been an issue but continue to look for new ways to over come this. The major bonus is going to be making those connections at the equity conference.

As the PWD rep I will continue to reach out to HRC with in the prairies. I will also continue to build net work with those members who self identifies with PWD I believe that we are off to a great start. I do look forward to working more with each and everyone of you I think this team of leaders will be a very strong and effective group and I look forward to seeing the great things in which we will accomplish this term. Stay strong stay safe!

In solidarity

Tim Hubick

PWD Rep

SHERRY HUNT, REGIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE REP

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Activities December 4th, 2021 - February 1st, 2022

December 6-7, 2021: Participated in Prairies "Connecting with Members" Union School (Video Conference).

December 6, 2021: Introduced December 6th National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women minute of silence at Prairies Connecting with Members Union School. (Video Conference).

December 7, 2021: Community Engagement Breakout Sessions (Speaker on Child Care Advocacy and Community), Prairies Connecting with Members Union School. (Video Conference).

December 8, 2021: Meeting with REVP Marianne Hladun and Regional Communications Officer Brianne Goertzen regarding Regional Women's Committee Strategic Engagement Plan. (Video Conference)

December 15, 2021: Attended Regina RWC Kitchen Table Conversation "How Covid Affected Domestic Violence." (Video Conference)

January 17, 2022: Meeting with Regional Representative Carm Chan, and Education Officer Karoline Klug regarding the fall women's retreat. (Conference Call)

January 18, 2022: REVP/All RWC Chairs call (Video Conference)

January 19, 2022: Meeting with Regional Representative Carm Chan, Education Officer Karoline Klug, and Communications Officer Brianne Goertzen regarding women's retreat/IWD newsletter planning. (Video Conference)

January 25, 2022: Attended National Panel on Equity in the Workplace (Webinar)

January 26, 2022: Attended Child Care Now Saskatchewan "Child Care in Rural Communities" (Webinar) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DP99g05uL7Y>

January 27, 2022: Attended Southern Alberta Council of Public Affairs (SACPA) "Domestic Abuse – A shift in perspective" (Webinar)
<https://www.sacpa.ca/session/2022/domestic-abuse-a-shift-in-perspective/>

It has been a busy couple of months! Much of my focus has been on developing a strategic engagement plan for the Regional Women's Committees - and there are some exciting regional activities taking form!

We have planned a “re-launch” Regional Women’s Committee Newsletter, target publishing date is planned for International Women’s Day (March 8, 2022). This all-new-content publication will feature each Regional Women’s Committee, what they have been up to, and what they are planning. This is an exciting chance for the committees to showcase the great work they have been doing in the Prairies Region, and no doubt will engage other PSAC women interested in advancing equity rights and connecting with others. I am looking forward to seeing the results, including the wonderful pictures of Prairies Women, active in their community - and in our union!

The other exciting activity we are working on is a retreat for Prairies Women in fall 2022 (see previous PRC meeting minutes December 2021). The goal of the retreat will be to re-invigorate and re-build our Prairies Regional Women’s Committees by offering a unique, retreat-style event that incorporates learning and wellness activities and will build deeper connections among participants. I began initial planning conversations with PSAC staff in December 2021, and we have now extended a unique call-out for a retreat steering group: <https://prairies.psac.com/call-out-womens-retreat-organizing-committee/>. The call has been extended to all PSAC Prairies women, regardless of union position or experience. The call-out includes an exercise that involves listening to a feminist organising podcast by Canadian journalist Nora Loreto (*Take Back the Fight: Organizing Feminism for the Digital Age*) and offering comment or reflections on a portion of the podcast. Rather than being an academic exercise, it is hoped that we can engage new, diverse voices, women with original ideas, and engage new activists that have not had the chance to plan this type of event before, in a real time mentorship opportunity. I look forward to finding out who will join the steering group!

In December, the Regina RWC hosted a Kitchen Table Conversation “How Covid Affected Domestic Violence” with special guest speakers Jo-Anne Dusel and Crystal Giesbrecht. Jo-Anne Dusel is Executive Director of the Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan (PATHS), and Crystal Giesbrecht is Director of Research at PATHS. It was an informative evening of conversation highlighting the issue of *coercive control* in domestic relationships. This issue presents an opportunity for regional, and even national, political engagement, as currently there is nothing in the Criminal Code of Canada prohibiting this abusive behavior. Attendees of the Kitchen Table Conversation felt we should be engaging politicians on the issue and advocating for a law prohibiting coercive control in family relationships across Canada. I am following up on this idea and have attached the April 2021 Report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights “The Shadow Pandemic: Coercive and Controlling Behavior in Intimate Relationships” to this report (for information). I have also attached Private Member’s Bill 202, “An Act to amend the Criminal Code (controlling or coercive conduct)”, which was introduced by MP Randall Garrison (Esquimalt—Saanich—Sooke), November 25, 2021 (Introduction and First Reading, House of Commons). It is my hope that we can have lobby or letter writing materials to the committees soon. Thank you again to the Regina RWC for a great evening of learning and conversation! The Lethbridge Regional Women’s Committee will continue the Kitchen Table Conversations by hosting a zoom event “Municipalities and Their Role in Delivering a \$10 a day, Universal, Accessible, Early Learning and Child Care Program”. Stay tuned for details!

2022-23 committee finance packages are due by March 15, 2022. All the RWC's are actively working towards that goal, as we discussed on our all-chairs call with the REVP. It has been a challenging year (almost two!) for all committees, with covid continuing to be a factor preventing most in-person actions. Thank you to all the members working hard to keep the committees functioning and active. I have been invited to several AGMs and I look forward to connecting with the Prairies women.

Upcoming Events:

February 1, 2022: Saskatoon Regional Women's Committee AGM

February 9, 2022: Calgary Regional Women's Committee AGM

February 18, 2022: Regina Regional Women's Committee AGM

March 1, 2022: Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee AGM

March 8, 2022: International Women's Day!

Respectfully submitted by,

Sherry Hunt (she/her/elle)
RWC Representative to the PRC

I acknowledge that I live in Treaty 7 Territory, and the land on which I stand is the traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy; comprised of the Kainai Nation, Piikani Nation, and Siksika Nation; and of the Ktunaxa, Metis, Stony and Tsu'tinna people.

**JANETTE HUSAK, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL
February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom**

I was elected as the PSAC Prairie Regional Convention in June 2021 as the Indigenous Peoples Representative.

Activities:

January 20, 2022 attended PRC/All Committees Call

Within the next weeks going to be working with the RIPC Committee on finalizing their 2021 reporting package, 2022 Budget and next steps.

MICHELLE LANG, DIRECTLY CHARTERED LOCAL (DCL) REP

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Brandon University: They have finished bargaining, and our new collective agreement has been ratified and signed by both the bargaining team and the employer.

CAHRD: As for Local 55602 has been bargaining since December 2019, our next bargaining date is in mid-February where the ER will come back with their pay proposal. They are hoping that this will be good for our members, keep your fingers crossed. We did have a few rallies with staff from Winnipeg PSAC, Matt who is the Region rep and Marianne was in attendance showing support to our bargaining team and meeting our members in the morning when they were coming in to start their work day. It was a success because it got everyone ramped up for the bargaining meetings.

Casino Regina: The local has elected a bargaining committee and bargaining team and are eager to get to the table. Things are changing at the workplace and it seems to be a battle at every turn. There is no consulting or talking, there is a lot of the corporation telling us how it is going to be, which doesn't help the relationship between the local and the workplace. This is why I am afraid of how bargaining is going to go, and I hope I am wrong. I will always try my best to stay calm and rational, however there are points where the employer has heard my angry side come out and to me that is ok as well. They like to dictate how meetings are going to be and I firmly let them know that they have no right to cut us off from questions or giving our input. They now know when we are not feeling heard. Anyways, I could go on for hours about the issues at this workplace but I will leave it at that.

I have an ask from my fellow workers: Please show signs of support when the smaller locals are bargaining. Whether it be through Facebook, or even a letter to the local president to show their members. Thanks for all the support that everyone can show these units, it is appreciated

In Solidarity,

Michelle Lang

STASI L'HIRONDELLE, NORTHERN ALBERTA GEOGRAPHICAL REP

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Since my last report, I have attended a few meetings with the Edmonton Area Council to finalize preparations for the Operation Friendship event held on December 10. I'm very happy to report that the event was pretty successful, and we were able to provide coffee and snacks to inner city individuals, while spreading some holiday cheer.

I also participated in a Prairie wide zoom call for Area Council Reps and GEO Reps, and a Prairie Region Healthy and Safety meeting. I will be attending the PRC Bylaws committee meeting as well on February 9. I attended an Edmonton Human Rights Committee meeting to introduce myself as the GEO Rep, and offer my assistance with any issues or events they plan over the coming months.

On a more personal note, I've been reaching out to MLAs in Alberta to lobby and advocate for improved mental health treatment for our youth. I will be coordinating with the Alberta Health Critic, the Advanced Education Critic, the Children's Service Critic, and the Community and Social Services Critic in an attempt to highlight the need for improved services. The covid pandemic has not only highlighted the need, but has created longer wait times as the number of at risk teens continues to grow due. I feel that as a community, and as a Union, we need to turn some of the negatives of the pandemic into positives. More and more people are opening up with their mental health issues and governments are 'saying' that they are working to improve services and we need to hold them accountable and keep them to their word,

In closing, if anyone has any questions with regard to my report, or would like my assistance in any community events please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Stay safe and healthy and remember to take time to enjoy your families and practice self care.

In Solidarity,
Stasi L'Hirondelle

**GUS MARDLI, SOUTH-EAST MANITOBA GEOGRAPHICAL REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL**

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Greetings everyone,

There was nothing to report since the last Council meeting in December 2021

Looking forward to this upcoming Council meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted
Gus Mardli**

DANIELLE POISSANT, SOUTHERN ALBERTA GEOGRAPHICAL REP
REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

PRC met Dec 3-5th and the main focus was on mobilization. There was some discussion about the past and upcoming training/education.

Two geographical rep action items that came from the meeting were:

- update information on the MP offices in their region and
- provide a light-hearted greeting to share with members about ourselves.

Also, any digital photos from back until 2017 be added to the OneDrive and any updates to the handbook be sent to sister Jennifer Chieh Ho.

There was lots of discussion on mobilization, what works and what hasn't. The PRC also had a deeper look into how we can get buy-in from members in these trying virtual times.

Medicine Hat District Labour Council does not meet in December because of Christmas and canceled the January 2022 meeting due to the rising concern of COVID-19. Next scheduled meeting is February 10th at 7pm MST.

Lethbridge Area Council

Members of the Lethbridge and District Area Council attended a rally in support of the University of Lethbridge Faculty Association on-going contract negotiations and pending strike vote. The Lethbridge Area Council also co-hosted the online screening of the Canadian Labour International Film Festival. The next meetings of the Lethbridge Area Council will be Feb 15th and March 3rd.

Should you have any questions about my report, please contact me directly.

Activities

December 1-3	PRC Meeting (virtual)
January 13	Submission of Geo Rep Intro
January 24	Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee
January 26	Correspondence with Regional VP of USJE
January 31	Submission of suggested changes to handbook
February 1	Beginning to update MPs information

In Solidarity,
Danielle Poissant

STEVE SUKHBIR, LGBTQ2+ PERSONS REP
REPORT TO PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Due to the up-tempo of Omicron and the Christmas break there is not much activity nor outreach going on. I have participated in the PRC conference calls and facilitated online meetings for the Edmonton Human Rights committee. I have reached out to the other Committees in Edmonton to have joint meetings but that has not come to pass due to the timing and elections being planned. We will be planning again with the new executives.

The following

- 2-4 December attended PRC meeting via Zoom
- 6 January Communication Committee Meeting via Zoom
- 20 January PRC Equity Rep Meeting via Zoom
- 7 February Communication Committee Meeting via Zoom

In Solidarity,
Steve Sukhbir

KRYSTY THOMAS, ALTERNATE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Since our last face-to-face meeting of the PRC in December I have attended meetings of the Lethbridge Regional Women's Committee, the Lethbridge and District Labour Council and the Alberta Federation of Labour. I participated in the all-region conference calls with the Area Councils, Women's Committees, Human Rights Committees and Regional Indigenous People's Circle. It was great to connect with members on these committees, hear their concerns and brainstorm ideas for 2022.

I participated in the prairie wide union school called "Connecting with New Members Education" as a panellist for the workshop entitled "Labour Organizations". There, I spoke about my involvement with the Lethbridge and District Labour Council and discussed how valuable it is to be apart of the broader labour movement and encouraged many PSAC locals to affiliate with their local labour council.

The Alberta Federation of Labour has met twice since our last PRC meeting. COVID was a major topic for discussion at both meetings. The AFL called for circuit breaker measures to get the fifth wave under control and keep workers safe. The AFL is also gathering evidence for possible legal action against the UCP government's mishandling of COVID-19. The federation as been focusing on two main bills in Alberta that affect workers. **Bill 32: Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act**. Regulations related to this bill were released in December 2021 and impose onerous and unnecessary administrative burdens on unions. A detailed legal opinion was presented on how unions must identify what they consider "core" activities and "non-core" activities and must receive written election from each member to spend union dues on non-core activities. Several unions shared mechanisms they have put in place to ensure that they receive written election to spend union dues on non-core activities after August 2022, the deadline in which these regulations come into force. The other bill, **Bill 81: – Elections Statutes Amendment Act** makes many changes to rules around elections financing including opening up donations allowed to nomination contests. It also makes many changes to third party advertising including putting in donation caps and closing the so called "AFL Loophole". Bill 81 takes away the voice of working people by making it illegal for the AFL and unions to engage in political advertising. As a federal union these regulations do not pertain to PSAC but we should be cognisant of these legislative changes as they may be implemented at the federal level if we don't stand up to them provincially.

Should you have any questions about my report, please contact me directly at thomask@psac-afpc.com or phone 403.393.2688.

Activities:

- Nov 28: Canadian Labour International Film Festival Lethbridge Screening, Online
- Dec 2: National Leaders Call - via Zoom
- Dec 2 – 4: PRC meetings – via Zoom

- Dec 6 – 7: Connecting with New Members Education, panellist & participant – via Zoom
- Dec 8: Lethbridge and District Labour Council Annual General Meeting – via Zoom
- Dec 15: Regina and Area RWC Kitchen Table Conversation RE: Domestic violence
- Dec 17 – 18: Alberta Federation of Labour Executive Committee and Council meetings – via Zoom
- Jan 6: PRC Communication Committee meeting – via Zoom
- Jan 12: Lethbridge and District Labour Council General Meeting – via Zoom
- Jan 13: Prairie-wide Area Council Meeting – via Zoom
- Jan 18: Prairie-wide Regional Women Committee meetings – via Zoom
- Jan 19 – 20: Alberta Federation of Labour Executive Committee and Council meetings – Zoom
- Jan 20 – 21: Agriculture Union National Human Rights Committee Meetings – via Zoom
- Jan 20: Prairie-wide Human Right Committees & Regional Indigenous Peoples Circle – via Zoom
- Jan 24: Lethbridge Regional Women’s Committee meeting – via Zoom
- Jan 25: National Panel on Equity in the Workplace – via Zoom Webinars
- Jan 26: Agriculture Union Local 30048 General Meeting – via Zoom
- Jan 30: Rally in support of the University Faculty Association, University of Lethbridge
- Feb 8: PRC Finance Committee Meeting – via Zoom

AMANDA WAKEFORD, SEPARATE EMPLOYER LOCAL REP

REPORT TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Not much has been going on since the last PRC meetings on Dec 2-4 and over the Holiday season.

Activities

Dec 6/7 – Attended the Prairies Connecting with Members Education (Union School) which focused on community engagement, participated in workshops H&S and general PSAC history, and heard from representatives from labour organizations across the Prairies.

Jan 6 – Communication Committee Meeting – Was not able to attend meeting however followed up with the committee members

Upcoming

The Communication Committee meets again on February 7th; no scheduled meetings yet for the Education Committee currently however there are a number of upcoming courses for members [click here](#) for course listings in your area). Continue to reach out to other Separate Employer Locals in the Region to find out what issues they are facing, if there is any assistance that can be provided and hopefully build more member engagement.

If anyone has questions or would like my assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank you and in solidarity,

Amanda Wakeford

PRC COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

Report will follow after the Finance Committee Meeting on February 8, 2022

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

The Education Committee has not met since the last PRC meeting (December 2021).

The Region offered a *Prairies Connecting with Members Education* December 6-7, 2021. The event was well attended and open to the entire region. The two day education event featured sessions on community engagement and speakers from labour and community organisations as well as workshops on the PSAC in general and PSAC history.

Upcoming courses being offered include (not exhaustive):

- Understanding your Collective Agreement - February 01, 2022
- Introduction to PSAC- Academic Sector - February 2, 2022
- TUB – Talking Union Basics University Sector (University Locals only) - February 5, 2022
- Making Sense of Collective Bargaining - Feb 16, 2022
- Health and Safety Rights and Responsibilities - February 24, 2022
- Making Sense of Collective Bargaining - February 24, 2022
- TUB – Talking Union Basics University Sector (University Locals only) - March 5, 2022

To register, or for more information, go to the Prairies Region website:

<https://prairies.psac.com/course/>

Many of the great webinars offered buy the region in 2021 are now available at:

<https://prairies.psac.com/content-type/webinars/>

There are also online training resources available on the National PSAC website:

https://education.psac-afpc.com/?_ga=2.153934776.1032462689.1643743014-61836719.1631819823

Submitted Respectfully on behalf of the Education Committee,
Sherry Hunt, (Chair)

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL**

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

We met on January 6th via zoom

ATTENDENCE: Tim Hubick (chair), Krysty Thomas, Steve Sukhbir and Brianne Goertzen (staff).

REGRETS: Amanda Wakeford

General opening remarks took place.

PRC NEWSLETTER & GEO REP BLURBS

Discussion took place regarding the launch and roll out of the focused PRC newsletter and supplementary social media shareables. With the switch to virtual PRC in February some of the additional media such as photos and videos Brianne was going to obtain is not feasible. She will be looking to develop workarounds to ensure shareables have good pics of PRC members and look for creative ways to feature PRC members.

Brianne highlighted the need to secure the remaining Geo Rep blurbs since to date only one has been received. She also identified the opening blurb to the newsletter ie what is the PRC in an accessible way needs to be developed by the committee and then she would edit and format.

It was decided that the featured profiles of PRC members would be boosted on Facebook and Instagram to increase exposure. Brianne will figure out which budget line pays and if we need PRC approval.

Tim reached out to the Geo reps who have not remitted bios to do so asap and remit to Brianne.

Brianne will format and put items together in advance of the PRC meeting for approval and seek clarification on the budget for boosting social media posts.

ANALYTIC REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Brianne gave an overview of the provided PowerPoint of the current social media analytics.

While numbers are not stellar there are indications of growth of organic audience of all social media platforms

A general discussion took place regarding some of the challenges related to content and focus as it relates to social media messaging.

Committee members highlighted the need to figure out what exactly we should focus on, there was consensus regarding that need to focus on members, issues and the public.

Krysty would like to bring the question to the PRC for consideration, asking what we should focus on including which issues. And wants to ensure we highlight the great aspects of the prairie region and really talk about the issues.

Steve spoke to the need to influence the public perception of PSAC prairies members and spoke to the disconnect between the public and the union as it relates to Phoenix and a general lack of understanding/knowing that PSAC works in solidarity with other unions and within the community. We need buy in from the public just as we need buy in from our members.

There was agreeance to take to PRC for discussion.

PRAIRIE VOICE AWARDS

Standing agenda item to provide space for gift ideas in the monetary amount of approximately \$50 per gift. Past gifts included a book and plaque. Timelines were discussed as it relates to the consideration of categories of the awards and whether to add, delete or amend criteria etc.

Krysty identified that some people can only apply to one award however, they may be more suitable for another award, why not open to multiple submissions and then being able to pick the best person for the best category.

Tim spoke to the need to expand award categories, such as an Indigenous leader award.

This discussion will take place following the National convention to ensure time to seek PRC approval for any changes/amendments.

Decisions related to the call out and application will take place in Fall 2022.

A general discussion took place as it relates to the Facebook pages of committees.

PRAIRIE REGION HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

TO THE PRAIRIE REGION COUNCIL

February 9 – 11, 2022 via Zoom

This report covers the committee's activities since last PRC meeting on December 2, 2021

The Regional Health & Safety Committee met virtually on January 18th, 2022. There were two more new component representatives who joined the Committee since the last report: **Lisette Serrano**, representing the Union of Veterans' Affairs Employees (UVAE) **Jean-Philippe (J.P.) Gravel**, representing the Union of Canadian Transportation Employees (UCTE)

The committee re-visited the selection of the Co-Chair representing component/DCL and the selection of the Secretary/Treasurer. The consensus of the group was to put Michelle Lang's (DCL 40005) name forward as component/DCL Co-Chair, as well as Karine Drobko's (CEIU Component) as Secretary/Treasurer. This is a decision to be approved by the REVP (Regional Executive Vice President) Marianne Hladun.

The committee also discussed the feedback which was received from participants during the November 30th Townhall. Here is some highlights of participants feedback; what they wanted to discuss, expand their knowledge on, seek training for or participate with the committee's action planning:

Pandemic issues – The public service workers vaccine attestation – Vaccination and employees rights – PSAC directives and stance on mandatory vaccination – Mental Health during pandemic training –shorter virtual courses vs longer in person courses (ie. Virtual training not to exceed a couple of hours)

Clint Wirth is going to work on designing webinars' type training so please keep watching for that coming March 2022.

The Committee will be meeting again (virtually) on Tuesday April 5th, 2022 at 7 PM (CST / MB time)

And last, we thank the Prairie Region Council for all their support and encouragement.

Respectfully Submitted

Gus Mardli, on behalf of

Your Prairie Region Health & Safety Committee:

Clint Wirth, Committee Advisor (PSAC Prairies Health & Safety Officer)

Michelle Lang (Co-Chair, Component/DCL) **Gus Mardli** (Co-Chair, PRC)

Karine Drobko (Secretary/Treasurer, CEIU) **Martin Kaminski** (UNE)

Stasi L'Hirondelle (PRC) **Tim Hubick** (PRC)

Valda Behrens (USJE) **Brea Baresinkoff** (CIU)

Faye Kingyens (UHEW) **Randy Olynyk** (AGR)

Jean Philippe Gravel (UCTE) **Lisette Serrano** (UVAE)