

Good afternoon brothers and sisters,

May 17, 2017

Welcome to our Annual AUPE Local 69 General Meeting 2017! Another busy year has passed by us and we are gearing up for another contract settlement.

Here is a bit of a recap.

For those of you that are new members, you might ask; “What does your union do for you?” AUPE dedicates themselves to our members by striving to provide fair contract settlements for job protection, wages and health benefits to name a few. Your Local 69 is comprised of volunteers that work together with the Union to assist in achieving this goal, but we cannot do it alone. Get involved by starting out with the “Introduction to the Union course”, or become a union steward to serve out members in resolving problems and issues related to their employment. We need your help! Union training information can be found at: <http://www.aupe.org/my-aupe/benefits/education/>. Anyone interested in taking the “Introduction to the Union” course, please contact your executive and they will coordinate a session at the Athabasca AUPE office.

Visit AUPE’s Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/yourAUPE/> Check out the featured video, “The Soundtrack of Alberta”. AUPE is the largest union in Alberta. There are more than 90,000 members across the province and we stand together!

Athabasca University was successful in our search for a new President, is on track for a new Provost and Vice-President Academic and looking for a Chief Human Resource Office for Human Resources, as well as a Vice President Information Technology and CIO Search. The new board Chair is “Vivian Manasc” a prominent Edmonton architect. Her appointment was made by the Honorable Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education on March 14, 2017 ¹. We hope for a bright and successful future at Athabasca University. Thank you to Heath Bowen for representing AUPE’s Local 69 on the Provost and Vice President Academic Search.

Your Local 69 Executive met with the President, Neil Fassina on November 16, 2016 to discuss Labour Management at AU. We met with Terry Wald, a consultant with experience in post-secondary human resources to provide input on what our needs and expectations are in respect to a University Human Resource Plan at AU. We also met with Ken Coates who was commissioned by the Board of Governors to complete an independent third party review of Athabasca University to gather some insights on AU’s goals and challenges.

Background

The Minister of Advanced Education Marlin Schmidt provided the institution a set of principles to guide the deliberations and to report on the development of the sustainability plan. The objective is to ensure that the long term sustainability of Athabasca University remain within the town of Athabasca and Campus Alberta.

¹ <http://news.athabascau.ca/category/news/>, May 17, 2017, 11:08 a.m.

Neil's Notes on May 15, 2017 reported "Dr. Ken Coates has delivered his report to both the Government of Alberta and AU's Board of Governors.

There is also a Search for a Vice President Information Technology & CIO Search in progress. The AUPE representative on this search is Carolyn Russell from IT. Thank you Carolyn!

A separate session will be held with the AUPE Local 69 executive for a consultation regarding this search on May 31, 2017.

Your Local executive met on November 15, 2016, January 25, 2017 to discuss issues on upcoming negotiations, Labour management, mobilization of our members, education and the need for stewards and Bi-Weekly Pay, position postings, etc. We also stressed the need to coordinate another "Introduction the Union course" in Athabasca for those members that express interest. We attended a Labour Management meeting on January 17, 2017 to discuss workloads, conflict resolution and leave balances with our calendar year and the modified work week. A second Labour Management meeting was held on May 9, 2017 where we discussed workloads, casual appointments, conflict resolution and in-house training for staff and orientation for new member hires. All in all, we have had a busy year.

Negotiation preparation meetings will be held on May 24 and 25. Terry Luhoway will be present at the AGM to talk about our upcoming bargaining. Terry Luhoway will also be able to speak to Bill 4, a Supreme Court ruling Governing Essential Services tabled to recognize public-sector workers' fundamental right to strike.

Attention!!

Don't forget to utilize the SSPD (Support Staff Professional Development) Fund. The Annual Report for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year is attached for your reference. Please note that \$35,540.29 was not utilized in the 2016/2017 fiscal year. This amount does not get added to the 2017/2018 fiscal year therefore, we are not utilizing the entire allotment. The total budget for each year is a maximum of \$70,000.00. The fund is for Support Staff Professional Development AUPE Local 69 members and it is mandated as a high priority for you - our members.

We will also be putting another Canada Parade Float in the parade this year, Canada's 150 birthday. AUFA has expressed interest in joining us again. Please join us in the parade!

This is Election Year! Get involved! We need your help! Together, in solidarity we make a difference.

Wendy Jewell
Chair, AUPE Local 69
Attach/

SSPD Annual Report for 2016/2017 Fiscal Year

		TRAIN	HW/SW	JRM	TOTAL APPROVED
-					
1st QUARTER ALLOTMENT	17,500.00				
CARRYOVER FROM PREVIOUS QTR	0.00				
AVAILABLE FUNDS	17,500.00				
ACTUAL TOTAL-1ST QTR	11,094.90	5,314.48	5,780.42	0.00	11,094.90
DIFFERENCE CARRIED TO NEXT QTR	6,405.10				
Number of Applications:		8	14	0	22
2nd QUARTER ALLOTMENT	17,500.00				
CARRYOVER FROM PREVIOUS QTR	6,405.10				
AVAILABLE FUNDS	23,905.10				
ACTUAL TOTAL 2ND QTR	6,889.32	4,764.32	2,125.00	0.00	6,889.32
DIFFERENCE CARRIED TO NEXT QTR	17,015.78				
Number of Applications:		6	5	0	11
3rd QUARTER ALLOTMENT	17,500.00				
CARRYOVER FROM PREVIOUS QTR	17,015.78				
AVAILABLE FUNDS	34,515.78				
ACTUAL TOTAL- 3RD QTR	9,823.50	4,298.50	5,525.00	0.00	9,823.50
DIFFERENCE CARRIED TO NEXT QTR	24,692.28				
Number of Applications:		9	13	0	22
4th QUARTER ALLOTMENT	17,500.00				
CARRYOVER FROM PREVIOUS QTR	24,692.28				
AVAILABLE FUNDS	42,192.28				
ACTUAL TOTAL- 4TH QUARTER	6,651.99	2,401.99	4,250.00	0.00	6,651.99
DIFFERENCE CARRIED TO NEXT QTR	35,540.29				
Number of Applications:		6	10	0	16
TOTAL 2016/17 SSPD EXPENDITURES	34,459.71	16,779.29	17,680.42	0.00	34,459.71
Total 16/17 BUDGET	70,000.00				
TOTAL 2016/2017 FUNDS REMAINING	35,540.29				
Total Applications:		29	42	0	71