

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2019

### THANK YOU'S

The last two months were busy within the union. We had meetings and planning that kept us on our toes. I personally couldn't have done it without the amazing team of Marnie and Sari at the office. They have managed to keep everyone on schedule and continue to help in any way we need, all while laughing and smiling to help keep the stress down. Thanks!!! Also, I would like to thank the amazing President Team that we have; they have all been there to help support me over the last couple of months with all the extra demands that Provincial has placed on us. A special thank you to Sharon, who took time out of her extremely busy schedule to attend a board meeting with me. I'm truly blessed.

#### **COMMITTEES**

We have had several training sessions, with more on the way. These training sessions are for member mapping and member mobilization. This training was developed to help us reach out to members in different ways. Now more than ever, it is important for us to reach out to our members and keep them informed of the political climate. As we start to head into negotiations, please continually check your emails for current and updated information.

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

I have had several discussions with Nick Turco at HR regarding our Union Days. We have a very limited amount of days for the bargaining group which now are running low. I have reached out to the board asking for exception, so that I will still be able to preform my duties as President. In the past, this was never an issue; however now, we are under different management. We will make sure that this is one of the issues we bring to the bargaining table. We must change the language around union leaves.

#### **SITE VISITS**

As part of member mapping and mobilization, Jen and I were able to attend two site visits. We went to Boreal and F.H. Clergue. We had a chance to visit the classrooms and to speak with members. We discussed issues they were facing, as well as, any concerns they may have with our political climate. As I would love to attend every school and meet all members that is just not possible. I have set up a member engagement meeting with all new members (two years or less). This meeting will take place Wednesday, February 6th. I will be working with Jennifer Sears our Chief Negotiator to design

a survey. This survey is designed to gather information from our members to help us navigate their needs for our Collective Agreement. We are hoping to have the survey out after March Break.

## **PERSONAL DAYS**

Several members have been questioned regarding their use of their personal days. I had a meeting with our Human Resource Team regarding this matter. As of right now, they feel they can question the use of these days. I have clearly outlined that there is nothing in our Collective Agreement that allows them to ask or question their use. We are still in disagreement on the use of these days, but as they continue to approve days, I don't feel we need to grieve it; however, we have another disagreement regarding Family Day. Family Day is now listed as a Public holiday in the Employee Standards Act. Therefore, the Board is obligated to pay us for this day. They are disputing that they need pay us for this day. I have been in touch with Provincial regarding this matter and how we should further proceed. Nancy Lortie our Grievance Officer has been informed and will be preparing a grievance.

Bobbi-Jo Sterling, ECE President

District 2, Algoma



