



## Report to Council

**EVENT: AGM 2018**

**COUNCIL MEMBER: Susan Cowtan**

### Summary of Activities

- Attended all Chapter and Local Meetings
- Organized a lunch and learn on my worksite
- Chair of the Wellness and Personal Development Committee
- Participated in the Grey Card project-attended other lunch and learns
- Bargaining Committee Member
- Applied and was successful applicant to sit on the Members' Benefits Committee
- Spruce Grove/Stony Plain Area Council Chair (SSAC)
- Member of Membership Services-created newsletter for Fall/winter 2017/18
- Attended Convention
- Attended Labour School 2018

### Other Information for Council

I am an active member of Local 002. Most importantly, I am a connection on the worksite. With the permission of the Management, I am able to inform our members of events and updates.

I was very pleased to be successful in getting chosen to sit on the Member's Benefits Committee. Sometimes an AUPE member faces an emergency that qualifies for financial assistance from the union. There is an application online or, members may apply for assistance from the fund by approaching a union steward or staff representative. This is a dedicated group of AUPE members representing all sectors.

This year I attended Labour School in Banff. I was very excited to take Leadership. My hope was that this would provide me the opportunity to increase my leadership skills. The homework given prior to Labour School was to prepare for a 5 min speech. I did mine on SSAC. Unfortunately the course was not at a level that there was any new learnings. I have provided my feedback and would like to see AUPE provide a higher level of training for those of us that are looking for it. As always, meeting new AUPE members was the highlight of the Labour School.

SSAC, this year we have been busy with wing nights, events and tickets sales. I have, with the assistance of AUPE, developed a website. Our Facebook Page continues to be the main vehicle for information. We are up to 386 members! This is a huge accomplishment. I have a GREAT team to work with.

Wellness and Personal Development saw the numbers drop this year. Likely people believed that unless they took the introduction to the Union they would not qualify. This is not the case, priority is given to those that have. Everyone who was eligible for the bursary was successful

this year. We will continue to encourage members to take the intro course and other AUPE courses and apply for WAPD.

As you may be aware, Chapter 002 and Local 002 has experienced a significant amount of conflict, with the unfortunate result being losing some very valuable members from Council. I am committed to continue to working as part of the team to rebuild unity. I would like to see more engagement from the members and work towards creating an atmosphere of respect and ultimately Solidarity.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cowtan