

VP BC UNDE NE Fall Report

BC entered this mandate by continuing its appetite for training. We staged a Business Case Writing course in Nanaimo which was attended by 7 of our 9 Locals and was facilitated by the VP Ont - Sister Arlene Preston and our very own Brother Lance Jesson. Under Sister Arlene's wing, Brother Jesson found his own and for the first time out of the gate did a great job. What is more, BC now has 2 other Members interested in becoming UNDE Facilitators. So our future training appears to be in good hands. On the improvement needed front, car pooling is now mandatory for BC training and conferences as "encouragement" fell short of the mark. We also need to nail down the attendance at these events as last minute changes are somewhat trying. It was hoped that our Business Case Writing course would be a trial run involving the PIPSC, unfortunately that organization had some internal difficulties and were unable to attend. We continue though to have a good working relationship with the Institute's BC Reps.

The West Coast Navy decided to include Civilians in a MARPAC Gen that terminated the issuing of supplemental cheques. With the assistance of the National Office, we were able to overturn this action and have the cheques reinstated. However, what became apparent through dialogue with management, that UNDE's decision to pull out of the Nat UMCC HR Sub-Committee was the right one, as management themselves were dismissing the dialogue and agreements coming from that body. They asked for and "required" clear direction from the chain of command. Keeping with the Navy, Brother Kiley and myself represented UNDE at the NCC (Naval Consultation Committee) in Ottawa wherein we discussed the Frigate mid-life extension project. Normally this meeting is an exclusive club populated by the smaller DND bargaining agents, but due to the projects potential and real impact to our members we were invited by exception. Despite UNDE requests to be part of a Pan-Naval consultation committee, management continues to exclude us, and it appears that the smaller bargaining agents are in agreement with this. In fact, management announced that the last NCC meeting would indeed be the last one that UNDE would be at.

As we read more and more press on the issue of possible impending cuts, the anxiety level amongst our Membership grows. And sometimes for different reasons, we hear from some who are worried for their jobs and some who are only interested in buyouts. I am quick to shut down talk of buyouts and to explain the WFA provision of their CA. What's more, due to the negative impact on our members by the permanent loss of positions, I can explain why we are not pursuing the WFA option but are out to protect our jobs. I only hope that the Conservative Majority government leaves the provisions of the WFA alone in their upcoming budget.

It was hoped that I would have met with the Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca MP Randall Garrison, but as of the writing of this report, this meeting has not happened due to his availability. I am growing tired of that game.

On a similar front, I was embarrassed for the second and last time by the BC Federation of Labour President-"Brother" Jim Sinclair. Despite his personal assurance to visit CFB Esquimalt

and learn exactly what it is that the Military and the UNDE do, he elected to ignore me-again. Having cleared with the R Admiral a dog and pony show for him and his entourage to only have to cancel it for the second time, I am comfortable saying that I am done with him.

Following last year's BC regional conference and Sister Graham's H&S education session, we embarked on a mission to get our JOSH committees in compliance which included the Formation Safety Committee. As a result of numerous conversations with management and with the support of the other Formation Bargaining Agents, we were able to make the Formation level safety meeting a joint one, and myself elected as the Union Co-Chair. Progress continues on getting the Unit level JOSHs in compliance or functioning better.

Brother Ken Waldron and myself went to Halifax to meet with the East Coast members of the SC classification. With the return of the Quest from her European tour, it was timely for Brother Waldron-as the UNDE SC bargaining sub-committee member to engage the members and bring them and him up to speed on bargaining.

I have attended to date 7 of 9 AGMs this fall, and all have been engaging. Local 1017 will be the final one in mid Dec, and 1009 was unable to accommodate my travel schedule.

The forced move of the UNDE Esquimalt office is proceeding, albeit slowly. The office space is considerably smaller than what we have enjoyed the last 20+/- years, but it is workable. Parking issues have been resolved, after-hours access for the Locals is decided, and once a few internal processes are finalized, we should be relocated in NDN 40 in a shared building, hopefully by year's end.

VP/BC Activities
Fall 2011

Wed Aug 24 - meet with PSAC REVP Bob Jackson and tour CFB Esq
 Thurs Sept 01 - attend PSAC called meeting with T3 negotiator Gail

Fri. 09 - participate in UNDE NE conf call
 Sat. 10 - attend memorial service for UNDE member
 Mon. 12 - travel to Comox and pick up Phil and Tim
 Tues. 13 - DCC site visit and travel back
 Wed. 14 - DCC Esq site visit and take guests to airport
 Sat. 17 - travel to Courtney
 Sun. 18 - attend PSAC grievance course for 1018 (IMP)
 Mon. 19 - “. “. “. “. and travel home
 Tues. 20 - attend PSAC Victoria AC Meeting
 Wed. 21 - attend mandated BCE 1/2 day training
 Thurs. 22 - deliver appreciation speech to EAP RAs
 Mon. 26 - meet with CFB Esq BC for BUMCC pre-meet
 Wed. 28 - attend safety training as new Formation Co-Chair
 - donate 66 th pint of blood
 Thurs. 29 - attend CFB Esq BUMCC and do walkthrough of proposed new Union office

Tues Oct. 04 - attend FUMCC
 Wed. 05 - travel to Ottawa
 Thurs. 06 - attend special NCC
 Fri. 07 - travel home
 Tues. 11 - meet with Formation CoS
 Thurs. 13 - participate in NE conf call
 Fri. 14 - travel to Campbell River
 Sat. 15 - attend PSAC Campbell River AC and travel home
 Tues. 18 - travel to Nanaimo and pick up Arlene P
 Wed. 19 - help set up for course
 Thurs. 20 - attend Business Case Writing course
 Fri. 21 - “. “. “. “. ”
 Sat. 22 - travel home and drop off Arlene P
 Tues. 25 - attend Formation Safety Council (FSC) as Co-Chair
 Wed. 26 - attend 1011 AGM
 Thurs. 27 - meet with F CoS
 Fri. 28 - travel to Vancouver
 Sat. 29 - attend PSAC BC Presidents meeting and travel home

Tues Nov. 01 - attend BCE townhall
 Thurs. 03 - attend 1013 AGM
 Fri. 04 - travel to Courtney
 Sat. 05 - attend 1018 AGM and travel home
 Tues. 08 - attend 1016 AGM
 Wed. 09 - attend FRMB
 Tues. 15 - travel to Courtney and attend 1007 AGM
 Wed. 16 - travel home, attend 1010 AGM and the Formation Townhall
 Thurs. 17 - attend 1008 AGM

Mon. 21 - participate in PSAC webex on WFAA
Wed. 23 - donate 67th pint of blood
Thurs. 24 - travel to Halifax
Fri. 25 - meet with Local 8045 Members on SC issues with Ken Waldron
Sat. 26 - travel home
Sun. 27 - travel to Vancouver for BC Fed of Labour convention
Mon. 28 - attend BC Fed
Tues. 29 - attend BC Fed and travel home
Wed. 30 - travel to Winnipeg
Thurs. Dec 01 - participate in 1CAD UMCC and travel home
Fri. 02 - participate in group celebration of life(s)for past 1016 Members
Sun. 04 - travel to Ottawa for UNDE NE meetings