



My name is Woody Brown and I am running for an EC Director position on the CAPE National Executive Committee. Below is a little bit of information about me and why I want to represent you on the NEC.

I am originally from the small town of Stettler, Alberta but I now call Toronto home. I work as an EC Paralegal with the Veterans Affairs Canada/ESDC Legal Services Unit and before that I was a Legal Assistant at the Toronto DOJ. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a double major in Economics & Political Science and completed a Post-Graduate Paralegal Certificate right before joining the federal public service. As such, I want to bring my legal knowledge and expertise to the NEC, as I am already doing on your EC Collective Bargaining Committee right now.

Furthermore, as a proud member of the LGBTQ2S+ Community, I have long been an advocate for more inclusive and barrier-free workplaces. We have seen in the news (and frequently in legal services) how our employer is still struggling to overcome conscious/unconscious biases in the workplace and the resulting discrimination. As your Steward for Local #102 and a founding member of the Department of Justice LGBTQ2S+ Advisory Committee, I strive to be fearless in doing what is right for CAPE members and asserting our hard-won rights under your collective agreement.

I am asking you to put your faith in me— a respected legal professional, a proud Canadian with roots from coast to coast, and a collaborative team player so together we can bring new energy and a fresh perspective to the NEC. As one of the big public sector unions, CAPE must do more community engagement, CAPE must be more vocal in the media and CAPE must lend its support to progressive causes across the country. Your NEC leadership (myself included, should I be given the awesome responsibility of representing you) ought to be *making* the headlines by fighting hard for your rights instead of reading about what PSAC and CUPE are doing.

With vaccinations on the uptick and restrictions loosening across Canada, COVID can no longer be an excuse for inaction. The challenges we are now facing cannot be taken laying down. Our union brothers and sisters are looking for proven, strong leadership on the NEC and that is what I am offering. Thank you for reading, and I hope I can count on your support for the role of EC Director on the National Executive Committee. Win or lose, I still look forward to hearing from you as we enter this next round of collective bargaining.