

Report of Education Committee Steve Colterman | September 2023 – May 2024

Chair: Steve Colterman

Members: Azra Jusuf- RVP
Jason Lapointe- RVP
Sina Agah- RVP
Caroline Manyk- 30001 President

Technical Advisor: Dominique Barrette

The GSU Education Committee has set a schedule to meet every two months since the committee was formed following the 2023 Triennial Convention. Our meetings thus far have been constructive and committee members have rolled up their sleeves and are committed to implementing some beneficial education items for GSU.

The committee has set as a priority for the first year of our mandate to ensure the 2 GSU Triennial Convention resolutions are implemented this cycle and to develop one major education deliverable to be rolled out for the Sept 2024 Local President's Conference. All this and at the same time assisting GSU staff by making recommendations for content at Local Presidents and Regional conferences.

The first resolution to be implemented is G14.23¹ related to Mental health training for local members. The education committee has received confirmation that GSU staff are well underway to rolling this training during the regional conferences that will take place in 2024 and 2025. The second resolution to be implemented is G-32-23² related to a mentoring program for stewards and officers. Discussions on this resolution are at the exploration level at this time, we will have more on this at a later date.

The committee is currently brainstorming and drafting many great and innovative ideas for the major education deliverable. Some of the ideas that have been raised include links to be posted on GSU website to reading pieces of interest to union activists, FAQs for most common local inbox questions and development of high-level definitions of local executive positions to educate and encourage members to volunteer to assist their locals and others. It should be noted that in discussion on the topic of position definitions amongst the committee, all members agreed if this initiative moves forward, we need to

ensure we are inclusive of regional and employer uniquenesses and should remain with the local.

It has been great connecting with members of this committee, I thank each and every one of you for making time in your busy schedules to connect and brainstorm ideas that will benefit us all. I look forward to our continued collaboration and shared experiences.

I would like to thank GSU Technical advisor for her hard work, dedication and great ideas that will serve to help build a stronger union.

Sincerely,
Steve Colterman

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

¹ Resolution G14.23 passed at 2023 Triennial convention.

BE IT RESOLVED that GSU offer mental health training available to all elected representatives once per cycle.

² Resolution G-32-23 passed at 2023 Triennial convention.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSU develop and offer a mentoring program for local stewards and Local Officers funded by the existing budget, that is, comprehensive ongoing training in labor relations with the following suggested components: health and safety, staffing, classification, performance management, disability, legislation, understanding the collective agreement, grievances, values and ethics, conflict resolution, and others without limit.