

Elect Camille Awada as NEC Vice President

“When we work together, focusing on the goals that bring the most benefit to the most people, and keep distractions to a minimum, we can achieve great things for members. Magnificent things.”



I joined the National Executive Committee (NEC) as a Director in 2018 after 20+ years active at the grassroots level with CAPE, and earlier on, as a Shop Steward with the Steelworkers of America. The last three years, under the direction of Greg Phillips, have been a time of tremendous progress and constructive change in all areas of CAPE’s mandate, none more so than in the growth of the organization’s ability to drive and support member interests, and in its efficiency and accountability. The NEC itself has run like clockwork. Greg Phillips has been an outstanding leader and I fully endorse him for a second term as President.

As a long-time teambuilder I feel I have something unique to contribute to the continued success of these efforts in the role of Vice-President, considerable energy to invest in keeping the momentum high, and a resolve to keep CAPE moving forward and beholden to the members. Adaptability, skill in financial and data analysis, as well as performance management – making sure people, especially volunteers, take on only what they can deliver – are additional strengths I have to offer.

What has excited me most about my recent role has been the opportunity to establish an on-going dialogue with more and more members about their hopes and concerns, to champion your causes

and amplify your voices. I have heard that your focus remains high on the fundamentals of job security, compensation, benefits and pensions. You have also been adamant that there should be no return to the level of conflict that plagued the organization in the past, conflict which consumed time and resources and provided an unnecessary distraction to our core activities.

CAPE has a depth of expertise in negotiation, collaboration, conflict mediation, and creative and constructive problem-solving. In the past our internal disagreements have turned into full-blown public crises, threatening to diminish CAPE’s credibility and the trust needed for us to work effectively on your behalf.

There is no justification for this. As your Vice President I will dedicate myself to preserving the calm working environment we have achieved in the most recent term, and to pursuing constructive approaches to handling differences.

I value trustworthiness, mutual respect and reliability above all. We deal with people’s livelihoods, emotional well-being and careers. You need to be able to depend on us to put you first, and to protect your privacy and dignity.

EXPERIENCED LEADER

CLEAR COMMUNICATOR

TEAM BUILDER

FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE

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I believe in listening. I believe in clarity in communication. I believe important conversations should take place in the full light of day so that all effected parties are equally informed and involved. As your Vice President I would commit to expanding both formal and informal lines of consultation.

I believe effective and enduring policies and positions should be based on good solid data, which the government needs, and CAPE is well-positioned to provide.

As a CAPE leader, a public servant, a community member and a father I am concerned about the future, for my colleagues and for the generations to come. There will be ramifications to the significant debt the government has taken on to respond to the pandemic. There may be workforce adjustments, bankruptcies, dipping below the poverty line. CAPE may be called upon to do more for its members, like making financial advisors available to assist with the fallout.

I want to be in a position to ensure that CAPE is strong and stable, while adapting and responding to changing needs and circumstances.

In my spare time I coach three levels of amateur football. Coaching is my greatest passion. It has taught me the critical importance of leadership, vision and clear communication to achieving results. It has shown me how these things can transform lives for the better. Add teamwork and capacity-building and you have a powerful formula for success.

In the past few years we have worked as a team to improve the administrative and technological components of the organization. We have made in-roads into transforming the culture by honoring and learning from the past, but not dwelling in it. I want to make sure this future-focus is maintained. As NEC Vice President, I will commit to making this happen.

RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Career Overview

- 20+ years with Statistics Canada
- 20+ years active in CAPE
- Former Shop Steward with the Steelworkers of America

Leadership

- 2 years Director on the CAPE NEC
- Federal candidate for Liberal Party (2004)

Financial Accountability and Stewardship

- Business Administration and Information Systems
Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology
1998-2000

"In his two years as NEC Director, Camille has made a significant contribution to the harmony and productivity of the National Executive Committee. His experience, leadership, discipline and outreach to members have been invaluable to CAPE's progress. Camille's calm focus and his dedication to improvement and accountability make him ideally suited to the role of NEC Vice-President. Members can depend on him to ensure that their resources are well-managed and applied in a way that will most benefit them. I would find his collaboration and support of critical importance in driving CAPE's continued progress."

Greg Phillips, President of CAPE

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?
SEND ME AN EMAIL:
camilleawada.CAPE@hotmail.com

FIND OUT MORE on LinkedIn
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/camille-awada-27b6b87b/>