

Biography: Elizabeth Venditti

Having been a federal public servant and EC CAPE member for nearly nine years, I am quite fed up with the direction that CAPE has taken in the last few years. Therefore, I decided it was time to run as an EC NEC Director so that I can take on a more active interest, role and voice in CAPE affairs.

My substantive is currently at the Public Health Agency of Canada but I have also worked at a number of other departments such as Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada and Natural Resources Canada to name a few. I have held various roles in research, analysis, writing, policy and earlier on in my career in administrative services.

I hold an Honours Bachelor of Social Sciences, Specialization in Sociology (2007-2009) and Three-year General Bachelor of Social Sciences, Minor in Sociology (2004-2007) both from the University of Ottawa. I also hold a Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education from Lakehead University (2016-2017). Lastly, I am pursuing a Master of Public Health, Specialization in Indigenous and Northern Health at Lakehead University with an expected completion by Summer 2018.

I am also actively involved in the community where I have taken on a number of volunteer roles with various organizations. I carry out volunteer research and analysis for an immigration lawyer (2014 to present) to support case submissions to the Immigration and Refugee Board. I have also raised awareness to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, met with elected officials and wrote a petition that was tabled into the Legislative Assembly of Ontario (in 2015) to bring change to the professional regulations that currently limit oral and maxillofacial surgeons in Ontario from ordering MRIs for their patients outside of the hospital setting. Currently, Ontario is the only province within Canada that does not allow oral and maxillofacial surgeons to order MRIs; all the other provinces and territories allow these surgeons to order MRIs for their patients outside of the hospital setting. My work also raised media awareness with an article in the Ottawa Citizen in 2015 as well as recognition from within the profession. In early 2016, I also volunteered with the Catholic Centre for Immigrants to assist with the children's programming for the refugees staying in the Ottawa hotels where I interacted and led activities to teach basic English language to the refugee children. Further to that, I also initiated and established collaboration with an Algonquin College - School of Health & Community Studies instructor where the dental hygiene students presented and facilitated a workshop on maintaining good oral health to the immigrant and refugee population through the Catholic Centre for Immigrants.

I am a member of the Health Canada/Public Health Agency of Canada Local 512 executive (2015 to present) and also a steward. As well, I am a member of the Workplace Health and Wellness NEC Sub-Committee and the Local Leadership Council. Previously, I was also Secretary for the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Local 522 executive in 2016. If elected as an EC NEC Director, I will regularly attend NEC meetings and annual general meetings and actively perform duties as assigned. I am a passionate, dedicated hard worker who follows through on work and is accountable.

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