

NATIONAL & PROVINCIAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT
PEI Convention – May 19 & 20, 2011

The National Health and Safety Committee met in November 2010 and March 2011. Both meetings had a full agenda over the 2 ½ days.

CUPE's Health and Safety branch is very active with the Canadian Standards Association. Brothers Anthony Pizzino and Troy Winters (National) sit on the Committee developing an ergonomics standard. This standard is progressing well and is hoped to be a great resource when completed. Brother Winters is also on a Committee developing the standard for nanotechnology.

The weeklong Health and Safety Course has been modified and now contains eight modules instead of ten. The course is offered over 4.5 days but can be divided and taught over two weekends or single sessions. The National Committee is encouraging all CUPE Local Health & Safety representatives and union members of Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees to complete this course.

There has been much discussion about young workers and lack of involvement in health and safety. Brother Winters gave the Committee an update on recent work that National has done in regards to using health and safety to activate or motivate more young workers to get involved with the union.

The Committee worked on resolutions that it would like to have presented at the 2011 National Convention. A draft copy of the resolutions has been prepared, and I can provide a copy upon request.

Information on the CUPE's National Health and Safety Award was sent out in the general mailing from National. The closing date for nominations is July 29, 2011. If you know someone who has made a significant health and safety contribution, please let the National Health & Safety Committee know by completing the nomination form.

The *Health & Safety Update* is getting a redesign complete with a new name. We look forward to seeing the "new look". If you have any news that can be included in a newsletter, please let me know. It would be great to have PEI news included in a newsletter.

Funding has been requested for the 11th National Health and Safety Conference to be held in 2012. Location will be determined once funding is received.

The Provincial Health and Safety Committee met several times in the last few months. A *Mandate, Terms of Reference, Committee Objectives, and Specific Roles and Obligations* has been developed and accepted by Division. It is available on our webpage at <http://cupepei.ca/healthandsafety.php>.

A flag raising ceremony for the Day of Mourning has been arranged at Charlottetown City Hall on April 27th. The flag will be lowered to half mast for the 28th. Committee members plan to attend the Federation of Labour's memorial service the evening of the 28th.

On behalf of the Committee (Wade Acorn, John Doucette, Donna Dingwell, Monique Hebert & Jed Burt), I would like to thank Division Liaison Jason Woodbury for his help in getting us organized and his continued support. Thanks to the Committee members for working together in promoting health & safety.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Pryor
National Health and Safety Committee Member
Provincial Health and Safety Committee Chair