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Workers seek a fair collective agreement

Parks Canada Strike Comes North

Employees of the Parks Canada Agency were off the job in Whitehorse, Dawson City and

pushed the protesters aside.

Jean François Des Lauriers, Regional Vice-President of the

PSAC, pointed out to Martin that wage freezes over the past twenty years have left Parks Canada employee's wages about 20 per cent behind their peers in both the public and private sectors.

Initially the union sought an agreement that would establish five-percent increases yearly over a three year period. The union later reduced this

demand to three percent per year, but negotiations still failed to establish an agreement. Des

Laurier believes that more than 100,000 federal employees nationwide could be on strike by mid-October.



Jean François Des Laurier, PSAC Regional Executive Vice-President, North, and Mike Travill, Acting YEU President, confront Prime Minister Paul Martin at Mt. McIntyre.

Haines Junction on August 19th and again on the 27th. They were joined on the picket lines by members of other Yukon unions.

The Friday before rotating strike action was initiated in the territory, protesters greeted Prime Minister Paul Martin at the construction site of the Mt. McIntyre Recreation Centre. Martin spoke briefly with union representatives before RCMP undercover agents

Workers can refuse to cross a legal picket line

Collective agreements in place for employees of the Yukon government and the Klondike Visitors Association establish the right of workers to refuse to cross a legal picket line. These provisions, almost unique in Canada, prohibit the employer from imposing discipline on employees who exercise this right.



Parks Canada pickets in Dawson City and at the Elijah Smith building in Whitehorse protested the federal government's failure to negotiate a fair collective agreement.



Photo by Jay Armitage

*** Want to play hockey with the NHL Legends? Call YEU for details.***

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PSAC North 3rd Triennial Convention

The **3rd Triennial Convention of PSAC North**, the body that represents all members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada living north of 60, will be held in Whitehorse the weekend of May 6-8th.

Each Local is entitled to two (2) delegates up to the first 300 members and one additional delegate for each additional 300 members or major portion thereof.

Representatives may also include:

- Two (2) delegates from each of the three northern territories to represent duly established Regional Women's Committees;
- Two (2) delegates from each of the three northern territories to represent Equity Groups;
- Two (2) delegates from each established Alliance Facilitator's Network;
- Two (2) delegates from each established Regional Health and

Safety Committee;

- All PSAC Component National Officers who are members of a North Region Local and have residence in the north; and
- PSAC-North Council Executive Committee members.

Each delegate must complete one set of the Registration/Credential and Special Need Request forms. The completed registration forms must be received by PSAC North by November 5, 2004.

Additional information is available from PSAC North at 867-669-0991, north_REVP@psac.com.

Y011 Annual General Meeting

Yukon College Local Y011 held its 2004 Annual General Meeting on August 25th. Election results:

President: **Maureen Stephens**

Treasurer: **Brian Paul**

Secretary: **Rose Fleet**

Director 1: **Tim Topper**

Director 2: **Trudy Agar**

Director 3: **Helen Winton**

In non-elected positions are:

VP Faculty: **Norm Easton**

VP Non-Faculty: **Pam Zgeb**

Chief Shop Steward: **Elinore Frederickson**

Shop Stewards: **Gord Bradshaw, Tracy English, Brent Langbakk, Audrey Locke, Simone Rudge, Helen Voogd, Joe Binger, Lynn Sutherland, Diney Williams, Ryan Agar.**

Upcoming AGMs

Klondike Visitors Association Local Y018 Annual General Meeting: September 12th, 3:00 p.m. in Dawson City.

Government of Yukon Local Y010 Annual General Meeting: September 27th, 6:00 p.m. at the YEU Hall.

Government of Yukon Local Y017 Special Annual General Meeting: October 28th, 7:30 p.m. to elect delegates to the PSAC North Triennial Convention. Regular meeting will follow.



YEU you asked

"Here are some answers to questions that might affect you or your co-workers."

Q. I work for YTG and my supervisor told me I had to go home on leave without pay because my CPR certificate has expired (it is a condition of employment for my job). Can they do that?

A. Simply put, no. Leave without pay is something an employee may request and a Deputy Minister may authorize. If your employer sends you home without pay, it is a suspension. Under the Public Service Act only a Unit Head (usually a director) or a Deputy Minister may suspend an

employee. When you are suspended under the act, you then can access your right of appeal, which includes right to a hearing in front of the Deputy Minister. Deadlines for filing these appeals are tight, so contact your union representative immediately if you are suspended or sent home.

YEUBursaries 2004 Application Form

Applicant Information: 2004 Bursary Awards for members and dependents of the Yukon Employees' Union

In order to provide the Public Relations Committee with information to assess your application, please fill out this form. Type or write clearly. You may use an extra sheet if you require more space.

Name: _____ Mr. Ms. Mrs.

Yukon Address

Address: _____

Postal Code _____ Phone # _____

College or University Contact Number

Phone # _____ Length of Yukon residency: _____

What is the name and membership number of the YEU member you are eligible to apply under?

Are you currently or have you in the past been a member of a union affiliated with the Public Service Alliance of Canada? Yes No

How will your proposed course of study enhance to your ability to make a contribution to the Yukon?

How does your proposed course of study relate to the goals and objectives of the labour movement?

Candidates applying must:

1. Be YEU members or their families residing within the member's household.
2. Be enrolled in a post-secondary university or college.
3. Carry a full course load.
4. Enclose a letter of acceptance and proof of enrollment.

**Please submit form to the YEU office by September 30th, 2004:
201-2285 2nd Ave. Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1C9 Ph: (867) 667-2331 Fax: (867) 667-6521**



Suzanne Hingley of Skills Canada greets Laurie Butterworth and Lorelee Kesler at their annual barbecue September 26th.

YEU Again Contributes to Skills Canada

The Yukon Employees' Union continued its support for Skills Canada Yukon this year with a donation of \$5,000. YEU representatives Lorelee Kesler, Laurie Butterworth and Denise Norman confirmed the contribution to the association's new director Suzanne Hingley at the Skills Canada barbecue on August 25th.

Skills Canada Yukon is a non-profit organization, which works with employers, educators, labour groups and governments to reposition trade and technology careers as a first choice option for Yukon youth.



YEU calendar

Monday, September 6th

Annual Feed the People Barbecue

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Rotary Peace Park (or CYO Hall if raining)

Sunday, September 12th

Klondike Visitors Association Annual General Meeting

3:00 p.m., Dawson City.

Monday, September 27

Local Y010 Annual General Meeting

YEU Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 28th

Government of Yukon Local Y017

Special Annual General Meeting

7:30 p.m., YEU Hall.

January 20th - 23rd, 2005

2004 PSAC National Access

Conference: Our Rights - Moving On Up

Queen Elizabeth Motel, Montreal, Quebec.

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Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Fridays 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Members are reminded to notify the YEU office of any change of address or name changes. Call Linda Bidrman - Membership Services, email lbidrman@yeu.ca or fax the number above.