

President's Report to the 79th BC/Yukon Regional Council - June 7, 2024

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 200 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 membership has continued to rise again this year with approximately 280 members overall.

The NCVI executive is currently 7 members strong. Our AGM was held on Feb 1, 2024. We are always looking for new members to step forward and get involved. A true reflection of the demographics of the Branch, our Exec is currently made up of 1/3 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. We are always discussing new ways to engage in our Branch and we borrow from the successes of other Branches. We supported the PBS Children's Xmas party in 2023. We held an outreach event - Coffee Meet and Greet at the Pacific Biological Station on Feb 1, 2024. Our Regional Director - Morgan Cranny graciously attended in support of PIPSC.

Three of our executives 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 a BC/Yukon member I also attended the PIPSC National AGM this year and was able to debate and vote on National PIPSC issues. Though many of our groups have ratified contracts over the last year, some will still be back at the bargaining table this year. 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), Charles Fort (Treasurer), Nick Leone (Secretary), and Diana McHugh, Chris Perry, Maria Cornthwaite, Tamas Lipscey (members at large). 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