

Activity Report – Area Council 4 – Mauricie

This cycle, Area Council 4 – Mauricie carried on its mandate to support, coordinate, and represent the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) locals within its coverage area. AC 4 includes UCTE 10117, UTE 10027, ASTRE, CEIU 10362, UNE 10269, UTE 10005, and AGR 10081. At cycle's end, the executive was comprised of Sabrina Williams as President, Marie-Eve Gélinas as Vice-President, Pascale Tremblay as Secretary, Caroline Garceau as Treasurer, Pierre-Paul Lavoie as Education Director, Mathieu Chapdelaine as Political Action Director, and Pascale Tremblay as Occupational Health and Safety Director.

AC 4 maintained regular operations throughout the cycle. Four meetings were held in 2023, while five meetings were held in each of 2024 and 2025. In keeping with the area council's democratic structure, an AGM was held each February. Discussions focused on locals' priorities and needs as they evolved throughout the cycle, including bargaining, member mobilization, regional and union issues, occupational health and safety, political action, and labour education.

Though the area council did not independently organize major union events, it regularly supported locals with their mobilization and visibility initiatives. AC 4 also performed community outreach, including sponsoring a women's football team and supporting women's rights causes more widely. The AC also offered numerous trainings. Participation was very good, proving that interest is high in union development and knowledge-sharing.

Members attended various conferences, including the Women's Conference, Equity Conferences, and the Occupational Health and Safety Conference, as well as the FTQ Convention. This involvement has helped keep our area council strongly rooted in union discussions at the regional and national level.

Good financial management has facilitated AC 4's stability and growth. The treasurer's responsible management has kept our finances in order these last three years. One major expenditure was covering FTQ Convention costs for local presidents who were actively involved in the area council's work, thus bolstering the area's representation and voice within larger union bodies.

Challenges encountered this cycle were reflective of the current union reality. Return-to-work mandates remain pressing concerns, particularly in our always-evolving organizational context. Effectively engaging with members also remains a constant challenge, especially for the Women's Committee, Equity Committee, and Young Workers Committee, which struggle to recruit new members. Mobilization remains a major issue within our area council as in others, especially as the national labour environment makes collective action increasingly difficult.

The AC is investing considerable time and energy into creating, supporting, and stabilizing the Women's Committee, Young Workers Committee, and Equity Committee, as well as encouraging consistent and continued involvement from all locals. This work will continue. Active and operational committees are key to the area council's dynamism. The AC's goal is to make sure these committees remain viable for years to come by fostering the well-balanced and ongoing participation of all locals.

In a constantly evolving labour environment, AC 4 – Mauricie recognizes the critical importance of staying strong, united and well equipped to face emerging challenges. The coming years will be defined by major issues, including a hybrid work model with up to four days per week in office and bargaining that, for many of us, is currently at an impasse. These realities demand a more united and adaptable union with a renewed commitment to our members and values.

Defending our working conditions, mobilizing, and keeping a union presence on the ground will require us to be well organized, well prepared and well trained. Now more than ever, we need solid local and regional bodies, strong committees, robust skillsets, and constant communication with our members. Inter-local solidarity must remain a key driving force in what we do.

Focusing on training, collaboration, democratic participation and unity will enable the area council to tackle the hurdles ahead with determination and consistency. With preparation and commitment, we will be ready to meet challenges together while building a fairer and more equitable future for every worker we represent.

Sabrina Williams
President, Area Council 4