

## Welcome Back to the New School Year



The end of August brings the excitement of new opportunities and the hopeful expectations that come with the return of students to our systems and schools. If you are returning to a role as a PSAANS member, we hope that your summer has allowed you to recharge and reflect. If you are new to a position, or a brand new PSAANS member, we want to congratulate you as you start a new journey or next chapter.

August 1st marked the anniversary of the association's first year in operation. Since August 2018 we have grown from the initial Interim Board of Directors, to our first full Board of Directors with 15 members representing the RCEs, CSAP, and diversity within our membership. Our offices are established, and we have staff in place to support building the association and representing the interests of our members. We are looking forward to celebrating and sharing the accomplishments and future goals of the association when we convene for our second AGM in October. It will be a chance to be together and celebrate our success to date.

In this newsletter we are sharing important information about upcoming events and critical next steps. We have our Conference and AGM in October. It will be an important event as we look to the membership for some fundamental changes to the by-laws that were developed for us by the government.

In October we will also run our next Board of Directors elections and appointments. In our first year, half of the terms were for one year, rather than the standard two. At the August meeting, the Board of Directors moved to create two appointed Director positions. One designated for a PSAANS member of African descent, and one designated for a PSAANS member of Aboriginal identity. These steps will help to ensure that the Board of Directors reflects our membership, our community and diverse perspectives.

We are also looking forward to connecting with you in person in your region to share and discuss the process and progress with the negotiation of our first Memorandum of Understanding. Over the course of this past year, we have been taking steps to ensure that the issues brought to the table for discussion are aligned with the concerns expressed by members. Broadly, these can be categorized as; Administrative Allowance, Job Security and Benefits, Professional Development, Workload, and Support for the Association. Your participation in last year's conference and our June survey was greatly appreciated. We will continue to find ways to engage you in important issues to the membership and the Association.

In this coming school year, we will continue to use the website with its Member Hub, and email, as the primary tools for getting you the relevant information that you need. We also welcome you to connect with [Directors](#) in your region, centrally through [info@psaans.ca](mailto:info@psaans.ca) or with us directly. We continue to learn our way forward and are keeping the establishment of a strong foundation for our association as our mission.

All the best for a great new year!

Tim Simony, Chair

## Upcoming Dates:

**September 3, 2019**  
Conference information.

**September 10, 2019**  
Information distributed on the Elections and Nominations process.

**September 18, 2019**  
Nominations open for election to the PSAANS Board of Directors.

**September 24, 2019**  
Last day rooms will be held at hotels for the October Conference 2019.

MOU Negotiations.

**September 25, 2019**  
Nominations close for election to the PSAANS Board of Directors.

MOU Negotiations.

**October 3-4, 2019**  
PSAANS Board of Directors Meeting.

**October 9, 2019**  
Election for the PSAANS Board of Directors.

**October 24, 2019**  
PSAANS Retirement Celebration at Casino Nova Scotia, Halifax at 6:30 p.m. for 7:00 p.m.

**October 25, 2019**  
October Conference 2019 at Casino Nova Scotia, Halifax at 9:00 a.m.

## October Conference and AGM:

- Detailed information to be released on September 3, 2019.
- Hotel reservations are on hold until September 24, 2019. Information was included in the June / July Newsletter and will be repeated in the September 3rd Newsletter.
- Speakers: Tina Varughese and Hadiya Roderique. Information was included in the June / July Newsletter and will be repeated in the September 3rd Newsletter.
- This year's AGM is critical in order to make necessary changes to the by-laws that were developed for the Association by the Minister of Labour Relations. We need a majority of members in attendance this year to accomplish some fundamental changes for the betterment of the Association's autonomy.

## Retirement Event:

- PSAANS First Annual Retirement Banquet to celebrate our retirees from the 2018-2019 school year will be held in Halifax on October 24, 2019. Details will be released soon regarding tickets and space availability for non-retirees.

## MOU Negotiations:

- The MOU is currently being negotiated and we thank those who were able to complete the survey circulated in June. This information has helped to form the basis of the PSAANS position along with the contributions from last year's conference and the work of the Board of Directors. Your personal accounts help to illustrate the areas for discussion.
- Next dates for MOU negotiations are set for September 24, 2019 and September 25, 2019.

## Fall Regional Meetings:

- In late September and early October, PSAANS will be hosting regional meetings in all RCE's and the CSAP to speak to items related to the Association in general and the MOU negotiations. Details will follow as they are determined.

## Elections and Nominations - Information to be circulated on September 10, 2019:

- This fall, we will hold a number of elections for the Board of Directors. Elections will be held in the AVRCE, CCRCE, CSAP, HRCE and SSRCE. These positions are as a result of vacancies or the end of one year terms.
- Information will be circulated on September 10, 2019 regarding the Elections and Nomination Process.
- We will post an Expression of Interest for up to two appointed Board of Director positions. In addition to these two appointed positions, in August the Board of Directors decided that PSAANS will also seek Expressions of Interest and appoint a Board of Director position for a member of African descent and a Board of Director position for a member of Aboriginal identity.
- Information regarding this process will be circulated on September 10, 2019.

### Website : [PSAANS.CA](http://PSAANS.CA)

To access the Member Hub you will need your PSAANS membership number (ie: 0518smithjoh) and password. If you have forgotten your password or username you can reset it using your email address

<https://www.psaans.ca/user/login>

**Board of Directors:** <https://www.psaans.ca/members/resources/governance/board-directors-contact-information>

**Coordinator of Member Services:** Harvey Beaton [cms@psaans.ca](mailto:cms@psaans.ca) (902-491-2856)

**Manager of Financial Services:** Kathryn Burlton [finance@psaans.ca](mailto:finance@psaans.ca)

**Questions and General Inquiries:** [info@psaans.ca](mailto:info@psaans.ca)