## EDUCATION SECTOR

## SGE-You News

#### ORANGE SHIRT DAY BRINGS COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



Cumberland College, the Marguerite Riel Centre, MUCC, the Kelsey Trail Health Region and the North East School Division teamed up to honour Orange Shirt Day on Friday, September 29 at the MUCC Track. The organizations teamed up over the noon hour to hold a round dance and honour residential school survivors.

"Absolutely, we didn't think we would get this many students it is just an amazing turnout," Bobbi Gray Director of Programs and Services for Cumberland College said.

Gray explained that it was really the students who took the concept and ran with it. Students were decked out in orange shirts with personalized designs and seemed to embrace the entire concept.

"It's great to see that our community can band together," Gray added.

She added that it was great to see everyone embracing the message of "Every Child Matters."

"To be involved with this we are part of that process for our residential school survivors support workers. That's part of the legacy of the residential school with the elders are a big part of it," Gerald Whitehead of the Marguerite Riel Centre said.

According to both Gray and Whitehead the act of doing the round dance was also part of reconciliation as it brought everyone together.

"You can see quite a few different nations out there. It's good to have them be a part of this and be a part of the round dance and also to commemorate the residential schools," Whitehead said.

Orange Shirt Day actually fell on September 30 but the organizations came together the day before.

(Click to continue reading...)

# GREETINGS FROM ACTING VP FOR EDUCATION SECTOR

Brothers and Sisters,

I bring greetings from the Education Sector executive. I am currently Acting Vice-President while Shawna North is on leave. We wish her a speedy return.

We continue to have four of our units in the midst of bargaining new collective agreements. This includes the Gabriel Dumont Institute, Northlands College, all the Regional Colleges, and the Professional Services Bargaining Unit at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

This past year has been a very busy and hectic one within the labour movement. The provincial budget increased the PST, shuttered the STC, implemented cuts to education and health care, and cut programs and services to our communities (you can read about the cuts here). The government has asked public sector workers to accept a 3.5% wage roll back, or possibly face cuts to positions and services, and layoffs throughout every sector. All leaders within SGEU have taken a strong stance that we will not agree to this. The leadership has been working tirelessly to ensure our members are represented and their concerns are heard.

Within SGEU there have been a few staff retirements and resignations. The administration has been working on filling the vacancies and updating job descriptions to be more in-line with current practices. Wendy Sherar, Plan Advocate for Long-Term Disability has retired. Kathy Schutte, Director of Membership Services, has resigned.

The staff at SGEU now belong to the United Steelworkers' union (USW 9841). Final payments have been made on the SGEU building in Regina. A new electronic sign was purchased for the Saskatoon office and seems to be working great. Discussions continue about looking for new office space in Prince Albert.

SGEU's Communication Officers have been working on many campaigns and rallies across the province. They are looking at facilitating a social media workshop for members. If you are interested in participating please send an email to comm@sgeu.org.

The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour (SFL) has relaunched the Own it! campaign. This is an initiative to protect Saskatchewan's Crowns and public services. SGEU has been a strong supporter of this campaign and encourages all members to become active. More information is available on the Own It! website.

The National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) is working on phase two of the All Together Now campaign. This campaign tackles several issues including inequality, public services, good jobs, tax fairness and labour rights.

Last year we welcomed a group of new members when the NORTEP/NORPAC bargaining unit joined our sector in June. Unfortunately, their funding was cut in 2016 and the institute has closed. All staff were laid off. This was very heartbreaking for all those involved and we will miss the friends that we made.

In solidarity,

Marney Robinson, Acting VP Education Sector



#### **EDUCATION SECTOR AT PC IN LA RONGE**

Marney Robinson, Sheena Yew and Brigitte Monteith represented the Education Sector at the Provincial Council meeting held in La Ronge on October 4 – 5.





#### **EDUCATION SECTOR AGM WRAPS UP**

The Education Sector's Annual General Meeting was held on October 21 in Saskatoon. There were 33 union members in attendance and four guests, including SGEU President Bob Bymoen, Chris Day (Crown Sector), Tina Vuckovic (VP Retail Regulatory Sector), and Kim Nordmarken (VP SFL).

Kathy Mahussier (Labour Relations Officer), Greg Eyre (Labour Relations Officer), and Karen Halliwell (Administrative Assistant) were also in attendance and supporting the meeting as SGEU staff.

Shawna North was re-elected by acclamation as VP for the Education Sector. Congratulations!









### 2017 EDUCATION SECTOR SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



#### **Education Sector Scholarships**

(2) \$500.00 Member Scholarships - for members furthering their education:

Sheena Robinson (Saskatchewan Polytechnic Saskatoon)

\$1000.00 Scholarship - for a member's dependent's Sequential (coming out of Grade 12):

Connor Newton (dependent of Margie Newton, Great Plains College)

\$1000.00 Scholarship - for a member's dependent registered and continuing studies in a Vocation or Public Institute:

Dylan McLeod (dependent of Michelle McLeod, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Regina)

\$1000.00 scholarship - for a member's dependent registered and continuing studies in University:

Ryssa Alacorn (dependent of Ruel Alarcon, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Saskatoon)

#### **Ed Sector Anand Vaid Memorial Bursary**

\$1000.00 Bursary awarded to Dylan McLeod (dependent of Michelle McLeod, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Regina)

#### **Ed Sector Tracey Kurtenbach Memorial Bursary**

\$1000.00 Bursary awarded to Justin Mills-Sackney (dependent of Darrell Sackney, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Prince Albert)

Congratulations to this year's recipients! It is an honour to be able to support students in their pursuit of higher education.





### 2017 SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC EMPLOYEE AWARDS

2017 Saskatchewan Polytechnic Employee Awards – here's the list of members from the Professional Services Bargaining Unit that are being recognized this fall:

#### **Outstanding Service Awards:**

**Prince Albert Campus**: Jamie Gondek, Office Assistant, Registration Services, Student Services

**Saskatoon Campus:** Sheena Robinson, Office Administrator, SCBScN, School of Nursing

**Administrative Offices**: Deb Clague, Senior Graphic Designer, Marketing & Communications, Strategy & Business Development

**Moose Jaw Campus:** Ray Steele, Coordinator, Audio Visual Services, Learning and Teaching

**Regina Campus:** Terri Genaille, Administrative Assistant, Associate Dean's Office, School of Nursing

## NEW: DISCOUNTS ON YOUR SMARTPHONE FOR SGEU MEMBERS

Save hundreds per year from a variety of businesses when you download the SGEU version of the Endless Savings & More (ESM) App.



Save with everyday discounts from national chain retailers like Staples, The Brick, Mark's, Costco and more when you show the discount offer on your smartphone in store at payment. Save on travel with discounts for hotels, flights, car rentals, attractions including almost all US theme parks, and much more when you book online or by phone.

Also, check the "exclusive offers" for SGEU members to save hundreds per year on your smart phone plan or home insurance. Click here for details.



#### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

We are always looking for stories for the newsletter. Stories can be about bargaining (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, etc. If your campus has an initiative or event happening we can put that in as union information that all members would find useful.

Don't worry about editing or whether the material you have is relevant as the communications department will take care of that for you.

Please forward stories of union interest, pictures, etc. to Brigitte Monteith, Education Sector newsletter coordinator at <a href="mailto:brigittem@greatplainscollege.ca">brigittem@greatplainscollege.ca</a>.

#### **EDUCATION SECTOR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

Shawna North, Vice-President (on leave) Marney Robinson, Secretary and Acting Vice-President Bonnie Bond, Treasurer

#### **EDUCATION SECTOR**

Gabriel Dumont Institute Northlands College Saskatchewan Polytechnic The Board of Education of the Regina School Division #4

Regional Colleges: Cumberland College Carlton Trail Great Plains North West Southeast Parkland