

Association Executive Report 2018

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Thank you for attending this year's Uvic Chapter AGM. First I want to thank our new representative to the Association Executive, Sheryl Karras, who asked a lot of hard questions and brought a lot of well thought out suggestions to our recent strategic planning session.

The Association Executive consists of the President Frank Kholberger, First Vice-President Sheldon Martell, Second Vice-President Susan Dempsey, Secretary-Treasurer Melissa Doyle, and representatives appointed by each of the PEA's chapters. We meet a minimum of every six weeks throughout the year, alternating between Victoria, Vancouver, and remote teleconferencing. Executive members also serve on additional committees, alongside staff and members-at-large from other chapters.

A lot happened this year and I'd like to highlight some of this year's key activities:

- The PEA has been regularly meeting with NDP government ministers and deputy ministers to bring forward issues that our union is facing. This is a big change from the previous government who declined to meet with our representatives. Since the change in government we have been able to raise issues with the previous government's professional reliance model, which eliminated environmental and health protection laws, which was responsible for cutting the size of our GLP chapter by a third. In addition, the Professional Reliance Working Group published an op-ed in the Times Colonist which promoted improved professional reliance.
- We had our Education Conference in April of this year, which was decently attended and received a 97% approval rating from participants.
- We attended the March for Science in Victoria in April with 60 members participating.
- The giving back committee has
- We sent 7 members to the Canadian Labour Congress Winter School which is available to PEA members through our affiliation with the BC Federation of Labour.
- We have given \$7000 to targeted charities and organizations through our Grants and Donations committee and are currently in the process of running our Giving Back program which provides up to \$10000 to charities based on the votes of our members.
- We gave 7 scholarships and 2 bursaries for a total of \$8000 to PEA members, which includes 5 UVic members.
- Bargaining is going to be a big focus of the PEA over the next few months, with the Government Licensed Professionals, Health Employees Union Staff Union, Law Society Lawyers, Okanagan Regional Library, and of course UVic entering collective bargaining negotiations.
- We are in the process of reviewing the role of the PEA President. Currently it is structured the same way as our Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Executive members, where time spent on union activities are compensated on a case by case basis. The President has been advocating for a Part Time or Full Time position which would allow for regular book-off times from the employer, and give him the ability to provide more service. This is a divisive issue mostly due to cost and benefit concerns and will likely continue for the time being. It is likely that any change to the role of the President will require putting a vote to membership on a dues increase.

In Spring 2019 we will be hosting our bi-annual convention and will be seeking UVic delegates. The PEA will send an email out in the winter asking for expressions of interest. We typically do not get enough expressions of interest from members so if you have any interest at all, then please put your name forward. We'd like to send a full slate of delegates this year and this is your chance to lend your voice to union governance.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Scott McCannell and our PEA staff for the excellent support they provide the Association Executive, we wouldn't be able to do this without you!