

EDUCATION SECTOR

FALL 2015

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SGE-You News

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING UPDATE



Close to 50 people attended the Education Sector's annual general meeting, held in Saskatoon on October 24, 2015.

Along with members from the different bargaining units of the Education Sector, guests also included SGEU President Bob Bymoan, Secretary Treasurer Roseann Strelezki, Health Sector Chair Kim Nordmarken, and Crown Sector Vice-President Steve LaVallee.

Kathy Mahussier, the labour relations officer assigned to the Education Sector, was also in attendance, along with administrative assistant Karen Halliwell.

Reports were submitted by the chair, treasurer, the provincial standing committees, and the awards committee. (See p.4 for a full list of scholarship and bursary award winners.)

The AGM provides an opportunity for members to vote on bylaw changes and resolutions to convention.

Shawna North was re-elected by acclamation as Education Sector Vice-President for another two-year term.

Eleven members (and alternates) were elected to attend the next SGEU Convention in April in Regina, and two members (and alternates) were elected to attend the 2016 SFL Convention in October in Regina.

SGEU



SGEU President Bob Bymoens swears in Shawna North for a new two-year term as Education Sector Vice-President.



The Education Sector executive: From left to right: Marney Robinson, Shawna North, and Bonnie Bond.

NORTEP/NORPAC JOINS SGEU

BY NORTEP/NORPAC chair Cal Chiefcalf

In May, NORTEP/NORPAC became the Education Sector's newest bargaining unit.

The NORTEP/NORPAC Board of Governors has representation from the three school divisions and the two Tribal Councils in northern Saskatchewan.

The Northern Teacher Education Program (NORTEP) was initiated in 1976 by the Northern Lights School Division #113 to facilitate access to teacher education and certification for northerners, particularly those of Aboriginal ancestry.

We currently have 15 staff and faculty as part of the SGEU membership. We are, at present, taking part in collective bargaining.

SGEU members can come visit NORTEP/NORPAC on the net at nortep.org, as well as on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nortepnorpac).



A SWINGING SUCCESS FOR SOUTHEAST COLLEGE

On September 11th, Southeast College's 17th annual "Swing for Scholarships" event was held at the Weyburn Golf Course. Ninety-one golfers turned out to spend a day on the links in support of a great cause.

SGEU helped sponsor the successful event, which raised over \$17,000 for scholarships to the college. Those funds will be matched by the Ministry of Education's Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship program, for a total of \$34,000 in scholarship money for Southeast students.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Sheena Yew



In this edition's spotlight, meet a remarkable Education Sector member whose determination to succeed through post-secondary education led to a career helping others succeed the same way. Sheena Yew, an employment counsellor at the Gabriel Dumont Institute, recently had her inspiring story featured in the "Our Stories" section of the Government of Saskatchewan website.

[Read the full story](#) of how Sheena improved her life through dedication and education.

If you have an idea for a co-worker you would like to see celebrated in this new regular feature, please contact Brigitte at brigittem@greatplainscollege.ca.

EDUCATION SECTOR SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS

\$500 Member Scholarships – for members furthering their education

- ↪ Sheena Yew, Gabriel Dumont Institute
- ↪ Amanda Tobin, Gabriel Dumont Institute

\$1,000 Scholarship – for a member's dependent sequential (coming out of Grade 12)

- ↪ Madison Armstrong (dependent of Carolyn Stailing, Cumberland Regional College)

\$1,000 Scholarship – for a member's dependent continuing on to vocational or technical post-secondary studies

There were no applicants in this category; the scholarship committee transferred the funds to award a second scholarship for a member's dependent continuing university studies.

\$1,000 Scholarship – for a member's dependent continuing university studies

- ↪ Mackenzie Hladun – (dependent of Melanie Hladun, Saskatchewan Polytechnic)
- ↪ Bryant Mills-Sackney (dependent of Darrell Sackney, Saskatchewan Polytechnic)

Anand Vaid Memorial Bursary

- ↪ 1,000 bursary was awarded to: Alicia Garlock, Cumberland Regional College

Tracey Kurtenbach Memorial Bursary

- ↪ \$1,000 bursary was awarded to: Remi Garlock-Cisna (Dependent of Alicia Garlock, Cumberland Regional College)

Please continue to encourage your members to apply for next year's scholarships and bursaries; application forms can be found on the [SGEU website](#) starting in June. Deadline for submissions is August 31st.

OWN IT!



In April, SGEU helped launch Own it! a major publicity campaign with a simple message: that Saskatchewan's Crowns and public services belong to Saskatchewan people.

At the heart of Own it! is a petition calling on the provincial government to stop weakening Saskatchewan's public services through privatization.

Campaigners have been busy throughout the summer, travelling the province to collect signatures, which will be presented at the legislature this fall.

Ownyoursaskatchewan.ca also features a tool to send government a message showing your support for public services, as well as a wealth of information about the damaging effects of privatization in Saskatchewan. We encourage you to visit the site, get informed, and make your voice heard – and then invite others to do the same!



Four members from the Education Sector attended the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) Convention held October 21-23 in Saskatoon. From left to right in centre photo: Diane Langlois, Brigitte Monteith, Sheena Yew and Bonnie Bond.

10,000+ SENORITY DAY MEMBERS

We would like to recognize our union members that have over 10,000+ seniority days.

Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI)

- Marilyn Belhumeur, Gabriel Dumont Institute Library (Regina)
- Linda Lysyk, SUNTEP, Prince Albert Campus

Regional Colleges

Northwest Regional College

- Wanda Weber

Southeast Regional College

- Gloria Stevenson

Sask Polytechnic

- Bob Nutter, Saskatoon Campus
- Darlene Schaff, Saskatoon Campus
- Ken Pokoyoway, Saskatoon Campus
- Linda Schuweiler, Moose Jaw Campus
- Lorraine Wollbaum, Regina Campus
- Katherine Sutton, Prince Albert Campus

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR SECTOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters,

We are just nicely settled in for a new academic year in our workplaces. The work we do provides our students with the opportunity to gain skills to enter the workforce or to enhance their current skills and earning abilities. Unfortunately the government provided only a 1.0% increase to funding for the regional colleges and small 2.0% increase to Saskatchewan Polytechnic. This minimal increase will force more of the cost of gaining those needed skills onto our students. It also forces us to do more with less when trying to provide quality education to our students. Despite these difficulties I know our members will continue to work hard to meet this goal.

On a more positive note we welcome a new bargaining unit to our sector with the addition of the NORTEP/NORPAC bargaining unit. The Northern Teacher Education Program (NORTEP) was initiated in 1976 to train and certify northerners to become teachers. This would help with the low number of teachers of Aboriginal descent and the high turnover rate. The program has proved a success with 91% of the graduates remaining to teach in the north. The Northern Professional Access College (NORPAC) was founded in 1989 and provides one to three years of post-secondary education in arts and sciences. We are very pleased to have this workplace join our sector and our union.

On August 21st the government announced they would renew the provincial funding for the Gabriel Dumont Institute. The five year renewal provides \$11.2 million of operating capital but only a 1% increase in funding.

Finally I want to encourage everyone to sign on to the Own it! campaign. As the campaign website says, "Own it! is about keeping and improving the public services that built our province and help keep it strong. It's about making sure services are affordable, that they cover everyone in Saskatchewan, and that they are the best they can be." To find out more and to sign the online petition point your browser to this web address: <http://ownyoursaskatchewan.ca/>

In Solidarity,



Shawna North
Education Sector Vice-President

We want to hear from you!

If you have a story idea for the Education Sector newsletter, know of someone who you'd like to see profiled, or know about a union initiative that needs promoting, please contact us.

Story topics might include bargaining updates (only information that can be public knowledge), new courses, changes in programming, successes, challenges, things other members might want to try in their facility, relevant photos, SGEU scholarships, or anything else members would find interesting or useful.

Please forward stories, pictures, and ideas to Brigitte Monteith, Education Sector newsletter coordinator at brigittem@greatplainscollege.ca.

SGEU's New Building

SGEU is now settled into its new head office at 1011 Devonshire Avenue in Regina. The union made the move this spring, after more than 50 years at its old location at 1440 Broadway Avenue. The new building offers a more efficient design, where related areas are grouped together rather than split between different floors. It also includes a modern theatre/classroom with stadium seating, a dedicated room for the Union Shop, and far more parking than the Broadway location – making it easier for members to participate in meetings and other activities.



Education Sector Executive Members

- **Shawna North, Vice-President**
- **Marney Robinson, Secretary**
- **Bonnie Bond, Treasurer**

Education Sector

Gabriel Dumont Institute

Northlands College

NORTEP/NORPAC

Saskatchewan Polytechnic

The Board of Education of the Regina School Division #4

Regional Colleges

- **Cumberland Trail**
- **Carlton Trail**
- **Great Plains**
- **North West**
- **Southeast**
- **Parkland**