



RISE FOR EQUITY

Working Together for Better Future

I had the privilege to attend the triennial PSAC National Equity Conferences in Montreal, Q.C. from October 18-23, 2023. This conference served as a remarkable platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and personal growth. Throughout the event, I had the opportunity to engage with the DEI/Human Rights experts, thought leaders, and fellow enthusiasts, all of whom shared a common passion for workplace Equity.

The conference was meticulously designed to cater to a diverse range of situation, offering a multitude of sessions, workshops, and panel discussions. PSAC announces the registration for this event back in March 2023, I was selected as a delegate (participation cost was shouldered by PSAC National), as well as my conference buddy Virginia (Mint PSO, Local 50058). These sessions covered a wide array of topics, ranging from emerging trends and innovative practices to thought-provoking research/case studies and personal experiences. The wealth of information presented was truly awe-inspiring, leaving me with a renewed sense of enthusiasm and a deeper understanding of the DEI subject matter (I registered for 3 topics that focuses on Pride Leadership, Visible Minorities and Indigenous People Allyship).

Moreover, the conference organizers ensured that the event was not limited to passive learning experiences. Interactive workshops and hands-on activities allowed participants to apply the knowledge gained back to our workplaces. These immersive sessions not only enhanced our understanding but also equipped us with valuable skills that can be implemented in our respective areas of leadership.

I had the privilege of attending various sessions that focused on Pride Issues, very recently the passing of Bill 137 in Saskatchewan. GSU donated \$500 to Lulu's Lodge in response to this. (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/pronoun-law-bill-137-reaction-transgender-outh-families-1.7003938>)



Photos:

ABOVE: Truth, Reconciliation & Solidarity Rally that went on the streets of Montreal, QC on October 19, 2023.

LEFT: Representations from PSAC Prairies

One of the highlights of the conference was the opportunity to interact with fellow delegates during networking sessions and workshops. These interactions provided a unique platform for exchanging ideas, sharing experiences, and forging valuable connections. The diverse backgrounds and perspectives of delegates (more than 400 delegates/observers all over Canada) enriched the discussions, fostering a collaborative environment that encouraged learning and growth.

Racism, Self-Care and Mental Health Care were the topics that have significant impacts on the participants due to the relevance to their daily life and the broader societal implications.

Indigenous People Allyship with topic that talks about Truth & Reconciliation, Land Acknowledgement and homelessness. Furthermore, PSAC rallied for Truth, Reconciliation & Solidarity on the second day of the event, it was attended by Mohawk Elders and respected members of the Indigenous Community.



The insights gained from these sessions have further deepened my understanding of the different issues the workforces facing now a days, enabling me to provide more informed and comprehensive assistance to the local member like yourself.



Thank you for allowing me to share my conference reflection with you.

I look forward to engaging in further discussions and collaborations with most of our member. I would also like to invite every member to join the PSAC-Winnipeg newly reorganized Human Rights Committee with meetings held monthly (we will post further announcement). Olivier T. (Shop Steward, Boutique) and I attended the meeting this month.

In conclusion, the conference was an enlightening and transformative experience. It provided a platform for intellectual stimulation, networking opportunities, and personal growth. The knowledge gained and connections made during this event will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on my professional journey as your Equity Officer / DEI Coordinator.



And lastly, I am happy to share with you that I accepted the role to be part of the **National Equity Committee** for GSU, this is to better represent our Local to the National Level and to further equip myself in representing our Union to the newly formed **Mint Pay Equity Committee** that will start in November.

If your interest is on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, we need you! Contact your Local Union Representative and be part of our Team.



References:

[https://psacunion.ca/sites/psac/files/attachments/pdfs/1-callout -](https://psacunion.ca/sites/psac/files/attachments/pdfs/1-callout_-_2023_psac_national_equity_conferencesfinal_0.pdf)

[_2023_psac_national_equity_conferencesfinal_0.pdf](https://psacunion.ca/sites/psac/files/attachments/pdfs/1-callout_-_2023_psac_national_equity_conferencesfinal_0.pdf)

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IDEAS AND SUGGESTION?



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