



February 2021

To: PSAC BC Area Councils and Regional Committees  
PSAC BC Locals/Branches and DCLs  
PSAC BC National Officers  
PSAC BC Regional Council

**PSAC BC Regional Health and Safety Conference, March 19-21, 2021 – *Where Does the Employer’s Responsibility End and Ours Begin?***

<b>APPLICATION DEADLINE:</b>	<b>Friday, March 5, 2021</b>
<b>CONFERENCE DATES:</b>	<b>Friday, March 19 through Sunday, March 21, 2021</b>
<b>CONFERENCE FORMAT:</b>	<b>Virtual Conference Via Zoom</b>

Friends,

We are pleased to announce that the 2021 PSAC BC Regional Health and Safety Conference will be held from March 19 – 21, 2021. The Conference will be held virtually via Zoom.

The Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 19 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Saturday, March 20 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, and on Sunday, March 21 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.

The theme for this Conference is: Where does the employer’s responsibility end and ours begin?

This event will create a virtual forum for Health and Safety activists to learn, reflect, discuss and take action to improve our workplaces by raising awareness and preventing injuries and occupational diseases.

PSAC members in good standing may apply to be delegates and observers to this Conference.

Topics will include the new Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention Regulations, ergonomics at home and in the office, guarding against virtual meeting fatigue, and impairment at work.



**The application deadline is Friday, March 5, 2021.** You can apply using the online form at the PSAC BC regional website: <https://psacbc.com/application-form-2021-bc-regional-health-safety-conference>. If you require an alternate format for your application please call the PSAC Regional Executive Vice-President's Office at (604) 430-0191 or toll-free in BC at 1 (866) 811-7700, or contact us by email to PSAC Regional Representative Sharon Barbour ([barbous@psac-afpc.com](mailto:barbous@psac-afpc.com)). Delegates will be reimbursed loss of salary and/or leave with pay authorization will be provided for the days that delegates are normally scheduled to work during the Conference. There will be no overtime compensation. As the event is taking place virtually, we do not anticipate any non-salary expenses for delegates (e.g. per diems, meal allowances, travel expenses, etc.)

### **MEMBERS WITH TREASURY BOARD, CFIA AND PARKS - LEAVE WITH PAY**

Effective January 1, 2018, Treasury Board members (PA, SV, TC and EB Groups), and CFIA members, FB members (effective July 3, 2018), and Parks members (effective August 1, 2018) attending PSAC events covered by any of the following clauses must no longer submit loss of salary via the Member Expense Portal. Only non-salary expenses are to be claimed for reimbursement.

- 14.02 (13.02 for CFIA and Parks): representing PSAC on a certification or intervention
- 14.09 (13.09 for CFIA and Parks): contract negotiation meetings
- 14.10 (13.10 for CFIA and Parks): preparatory contract negotiation meetings
- 14.12 (13.12 for CFIA and Parks): Board of Directors and Executive Board meetings and conventions
- 14.13 (13.13 for CFIA and Parks): representatives' training courses

Members affected will receive a Union Authorization Letter for the Conference authorizing their participation in the union activity for which a leave with pay is to be requested. The member will enter the leave request for the union activity in their respective Leave Management System and submit an electronic copy of the letter to their delegated manager.

***Please note:*** *Illness or other unforeseen circumstances may prevent a member from attending a union event. Members who are unable to participate in part or all of the event are personally responsible for modifying their related leave request in their Leave Management System. The Leave Management system must reflect the actual union*

*leave used by the member in order to ensure the accuracy of the loss of salary invoiced to the Public SAC. The leave recorded in the Leave Management System should only reflect the actual amount of leave required to attend the union event.*

## **ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES**

The PSAC Accommodation Policy strives to ensure that PSAC events are barrier-free for members with disabilities. Once selected as a delegate, members will be asked to specify their accommodation needs in order to facilitate their participation at the Conference. Accommodation will be provided based on the requirements and functional limitations identified.

## **FAMILY CARE**

The objective of the PSAC Family Care Policy is to remove one of the barriers which may prevent delegates from participating fully in union activities and which provides for the reimbursement of family care expenses. A copy of the policy is available on the PSAC website at [www.psaunion.ca/family-care-policy](http://www.psaunion.ca/family-care-policy)

Requests for family care expense reimbursement approval must be received no later than Friday, March 5, 2021.

## **PSAC ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY**

During the PSAC BC Regional Health and Safety Conference and at all events or activities associated with the Conference, the PSAC Anti-Harassment Policy will be in effect.

## **SELECTION OF DELEGATES**

If you are selected as a delegate for the Conference, you will be advised by email and/or telephone.

## **SELECTION OF OBSERVERS**

If you are not selected as a delegate, you may be selected as an observer.

## **OBSERVERS**

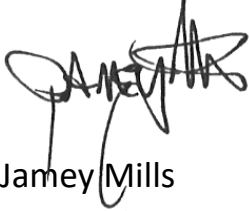
All observers, if selected, are responsible for their own loss of salary and all other expenses related to their attendance at the Conference.

For further information or assistance, please call the PSAC Regional Executive Vice-President's Office at 604 430 0191 or toll-free in B.C. 1 866 811 7700, or email to PSAC Regional Representative Sharon Barbour ([barbous@psac-afpc.com](mailto:barbous@psac-afpc.com)).

Please consult the PSAC BC Region's website at [www.psacbc.com](http://www.psacbc.com) periodically for additional information about the Conference. As information is available it will be posted.

Thank you for your interest in the Conference.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamey Mills', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jamey Mills

Regional Executive Vice-President, BC Region