

Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) Government Services Union (GSU)

National Vice-President (NVP) Report

Kevin Hanson | April 2022 – August 2022

The past few months have been busy, where I have had the opportunity to represent our members' interests on various consultation platforms and union events. This includes SSC consultation meetings, where I sit on the future of work committee and am involved in a weekly touch point meeting with the Director of Labour Relations, where COVID items are deliberated. I continue to attend their NLMCC and HRUMCC along with their NHSPC, which occurs once every few months. SSC has introduced an IBUMCC consultation platform, which takes up a lot of my time and energy. I Co-Chair the Bill C-65 working group, which is a working group from the NHSPC. I also participate in the Contracting Out, Official Languages, and Accommodations in the Workplace working groups. All these meetings have been productive, to the point that the SSC President asked if I would say a few words alongside him at his department wide Town Hall meeting in June.

It seems the positive strides that I am making at SSC, is allowing GSU to foster healthier partnerships with our counterparts. In April, SSC reached out and asked if I would attend their department-wide onboarding seminar, where they gave GSU an allotted timeslot to do a presentation to our new members. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend, and the local president of 70017, Suzanne Sirois, did a phenomenal job replacing me.

The GSU retreat was a great success, and a way to continue to push for better mental health support for our activists. I remain an advocate for mental health services for our GSU activists, so they are supported doing union work. Also, progress has been made in the various GSU committees that I chair, as each committee has met several times in the last few months, and all have been productive meetings.

I had the privilege of attending my very first PSAC convention, where I absorbed a lot of knowledge and even spoke on a successful resolution on the convention floor. Although the event was held virtually, I am hoping the opportunity will present itself for an in-person event for the next one. Speaking of in-person events, I had the chance to attend my very first PSAC NBOD meeting as the GSU National President's technical advisor. It was a wonderful learning opportunity, and GSU was well represented by our National President, Bruce Roy.

I was able to get in contact with many of you over the last several months in my efforts to complete the GSU consultation map. Unfortunately, technical issues arose nearing the tail end of my work. Fortunately, Dominique Barrette was able to salvage the document I had created and has access to the program I was using, so I will be meeting with her in the coming months to finalize the product.

I want to thank many of you who have invited me to various virtual AGMs in the last few months, where many of them have been extremely successful. I share a great deal of gratitude to all the Local executive members and Regional Vice-Presidents for holding such amazing AGMs. GSU's energy and momentum are astonishing, and I'd like to wish everyone well for the months ahead!

Sincerely,

Kevin Hanson

National Vice-President (NVP) of the Government Services Union (GSU)