

President's Report to the North Central Vancouver Island Branch 2025 Regional Council

The North Central Vancouver Island (NCVI) Branch currently represents approximately 200 PIPSC members, spanning most of Vancouver Island, North of Victoria. Our membership is mainly in the Nanaimo area where we have almost 180 members, most of whom work at the Pacific Biological Station. The remainder of the membership is spread between Port Hardy, Campbell River, Courtenay/Comox, Parksville, Ucluelet, Fanny Bay, and Nanoose.

The NCVI executive is currently 9 members strong and we have met 4 times since the last AGM. Our Secretary position is up for election this year and we are always looking for new members to step forward and get involved. As a true reflection of the demographics of the Branch, our Exec is currently made up of 2 retired members, offering us great flexibility when it comes to activities such as lobbying. We continue to work well together discussing current workplace issues, PIPSC updates, and how to better serve the membership. Of course we are always discussing new ways to engage in our Branch and we borrow from the successes of other Branches. As always we had the pleasure of supporting some member events including: The Pacific Biological Station BBQ; Bike to work week; and the DFO children's Christmas party. The Executive is always looking for ways to engage our members, and look to you for input and suggestions.

Two of our executive attended the BC/Yukon Regional Council in Burnaby as delegates representing the NCVI Branch. As delegates they were able to debate and vote on issues affecting the entire region, including the Regional Executive positions that were up for election. As President of the Branch I also attended the PIPSC National AGM this year and was able to debate and vote on National PIPSC issues. This year saw a larger assembly due to motions passed at the previous AGM. Despite our current Government being re-elected, we continue to have issues surrounding such topics as performance management, contracting out, public science, and the Phoenix pay system.

Though many of our groups have ratified contracts over the last year, some will still be back at the bargaining table this year, or in the case of the CS Group going to a PIC. Once again we will need to be vigilant and stand behind all our bargaining groups and show our Better Together solidarity.

Finally I would like to thank all the members of the Executive for being involved in Our Union, and volunteering their time and energy. Carl Cahoon(Vice President), Nick Leone (Secretary), Charles Fort (Treasurer), Diana McHugh(MAL), Tamas Lipscey (MAL), Chris Perry(MAL), Roger Miller(MAL), Maria Cornthwaite(MAL). I would also encourage anyone considering becoming more involved in Our Union to consider a position on the Branch Executive.

In Solidarity,
Alan Messner NCVI President