

Invitation to attend the
PSAC Regional Forum on Pay Equity and Childcare Services

NOV 17-19 in Yellowknife, NWT

Dear Sisters:

As you know, the federal government's attacks against pay equity and access to universal childcare services are issues of paramount importance to the PSAC. I am writing to invite you to a Regional forum to discuss these matters with Sisters from Nunavut, the Yukon and Northwest Territories, November 17-19 in Yellowknife.

These forums are intended to provide information to our activists on the current situation, and update you on the measures PSAC has undertaken to respond to these attacks on workers' rights. We also hope to gain a better understanding of the needs and concerns of our members, solicit your suggestions for future campaigns and find out more about what PSAC activists need in order to get more involved in their workplaces and communities.

These forums, which have been organized in each of PSAC's regions, include one full day on pay equity. We will perform a critical analysis of the new *Public Sector Equitable Compensation Act*, and we will review the actions that PSAC has taken to fight this unfair legislation. We hope that this event will also provide you with an opportunity to exchange information with other Sisters, develop your mobilization and lobbying skills and discuss local and Territorial strategies that could be incorporated into our national pay equity campaign.

The evening of November 18, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. we are planning a "Happy Hour in Angry Times", which will bring together participants in the forum and activists from other unions, women's groups and community groups, for informal presentations on the PSAC campaign against the *Public Sector Equitable Compensation Act (PSECA)*.

Finger foods and beverages will be served.

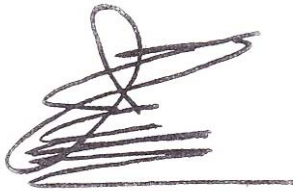
On the following morning, we will explore issues around childcare and early learning. We will take stock of the situation regionally and nationally, and discuss both the experiences and the needs of our members. We will be soliciting your ideas and suggestions for a large-scale campaign on access to childcare services that PSAC is planning on developing in the coming year.

We will have the pleasure of welcoming to the forum Sister Patty Ducharme, the National Vice-President of PSAC, who is responsible for the Women's Program; and Sister Andrée Côté, the National Women's Program Officer.

I hope you will be able to join us for this exciting event. All your travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the PSAC, and you will be compensated for any lost salary or additional childcare in accordance with the PSAC policies.

Please send your application or reply to the PSAC Regional Office in your Territory by close of business October 16, 2009

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Jean-François Des Lauriers
Regional Executive Vice-President
Public Service Alliance of Canada