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YEU

NEWS

All About YEU – Your Union Oct-Nov 2009



Posted on www.yeu.ca Nov 22

Second Watson Lake local created

Municipal workers organize in Watson Lake

The first Annual General Meeting of YEU's newest local representing municipal workers for the Town of Watson Lake was held on November 16. First Vice-President Loralee Kesler and Second Vice-President Steve Geick travelled to the community to provide assistance to the members.

Called Gateway Local Y029, the members of the new local were enthusiastic about joining the YEU community. A testament to that enthusiasm was the fact that the AGM was attended by almost 100% of the eligible membership.

The members look forward to taking advantage of the many training opportunities now available to them, and to working for the betterment of their community.

Most of the original Bargaining Team members for Watson Lake were elected to seats on the first executive. They include:

Alan Puckett – President
Alyssa Magun – Vice President

Gro Brodersen – Sec/Treasurer
Chad Hamer – Chief Shop Steward
Terri Close – Assistant Chief SS
Lelah Bruce – Director
Brian Lund – Director

The new members posed many questions for the YEU representatives in attendance at the AGM. The goal of the Gateway executive is to provide active and knowledgeable representation for their members, duties they assumed with considerable enthusiasm.

Their intention in the short-term is to forge a positive working relationship with the Mayor and Council. Vice-President Kesler and 2nd VP Geick had the opportunity to meet Acting Municipal Chief Administrative Officer Gerry Bruce. Mr. Bruce expressed the employer's desire to see a good working relationship established with the union.

Gateway Local Y029 is the second local formed in Watson Lake. The other is made up of all Yukon government employees in Watson Lake and Tuchtua.

While in the community, Kesler and Geick also took the opportunity to confer with our members employed at the Watson Lake Hospital.

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embrace diversity

Human Rights Day 2009

end discrimination

Open House

The Yukon Employees' Union invites everyone to our annual open house between 2 and 7 p.m. on Friday, December 11.

Join us at the YEU Hall to celebrate the Human Rights already achieved, and renew our commitment to equal treatment for all people.

There will be live music and free refreshments.

This year, YEU will further honour the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by donating \$5 to the Whitehorse Food Bank on behalf of every person who signs the Open House guest book.

YEU training opportunities

CLC Winter Training

Winter is upon us, and the YEU Winter Labour Training schedules have been released. Two training options are available this year

- **Canadian Labour Congress courses** are being offered locally at the Yukon Federation of Labour's training facility, and
- Courses are again being offered at **CLC's Winter School** in Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.

Part of YEU's mandate requires your union to encourage leadership development and education for our members. Please take a few minutes to consider the educational opportunities available, and think about attending labour training. Your participation will ensure a thriving organization, relevant to the needs of the membership.

Not sure how to apply?

Contact the YEU office for a complete list of courses offered for the 2009/10 winter training season, and for instructions on how to apply. Course lists and forms are also available online.

The deadline for submission of applications is **December 2**.

YEU yukon area council news

YAC executive elected

The Yukon Area Council (YAC) Annual General Meeting took place on October 27, 2009.

YAC is one of three councils belonging to PSAC North. It is

What about the cost?

YEU can provide funding sponsorship for members to further their labour education. Funding is limited, so submit your application forms well before the deadline. We can fund a limited number of participants, so don't delay.

What about leave from work? I can't afford to lose any pay.

You do NOT need to lose pay in order to attend labour training! Please speak with a union staff member to learn more about this.

Does YEU fund all CLC Winter School courses?

No. A list of CLC Winter School courses that YEU is most likely to approve for funding is available from the YEU office and online.

What if I'm not a Union activist?

YEU is YOU, regardless of whether you are a seasoned union activist or a member who has never explored what the Union is about. We welcome your increased participation and hope you will take the opportunity to get more involved through training.



Shop Steward Round Tables offer an opportunity for members and Stewards to advance their labour education and improve their representation skills. This session was held November 18.

Complete Winter School course schedules and forms are available at the YEU office as well as online. Contact Deborah Turner-Davis at 867-667-2331; Toll Free: 1-888-YEU-2331; dturner-davis@yeu.ca.

Local Officer Training

PSAC will be running a special 2 day Local Officers Training Course on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5 (full days) at the request of one local. Fortunately, there are additional seats available for members of other locals. We invite local officers to apply to attend.

If you have any questions or need assistance in submitting your application, please call the YEU or the PSAC office at 667-2331.

comprised of members from all locals in the Yukon, with the mandate to educate, advocate, lobby and communicate with members and the public about labour issues.

The new executive elected at the AGM includes:

Julie Docherty – President
Kelly Tooke – 1st Vice-President
Laurie Butterworth – Treasurer
Cynthia Fraser – Secretary
Joshua Paddon – Director
Jack Bourassa – Director
Steve Geick – Director

YEU from the 1st Vice-President



Loralee Kesler

While President Butterworth is in Montreal for the PSAC National Health & Safety Conference, I'm pleased to have the opportunity to reach out to our members.

YEU's representatives and activists are in a particularly busy period due to a number of ongoing issues and various training opportunities.

Currently we have a group of members in Yellowknife for the Northern Women's Conference. Another group will be leaving soon for Iqaluit to attend the Union Development Program (UDP). They will be there for a week. UDP is offered once every three years.

The enrolment includes up to seven PSAC members from each territory. This year, six YEU members will attend: Steve Geick, Julie Docherty, Jack Bourassa, Wendy Dindia, David Rice and myself.

YEU members are encouraged to submit applications for CLC Winter School to be held early next year at Harrison Hot Springs in B.C. The deadline for application is December 2, so if you are interested, please be sure to submit an application. The forms are available from our office, or online at www.yeu.ca.

Please keep in mind that you must submit both the application for Winter School and YEU's own Education application form if you are seeking funding support for expenses and lost wages.

I remind our members not to submit the online form at the Winter School

website. Forms submitted from there are not eligible for funding support.

If you are not accepted to Winter School, the Yukon Federation of Labour will be offering some of the courses locally.

Watson Lake meetings

2nd Vice-President Steve Geick and I just returned from meetings into Watson Lake that saw the election of Gateway Local Y029's first executive. We also had the chance to meet with hospital workers Local Y029 (*details in story on page 1*).

I was delighted to see the level of commitment displayed by our members in that community. Members of both locals commented that they were pleased that YEU was there for them, and thanked us for the support our union provides.

The success of our rural outreach program, which has led to the development of so many new locals, is a tribute to the dedication and commitment of President Butterworth. Laurie has fulfilled his promise to extend YEU's reach well beyond Whitehorse. Our union is much stronger as a result of his efforts.

Film Festival

The Yukon Area Council and YFL are sponsoring the upcoming Canadian International Labour Film Festival. The event takes place locally on November 27-28 at the Beringia Centre in Whitehorse. Four films will be shown: *Six Weeks of Solidarity*, *Defying the Law*, *Memory & Muscle*, and *Painting Red Square*.

Painting Red Square is the World Premiere of the full-edition DVD that includes the much talked about five-minute Whitehorse documentary, and for the first time anywhere, seven extra chapters. It is directed by Max Fraser and stars Del Young, President of Local Y010, YEU/PSAC.

Watson Lake Locals

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The meeting was a follow-up to the government's decision to transfer control of the facility to the Yukon Hospital Corporation (YHC).

The members expressed their continuing concern with the offers from both the Yukon government and YHC. Our union continues to work with these members to prevent any erosion of rights or benefits as a result of this transfer.

Scavenger Hunt

The PSAC Regional Health and Safety Committee is sponsoring a Scavenger Hunt to raise awareness about the committee.

Each month they hold draws for prizes from completed entries forms. A grand prize will be drawn in December.

Find answers to questions available from PSAC's office, or on the YEU website. Send your entry to the PSAC Regional Health and Safety Committee by Fax: 867-633-5347, by email: Debrencn@psac.com, by mail, or drop it off at the Union Hall.

YEU in the community

2009 Bursaries Awarded

Each year the Yukon Employees' Union awards \$8000 in educational bursaries to YEU members or family members.

The awards are in the form of \$1000 bursaries for applicants enrolled full-time in a post-secondary university or college program.

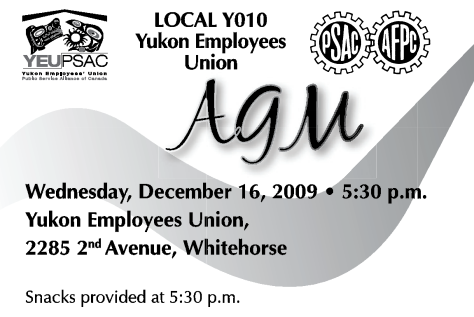
The John Irving Trades Bursary, if possible, is awarded to an individual pursuing a career in the trades. It may be split to share the award between part-time apprentices.

The Don Galbraith Bursary is awarded to students in the social sciences. The bursaries are intended to support continuing education, par-

ticularly in areas of study that contribute to the Yukon, and to labour movement values and goals.

The recipients of \$1000 awards in 2009 are:

- Eilidh Fraser
- Ted Hunter
- Adam Labar
- Aaron Foos
- Breton Fraser
- Rebecca Foos
- Adrienne Icllvaney, and
- Amanda Pearson
(Don Galbraith Award)



LOCAL Y010
Yukon Employees
Union

AGM

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 • 5:30 p.m.
Yukon Employees Union,
2285 2nd Avenue, Whitehorse

Snacks provided at 5:30 p.m.

YEU calendar

Canadian Int'l Labour Film Festival

November 27-28, Beringia Centre

CLC Winter School Application Deadline

December 2nd

Local Officer Training

December 4-5 (full days)

Whitehorse Reg'l Women's Com. AGM

December 7th, Noon, YEU Hall

Human Rights Day Open House

December 11th, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m., YEU Hall

Local Y010 Annual General Meeting

Wed., December 16, 5:30 p.m., YEU Hall

YEU Monthly Executive Meeting

2nd Thurs., 6:30-9:00 p.m., YEU Hall

Local Y010 Monthly Meeting

2nd Wed., 5:00-7:00 p.m., YEU Hall

Local Y017 Monthly Meeting

4th Wed., 7:30 p.m., YEU Hall

Local Y023 Monthly Meeting

1st Thurs., Noon

Local Y025 Monthly Meeting

3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m., YEU Hall

Local Y026 Monthly Meeting

3rd Thurs., 7:00 p.m., Dawson City

PSAC Regional Access Committee

3rd Thurs., 5:15 p.m., YEU Hall

Aboriginal Peoples Committee

1st Fri., Noon

Racially Visible Committee

1st Wed., 5:00-7:00 p.m.

PSAC Regional Women's Committee

1st Mon., Noon

Pride Committee

2nd Tues., Noon

PSAC Health & Safety Committee

1st Thurs., 5:00-7:00 p.m.



YEU News is published by the Yukon Employees' Union.

201-2285 – 2nd Avenue, Whitehorse,
Yukon Territory, Y1A 1C9

Tel: 867-667-2331 Fax: 867-667-6521

Toll Free: 1-888-YEU-2331

email: contacts@yeu.ca; Web: www.yeu.ca

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Fridays 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Please notify YEU about
address and name changes.
Call or fax Linda Bidrman – or
email lbidrman@yeu.ca.**

Contacts:

Staff (867) 667-2331

Linda Bidrman, Admin Assistant,
Membership Services; lbidrman@yeu.ca

W. Cary Gryba, Union Advisor - contact for
members & Shop Stewards; cgryba@yeu.ca

Kathy Hanifan, Union Advisor - contact for
members & Shop Stewards; Khanifan@yeu.ca

Frank Ursich, Union Advisor - contact for
members & Shop Stewards; fursich@yeu.ca

Deborah Turner-Davis, Admin Assistant,
Secretarial; dturner-Davis@yeu.ca

Tammy Olsen, Admin Assistant, Financial;
tolsen@yeu.ca

Bob Nardi, Communications Officer -
contact for Newsletter & Website;
bnardi@yeu.ca

Denise L. Norman, Executive Director -
contact for YEU and Local Executive
Members; dnorman@yeu.ca