

## **Report of the National Vice-President, Martine Babcook to GSU Local Presidents Conference Toronto 2022**

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Toronto for the Local Presidents' Conference. In May of 2022 myself and your National President Brother Roy along with Brother Hanson and Sister Bush met to strategize what this Local Presidents' Conference would look like. We worked on what GSU should look like in the future and how we can be united going forward. Some of the main issues were the lack of training in the Locals and how we can assist them to be active. I am sure the agenda for this upcoming Local Presidents' Conference will be one that will energize each and every one of you to go back to your Local Executive with a clear understanding of your roles. As chair of the Finance Committee, myself along with the Committee Members presented an unaudited report of GSU Financial Reports and I am happy to report that GSU is in one of the best financial situations it's ever been.

For the last couple of months along with Brother Roy we are in the process of negotiating a Collective Agreement for the GSU staff, this is the second time as National Vice-President that I have participated in this process.

In ending my report nothing has really changed from the last report other than we are slowly getting back into the office as the restrictions start to lift. We are continuing to have discussions with the Employer on this matter. As one of the National Vice-Presidents, I also attend the National Health and Safety Policy Committee meetings as well as the National Labour-Management Consultation Committee, Real Property Labour-Management Consultation Committee and Procurement Services. The National Health & Safety Policy Committee has created a subcommittee called the Mental Health Advisory Committee which I am part of and is quite new. Mental Health Issues have been on the rise since the pandemic, and we have been working closely with members affected to ensure their needs and voices are heard. I want to assure you that the members' concerns are our priority and will always be.

In closing I want to thank every one of you from PSPC, RCM and SSC for your continued support and hard work you do every day. Have an amazing Local Presidents' Conference and I look forward to seeing you soon.

In Solidarity,

Martine Babcook  
National Vice-President GSU