

**Campus Chairs Update
April 2019****Membership meetings**

Thanks to all our members that were able to attend one of the many sessions we had at each campus city. If you were unable to attend, please feel free to reach out to us; it is important that your voice be heard. We appreciate your time and questions and will be sending out a survey shortly.

Extended health care plan

Your bargaining committee has made several efforts to work with the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Faculty Association (SPFA) in order to make enhancements to the extended health care plan. The current extended health plan is a tripartite agreement between Sask Polytech, PSBU, and SPFA. The SPFA executive have told us that they had no proposals from their membership for enhancements and that they have no interest in working together to enhance the existing plan. The plan for all in-scope employees is working exactly as it was expected to work when it was initially bargained by both units. Employees are paying into the plan based on percentage of salary. Those employees with higher wages will pay more into the plan however, the cost of a prescription is the cost of a prescription. Illness does not differentiate between bargaining units. We will continue to reach out to our SPFA colleagues to try to make our shared extended health plan the best that it can be for all in-scope employees of Sask Polytech, regardless of personal health or bargaining unit.

Voluntary separation

Members have asked if PSBU was offered a similar voluntary separation option as the SPFA. Your bargaining committee has again declined participating in this program. Our position is that any job abolishment should come with full rights under the Collective Agreement. Members can always apply for voluntary severance – see Article 7.2.2.

Shawna North memorial

Employees and friends have established the **Shawna North Memorial** student awards program. Shawna's legacy will be maintained for many years at Sask Polytech through the provision of student awards named in her honour. A trust fund has been set up and is available for employees wishing to make a donation. Donations can be provided here: <https://alumni.saskpolytech.ca/giving/growing-tomorrow-Sask-Polytech-Employee-Giving>. (Please designate your donation to the fund: Shawna North Memorial). Plans are also underway for a Shawna North Memorial golf tournament to raise funds to further support these Memorial awards. We will share details as they become known.

10,000 days

Congratulations to Lud Gieni of Moose Jaw Campus who recently was recognized for his 10,000 days of seniority! He was provided with a 10,000 cent gift card from our bargaining committee for his years of service. Way to go Lud!



Grievance report

Your bargaining committee wants to be as transparent as possible and will be providing a quarterly overview of the grievances that PSBU has filed with the employer.

Jan – Dec 2018	Withdrawn	Lost	Successful Outcomes
65	5	1	16
Jan – Mar 2019			
	0	0	47

We currently have 30 active grievances and 4 active non-appointment disputes. While the employer continues to put up barriers on many of these files, we are actively working to resolve. We are pleased to reach a successful outcome for over 40 grievances on one issue.

Lay-offs of PSBU members

It is disheartening that we recently had lay-offs that directly impacted 13 professional services employees. We have since been advised that Sask Polytech is also abolishing 9 current vacancies meaning a further reduction to budgeted positions within our bargaining unit. We want to remind our members that they need to ensure that they speak to their managers about the additional work that may be given to them. Most of you already have a full-time position – what work is to be dropped in order to get the additional work completed? If you have workload concerns, email your supervisor and feel free to copy your bargaining committee.

Saskatoon stewards

The bargaining committee enjoyed having lunch with the stewards representing the many Sask Polytech locations in Saskatoon and the Administrative Offices. We were able to discuss some of the issues that face our members.

In solidarity,

Bonnie Bond, PSBU Bargaining Chair
Jon Burke, Campus Chair, Regina Campus
Derrick Gagnon, Campus Vice-Chair, Saskatoon Campus and Administrative Offices
Ellen Leaman, Acting Campus Chair, Moose Jaw Campus
Deb Zawada-Wiebe, Campus Chair, Prince Albert Campus

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