

CONVENTION CALL

Prairie Region Triennial Convention

**PRAIRIES IMPACT:
REINFORCING OUR POWER**

JUNE 09 – 11, 2023

Delta Regina

1919 Saskatchewan Dr, Regina, SK



PSAC · Prairies
Public Service Alliance of Canada



CONVENTION CALL

PRAIRIES IMPACT: Reinforcing our Power

ATTENTION:

All PSAC Locals/Branches of the Prairie Region
National Board of Directors
Component Full-Time Vice-Presidents of the Prairie Region
Prairie Region Council
Area Councils
Regional Women's Committees
Human Rights Committees
Equity Committees
National Indigenous Peoples Circle Representatives, Prairie Region
Regional Young Workers Committees

The Prairie Region Triennial Convention of the
Public Service Alliance of Canada will be held at:

Delta Regina in Regina, SK beginning Friday, June 09 & concluding
Sunday, June 11, 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Receipt of Resolutions: **January 24, 2023**
Deadline for Prairie Voice Award Nominations: **March 23, 2023**
Deadline for Delegate and Observer Registration: **March 23, 2023**
Nominations for REVP, Alternate REVP & all Prairie Region Council positions
Open: **April 11, 2023**

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR REVP

Sisters, Brothers & Friends,

We hope this Convention Call will provide you with all the information you will need to register and participate in the upcoming Prairie Region Triennial Convention of the Public Service Alliance of Canada. Our Convention will be held Friday, June 09 through Sunday, June 11, 2023 at the Delta Regina in Regina, SK.

The theme of this Convention, "Prairies Impact: Reinforcing our Impact," draws upon the strength and resiliency that members of the prairies are known for and continues to be exemplified over the last number of years. Through a recommitment to the work of the union and working together we will make a collective difference to our each other and the community.

As the challenges around the bargaining table persist, we will not back down to the austerity minded governments of the day and we will continue to fight together to ensure we win gains at the table, in the workplace and make a positive impact in the communities we reside.

This Convention will set the path for the Prairie Region for the next three years and determine our priorities for collective action. I look forward to the debate and discussions ahead that will lead to a better and stronger union.

Included in this Convention Call are details on how to register as a delegate or as an observer, how to submit resolutions to the PSAC Prairie Region Convention, the nominations process for elections, as well as information on delegate expense entitlement and reimbursement. Further convention details are also available on the PSAC Prairie region website.

Please feel free to send all convention related questions to the following email prairiesconvention@psac-afpc.com.

In Solidarity,



Marianne Hladun
Regional Executive Vice-President
Public Service Alliance of Canada, Prairies



LOCATION, CONVENTION SCHEDULE & CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

All delegates to the PSAC Prairie Region Convention must be members in good standing of the PSAC, elected by the appropriate union body or delegated by virtue of their position (such as a member of Regional Council, as a National Officer, or per Component or Local/Branch by-laws).

LOCATION:

The PSAC Prairie Region Triennial Convention will be held at the Delta Regina located at: 1919 Saskatchewan Dr, Regina, SK

CONVENTION SCHEDULE:

The PSAC Prairie Region Convention will begin at 9:00 AM on Friday, June 09 and will adjourn by 12:30 PM on Sunday, June 11. Before the Convention starts, a delegate orientation seminar will take place on Friday, June 09 (details to be TBA).

CREDENTIAL PICK-UP:

All Convention attendees are to pick-up their credentials and convention kits at the Delta Regina on the evening of Thursday, June 08 or the Friday morning before Convention begins. Exact pickup times TBA.



DELEGATE CREDENTIALS

CREDENTIALS/DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT:

An accounting of the highest number of members for the period of 12 months prior to the date of the Convention Call, as provided by the office of the PSAC Director of Finance Branch, will be used to determine the number of delegates each Component Local/Branch and DCL is entitled to send to Convention, as per Section 16, Sub-Section (6)(a) of the PSAC Constitution.

This information is being tabulated by the staff at headquarters and is expected to be available and communicated to Component National Officers shortly.

In the interim, Locals and Branches should prepare to (s)elect the number of delegate(s) and alternates appropriate to the language contained in Section 16, Sub-Section (6).

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

Registration is to be done by completing the online registration form located [HERE](#)

The deadline for submitting completed delegate registration forms is MARCH 23, 2022.

AREA COUNCIL & REGIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATES:

The delegate representing an Area Council or Regional Committee shall be elected as per the process outlined in the PSAC Prairie Region By-Laws and Regulations.

The delegate must be registered online by the established deadline noted above.

DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT

WHO CAN BE A DELEGATE

At the 2018 PSAC National Triennial Convention, Section 16 of the PSAC Constitution was amended to define the delegate entitlement to all PSAC Regional Triennial Conventions. This Constitutional definition therefore supersedes the language regarding Regional Convention participation in our Regional Council Bylaws.

(Please see pages 33-35 of the PSAC Constitution for the specific text.)

SECTION 16 - COUNCILS AND REGIONAL TRIENNIAL CONVENTIONS

Sub-Section (5)

Regional Conventions shall take place over three (3) days commencing on a Friday.

Sub-Section (6)

For the purpose of representation at a PSAC Regional Triennial Convention:

(a) Local Component Delegates

Each local (Components and DCLs) shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for the first one (1) to two hundred and fifteen (215) members and one (1) additional delegate for each additional two hundred and fifteen (215) members or fraction thereof.

1 to 215 members = 1 delegate
216 to 431 members = 2 delegates
432 to 647 members = 3 delegates
648 to 863 members = 4 delegates
864 to 1078 members = 5 delegates
1079 to 1294 members = 6 delegates

(b) Automatic Delegates

Up to twenty (20) members of their respective Regional Councils shall be delegates;

(c) Area Councils

Each active Area Council shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate;

(d) Regional Women's Committee

Each active Regional Women's Committee shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate;

DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT

(e) Regional Human Rights Committee

Each active Regional Human Rights and Equity Committee shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate;

(f) National Indigenous Peoples' Circle

Two (2) elected regional National Indigenous Peoples' Circle representatives shall be delegates;

(g) Regional Young Workers Committee

Each Regional Young Workers Committee shall be entitled to elect one (1) delegate;

(h) Component National Officers

Component national officers shall be delegates in the region in which they live or work.

(i) Members of National Board of Directors

Members of the NBoD and full time Component Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to delegate status in the caucus they have elected to participate in as per Section 19, Sub-Section 5 b)

Sub-Section (7)

(a) Component officers as defined in Component By-Laws that meet the following criteria shall be delegates to their respective Regional Convention:

- (i) the officer must be a full voting member of the Component executive and elected by the Component Convention delegates or the membership at the national or regional level; and
- (ii) the officer must live or work in the Region.

(b) Delegation to a Regional Convention of any Component officer not included in (a) above will require a recommendation from the National President and approval from the NBoD.

Sub-Section (8)

Remuneration of delegates shall be in accordance with Section 24, Sub-Section (21).

Sub-Section (9)

No member shall attend more than one Regional Convention as a delegate per convention cycle.

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT & LOSS OF SALARY

REIMBURSEMENT & LOSS OF SALARY:

REMINDER: Delegates must ensure that they have been granted leave from their employer to attend the Regional Convention. Actual loss of salary will be reimbursed for working hours lost during the Regional Convention. There will be no compensation of salary for weekends except for delegates who are regularly scheduled to work on a Saturday or a Sunday upon receipt of an official work or shift schedule. There will be no overtime compensation.

EXPENSE CLAIMS:

All delegate expense claims must be submitted electronically through the Member Expense Portal (MEP). The MEP is located on the [PSAC Members Portal website](#). Claims must be submitted within 90 days of the PSAC Prairie Region Triennial Convention. Administrative staff will be available to assist delegates in completing their convention expense claims if required.

LEAVE WITH PAY (LWP) UNION AUTHORIZATION LETTERS:

Treasury Board members, Parks members and CFIA members attending PSAC events covered by any of the following clauses must no longer submit loss of salary via the Member Expense Portal.

- 14.02 (13.02 for CFIA and Parks): representing PSAC on a certification or intervention
- 14.09 (13.09 for CFIA and Parks): contract negotiation meetings
- 14.10 (13.10 for CFIA and Parks): preparatory contract negotiation meetings
- 14.12 (13.12 for CFIA and Parks): Board of Directors and Executive Board meetings and conventions
- 14.13 (13.13 for CFIA and Parks): representatives' training courses

Members affected will receive a Union Authorization Letter from the REVP Office for the PSAC Prairie Region Triennial Convention, authorizing their participation in the union activity for which a leave with pay is to be requested. The member will enter the leave request for the union activity in their respective Leave Management System and submit an electronic copy of the letter to their delegated manager. The leave recorded in the Leave Management System should only reflect the actual amount of leave required to attend the union event.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES FAMILY CARE & SCENT-FREE POLICY

FAMILY CARE:

The objective of the PSAC Family Care Policy is to remove a barrier which may prevent **delegates** from participating fully in union activities and which provides for the reimbursement of family care expenses. A copy of the policy is [available on the PSAC website](#).

Family care arrangements will be provided based on requests identified on the registration form. Please note requests past the registration deadline **will not** be accommodated.

GOING GREEN AT OUR CONVENTION:

Conventions, conferences and meetings all have an impact on our environment. We can help reduce this impact by adopting environmentally-friendly practices. PSAC has worked to create a more sustainable Convention to reduce our carbon footprint. Our actions have included reducing the amount of paper and materials distributed, and recycling and reusing Convention materials. Of note - printed copies of convention materials will only be provided to attendees who request them at the time of registration.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES:

PSAC strives to ensure that our events are barrier-free for delegates with disabilities. Accommodation will be provided based on requirements and functional limitations identified on the registration form.

NO SCENTS! :

In consideration for the health of our members who may suffer from environmental sensitivities, and with the goal of eliminating contaminants from the air, PSAC asks that all participants attending the PSAC Prairie Region Convention refrain from using scented products. These include perfume, colognes, scented lotions, hairsprays, deodorants, and other products promoted by the fragrance industry.

TRANSPORTATION & HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Beginning March 30, 2023 delegates who require commercial transportation must reserve through W.E. Travel to make their travel arrangements. Please note PSAC Prairie Region will be arranging hotel bookings for registered delegates.

CONVENTION RESOURCES & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

OBSERVERS:

PSAC Prairies will accept observer names from Locals and Branches of members in good standing. The registration fee for each observer is \$150. The deadline for submitting completed observer registration forms online is MARCH 23, 2023.

Cheques are to be made payable to PSAC Prairie Region. Please indicate on the cheque the DCL/Component/Local/Branch and the name of the observer(s). There will be no refund of registration fees after May 13, 2023.

PSAC Prairies is **not** responsible for any costs incurred as observers. PSAC Regional Committees and Area Councils are reminded that they cannot spend committee/council funds on observers.

Due to space limitations, the number of observers will be limited to a first come, first served basis.

Observer registration shall begin February 01, 2023, a deadline of March 23, 2023. Due to space limitations, the number of observers is limited to three (3) per Local or Branch. Should additional spaces be available, Locals and Branches will be advised and invited to submit additional credentials.

GUESTS

Guests such as NBoD members who do not reside in the Prairies who wish to attend Convention are asked to contact us at prairiesconvention@psac-afpc.com as soon as possible to make arrangements.

ONLINE CONVENTION RESOURCES:

A copy of the Praire Region By-laws and the PSAC Constitution are available below:

[PSAC Prairie Region By-Laws and Regulations](#)

[PSAC Constitution](#)

You may also contact the Office of the REVP for digital copies of these resources.

Details of the Prairies Convention agenda and program, rules of order, copies of resolutions and committee reports as well as other items of interest will be made available to delegates in due course.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY CONTACT:

All Convention delegates, observers and guests will be required to provide the name and contact phone number for an emergency contact person with their registration. Please include your relationship to this individual as well. This information will only be used in the event of an emergency where we need to contact someone for you.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions to Convention must be forwarded to the office of the Regional Executive Vice-President online by **January 24, 2023 6PM MB/SK 5PM AB**

Please note the link to submit resolutions is available [HERE](#).

WHO CAN SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS?

- Regional Councils
- Locals & Branches
- Regional Women's Committees in good standing
- Area Councils in good standing
- Human Rights Committees in good standing
- Young Workers Committees in good standing
- Regional Indigenous Peoples' Circles in good standing

To be in good standing, Regional Women's Committees, Area Councils, Human Rights Committees, Young Workers Committees and Regional Indigenous Peoples' Circles must have (4) meetings per year, a full executive in place and have submitted a financial reporting package to the REVP office.

Resolutions cannot be submitted by individual members.

They must be voted on and endorsed by the appropriate originating body (i.e. Local, Area Council etc.) prior to being submitted. Minutes may be requested by the REVP office to ensure that a resolution has been approved.

We urge you to submit all resolutions at the earliest possible date. Resolutions will be referred to one of the (3) three Resolution Committees: By-Laws, Finance/General or General.

LATE RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions submitted after the January 24, 2023 deadline shall be considered late. They will be referred to the appropriate resolutions committee for a recommendation and treated as the final order of business at the PSAC Prairie Region Convention, or by the Prairie Region Council following the Regional Convention. A late resolution cannot be moved up in the order of business by delegate motion. INFORMATION ON EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS WILL BE SENT AT A LATER DATE.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEES:

Resolutions Committees shall review resolutions submitted to determine whether they have met the above criteria, with guidance provided by the PSAC National President as required. Resolution Committees are to prioritize all of their resolutions and prepare their reports accordingly. Given the time constraints of Regional Conventions, resolutions committees should be prepared to present their top ten (10) priority resolutions.

RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

Submitted resolutions must comply with the following criteria:

Format:

- Formatted in 14-point Arial font;
- Concise, focused, and limited to **150 words**; Please note that any proposed language change to the Constitution or Prairie Region Bylaws included in the resolution will not be part of the 150-word count;
- Utilize either the traditional or clear language format and include the title, originating body and language of origin;
- Not include any special formatting such as boxes or drawings;

Approved:

Resolutions cannot be submitted by individual members. They must be voted on and endorsed by the appropriate originating body (i.e. Local, Area Council, etc.) prior to being submitted;

On Time:

Resolution is submitted by **JANUARY 24 , 2023 6PM MB/SK 5PM AB**

Content:

- Addresses just one topic (issue) and has one major objective;
- In simple wording, clearly identifies the issue and the action(s) required;
- Ensure that each Be it Resolved clearly articulates the action sought and is able to stand alone;
- Does not call for an action or outcome that contradicts or contravenes the PSAC Constitution;
- Ensures that the action proposed is within the jurisdiction of the organization to implement;
- Respects the mandate of Convention – i.e. do not submit bargaining demands via a Convention resolution;
- Does not duplicate an existing Resolution of Record;
- Builds in accountability – i.e. deadlines, who is responsible for implementing the proposed action, what resources are required;
- Allows for flexibility in implementation, as it's the end result that counts;
- Is not calling for something that is already enacted;
- Applies the Who, What, When, Why and How test.

RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

Examples of traditional and clear language format resolutions are provided on the next page. The “Be it resolved” and “Be it further resolved” (or “The PSAC will” in clear language format) clauses are the most important parts of the resolution as these are the points delegates will be debating. Therefore, it is important that they are drafted in such a way as to stand alone.

Please note - Bargaining demands will not be accepted as there are other mechanisms in place to address them.

Should you have any questions regarding the resolutions process, please contact the REVP Office at 204-956-4625 or 1-855-956-4625 (toll free) or by email at prairiesconvention@psac-afpc.com

RESOLUTION SAMPLE

TRADITIONAL	CLEAR LANGUAGE
<p>RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM</p> <p>WHEREAS the Court Challenges Program, which provided funding to challenge laws and policies that violate Constitutional equality rights, was abolished by the Conservative government; and</p> <p>WHEREAS in the past, this program allowed citizens to defend their fundamental rights – rights that many would have not had the financial means to defend without this program; and</p> <p>WHEREAS without the Court Challenges Program, only people with means have access to the legal system to challenge unjust laws;</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC support the rights of citizens by taking a public stand in favour of re-establishing the Court Challenges Program; and</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PSAC support all campaigns to have the Court Challenges Program re-established in its entirety.</p>	<p>MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE WORKPLACE</p> <p>BECAUSE mental health issues affect many of our members and is the leading cause of stress in the workplace; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be an increased awareness of mental health issues; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be consistency in dealing with mental health issues;</p> <p>PSAC WILL develop a presentation document on mental health and make it available to all locals to increase awareness on mental health issues in the workplace.</p>

ELECTIONS & NOMINATIONS

The following positions will be elected at the 2023 Prairie Region Triennial Convention (subject to any By-law changes):

- Regional Executive Vice-President (REVP)
- Alternate REVP (and one Alternate)
- One representative for each of the following six geographical areas: Northern Alberta, Southern Alberta, Northern Saskatchewan, Southern Saskatchewan, South-East Manitoba, North-West Manitoba (and two (2) Alternates for each position)
- One representative for Regional Women's Committees (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Indigenous Peoples (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Persons With Disabilities (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Racially Visible Persons (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for LGBTQ2+ (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Directly Chartered Locals (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Young Workers (and two (2) Alternates)
- One representative for Separate Employer Locals (and two (2) Alternates)

Nominations for REVP, 1st Alternate REVP, 2nd Alternate REVP and all Prairie Region Council positions will open at **12:00pm Noon (MB/CST), April 11, 2023. Nomination forms and instructions for submission will be posted on the Prairie Region website.**

NOMINATIONS:

The nominations form and details will be posted on the PSAC Prairie region website in the coming weeks.

ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE:

Any member in good standing may run for union office. Candidates for positions elected at the PSAC Prairie Region Convention must also live and/or work in the Prairie Region. The nominator and seconder must be delegates to the PSAC Prairie Region Convention. Nominees who will not be present at the PSAC Prairie Region Convention must submit a nomination form to the Prairie Regional Coordinator prior to the start of the Regional Convention. Nominees who will be present at Convention can submit a nomination form to the Nominations Committee prior to the start of the Regional Convention, or be nominated from the floor of the Regional Convention. For further information on nominations process, please contact Regional Coordinator Lisa Garnier at the Winnipeg Regional Office at (204) 947-1601 (toll-free: 1-866-393-7722) or via email at garniel@psac-afpc.com.

PREPARING FOR CONVENTION

The PSAC Prairie Region is planning to provide members with a variety of training opportunities to prepare for the PSAC Prairie Region Triennial Convention this June

One existing avenue for convention preparation is through the PSAC's online self-paced program. Course [CT104 - Writing Effective Resolutions](#) helps members write clear and effective resolutions. The online course also prepares members to organize support for and speak to resolutions at conferences and conventions.

As other training opportunities are confirmed, details will be posted on the PSAC regional website.

Please note - advance registration is required for all PSAC Prairie courses and is available on the [PSAC Prairie regional website](#).

ALL CONVENTION RELATED QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL prairiesconvention@psac-afpc.com

