



**LOCAL • 70712**  
*Union of Environment Workers*  
**SECTION LOCALE • 70712**  
*Syndicat des travailleurs de l'environnement*



Allocution – Local 70712 – December 2016

Mon nom est Marie-Josée Boudreau et je travaille à l'Agence canadienne d'évaluation environnementale et je suis présentement en affectation à Santé Canada.

My name is Marie-Josée Boudreau and I work for the Canadian Environment Assessment Agency and I'm currently on assignment with Health Canada.

Bien que je ne travaille présentement pas directement dans le milieu de travail, je sais que j'ai fait de mon mieux pour servir les membres de l'Agence et de Lasalle de façon à les informer, les appuyer, les renseigner et les représenter.

To inform, in the beginning of the year I conducted a member's survey and collected information about the members' concerns and their level of knowledge about the Local, challenges they face in the workplace, etc. As a matter of fact, I would like to thank Luke Periard and Jennifer Cunningham to have helped me with conducting the surveys. I used these survey results to tailor the information I wrote in the monthly newsletters that I also translated and I sent to membership.

I answered calls and emails from members as much as possible within the 48-hour response guarantee established by the Local President this year. I helped a member put a grievance through for Phoenix, that member was not paid at all for 3 months and I was able to help her by getting the right person to contact at the department on the advice from the NCR RVP, Jane Powell and she got paid shortly after, I helped a member, traumatized by harassment in the workplace, to fill out her forms for insurance, I acted as her liaison with the employer and supported her through each step afterward, she got her approval from insurance in November, I participated with Mike Lister in a management-employee meeting, I had an unfair administrative policy removed from a regional office by raising the issue of harassment and mental health with HR after having received a complaint from a member.

I helped Rubin with the new Website, I started a Facebook page for the Local, I participated to the NCR Women's conference which was a fantastic event, with great speakers who discussed domestic violence against women and raised awareness about its impacts in the workplace. I attended a Webinar on Phoenix, the component's regional conference, the LMCC follow up meeting, the NCR Area Council, I wrote reports for most of these meeting and submitted them to the executive and members through the newsletter, I organized a JLP session at the Agency and a pizza lunch at Lasalle. I also updated the Local membership email list with some help of Luke Periard, Ann Marie Hussar-lucas and David Buote.



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I am proud of the work the local executive collectively accomplished this year and the support it gave me in my personal union development. I personally was very engaged with the Union Development Program from which I successfully graduated in October 2016. The UDP consisted of 3 gathering of 5 days, where we had the opportunity to learn through workshops to acquire skills for mobilization, to learn about the types of members, how to engage and build allies, we learned the rules of procedures for assemblies like this one and convention, we had to build a campaign and come up with an action project. This Program was a fast track into the inner workings of the Union and i learned a great deal from it but most importantly I met other great dedicated activists. That is encouraging.

I leave this position now and I find it sad though and disappointing that after all this good and well intended work I leave with a negative feeling after some recent events will likely hinder my progression as an engaged and honest activist in the union. But we live, we learn, and I wish the Local and members well and good success in the future.

Thank you

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**Marie-Josée Boudreau**

Acting Chief Steward – Local 70712 / UEW