

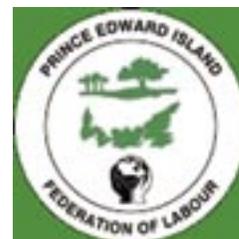
THE Accent

Prince Edward Island Union of Public Sector Employees

Convention Call: PEI Federation of Labour

The PEI Federation of Labour is hosting its 55th Annual Convention on **Friday** (evening) **November 1 and Saturday, November 2, 2019** at the Loyalist Country Inn, 195 Heather Moyle Drive, Summerside PEI.

UPSE is entitled to send 40 members. Mileage and meals will be paid. Hotel rooms will be provided to those who reside over 40 km away from Summerside. Please advise the UPSE office if you require a hotel room.



Please contact the UPSE office by October 4, 2019 to express interest in attending the Federation of Labour's Annual Convention. Call 902-892-5335 or toll free 1-800-897-8773, or e-mail peiupse@peiupse.ca.

Call for Directors (Vacant Positions)

UPSE's *Membership Services Committee* has issued a call for nominations for two vacant Director positions in local 12. Nomination forms are available to print from the union's website (www.peiupse.ca), or call UPSE at 902-892-5335 (toll free 1-800-897-8773), or e-mail (peiupse@peiupse.ca).



To be eligible for nomination as a Director a member must:

- be in good standing for at least the previous twelve months (1 yr)
- be nominated by a member in good standing of the applicable local
- have completed the Welcome to UPSE or equivalent course

*Nomination forms can be printed from the UPSE website and must be submitted to the union office by **4:30 pm on October 11, 2019**. A biography must be included with the nomination form (mandatory).*

The Accent is an internal publication of the Prince Edward Island Union of Public Sector Employees. Comments, questions, concerns and suggestions should be sent to: Mark Barrett, PEI UPSE Communications and Campaigns Officer, at mbarrett@peiupse.ca.

Note to members distributing The Accent:

Because the material contained in this publication is often of a time-sensitive nature, please post or distribute it as soon as possible.

PEI UPSE is proud to represent over 5000 members in the public and private sectors.

The PEI Union of Public Sector Employees (UPSE) opposes any further privatization of the sale of liquor in our province. Provincial liquor stores offer a healthy balance of knowledgeable customer service with well trained staff to serve customers responsibly.

Our members use intrinsic controls to protect and educate the public, such as ID'ing individuals, refusing sales to intoxicated customers and alcohol abuse prevention initiatives. The current system is able to maintain rigorous enforcement levels because employees are properly and consistently trained. Implementing a system of private sales will require a significant government investment for training and monitoring of all retail locations to ensure compliance with the law.

It's important to note that revenues from sales in the public system go directly to government coffers in order to pay for government programs such as health care, education and programs for families. Further, there is no question that drinking under the influence and addiction is a serious problem in PEI. We should be cautious about fostering a market that may make it easier for minors and people struggling with addiction to obtain alcohol. I know that this would not be the intent, however, many would agree that this is one of the outcomes of selling liquor at grocery/convenience stores and gas stations.

A report from MADD Canada concluded that: "Experience in other countries and in Canada indicates that privatizing alcohol sales will increase alcohol-related deaths, injuries and social problems through increased alcohol availability and consumption." Provincial liquor commissions provide society with a reasonable measure of control over alcohol pricing and accessibility, and thereby effectively manage alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm. At the same time, provincial liquor stores offer customers high levels of service, quality and selection, along with a strong commitment to social responsibility which benefits consumers and non-consumers alike. UPSE believes that maintaining provincial liquor stores is in the best interest of all Islanders. Privatizing the sale of alcohol is misguided and is based on profit considerations alone. What is needed is a better approach, and one that strengthens public sector participation in the sale of alcohol. We urge the provincial government to make this commitment.

Karen Jackson
President, UPSE

Thanks for supporting Public Services Shop at Provincial Liquor Stores

Public serves customers better
with lower prices, better selection and well trained staff who provide excellent customer service

Public serves communities better
preventing underage drinking and keeping communities safer

Public serves Islanders better
profits are reinvested in health, education and other public services



Do You Want to Join a Union?

Do you know a group of non-unionized workers who might be interested in joining UPSE? If so, **please contact** Melissa Bruce, UPSE Resource and Organizing Officer, at **902-892-5335**, toll free **1-800-897-8773** or e-mail mbruce@peiupse.ca

UPSE offers a wide range of membership services including professional staff to help you when problems arise in the workplace (full grievance support), experienced negotiators to bargain fair and equitable contracts on your behalf, a wide range of educational opportunities, and a benefit program for members.



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