

ARA Committee 2022-23 Year end report

We had a great year as the ARA committee for Local 10. We started the year off with 7 delegates and were able to add one more thanks to increases in staffing and the addition of Athabasca Delta Community School to our local. We welcomed Christy Haggarty and Justin Anderson to our team at the start of 2023.

As a committee we brought forward 5 resolutions to the local in December for approval and we submitted 3 resolutions to PEC for consideration at ARA. Two of our resolutions were placed in the initial voting block, meaning they would be dealt with based on how PEC voted during the pre-vote. Our resolution about creating a maternity fee rate for substitute teachers was voted non-concurrence by PEC and our resolution asking for a hybrid model was referred to study and report for next ARA. We are looking forward to having Reuben sit on the committees that are formed to study this so we are prepared to bring it back next year if needed.

Our third resolution was pulled for debate and we managed to get in an opening argument as to why access to staff emails was important for sharing key information with the local, but the house felt there was too much risk of something confidential being sent, so it was defeated.

Justin made it to the mic a few times, and actually got to speak to one of the resolutions being debated...for 20 seconds before the time limit was reached. Both he and Christy had a lot of good commentary and sound discussion at our tables about the resolutions being discussed.

Probably the most notable motion was a courtesy motion put forward by a delegate from Calgary, who spoke of her experience being assaulted by another delegate at ARA 2022. She showed strength and passion as she spoke of her very painful experience and the lack of response from table officers. This prompted an emergent motion from Edmonton Public calling on PEC to create and implement policy regarding such incidents at association events. This passed unanimously and we were assured by the Executive Secretary this would be on the agenda for the June PEC meeting.

By the end of Monday we only had two resolutions left to debate which was quite a feat as we had 19 going into session that morning. The budget passed and will see significant increases in ITS to upgrade to a cloud server, and there is a \$0 fee increase for 2023-2024.

Our local has submitted several proposals for bylaw amendments for next year and we look forward to presenting them in the fall as electoral ballots.

Overall it was a wonderful weekend with great company and I am grateful to have been the chair this year.

Have a wonderful summer!
Respectfully submitted,
Vanessa Boer