I would like to present my candidacy for the Administrator position within the National Executive Council of the Canadian Association of Professional Employees. I have a variety of experiences that led me to employment within the public service, and I am always looking for ways to make myself useful to my colleagues and the country. I believe that participation within our Union will allow me to learn, to improve and to advance my career, but I believe that the most important thing will be the opportunity to contribute to something that is bigger than myself.

I am originally from the city and suburbs of Toronto, but I have expanded will beyond the borders not only of that city but of the province and the entire country. I studied cinematography in the Niagara region and Montreal, and then law in Montreal, Ottawa and even James Bay and China. I worked as a volunteer in South America, Europe, India and Japan, but I finally decided to establish myself in the Ottawa area. Around my studies, which led me to publish a Master's thesis in law, I worked in Social Pediatrics at the Dr. Julien Foundation with Hélène (Sioui) Trudel, at the Public Law Research Center at the University of Montreal with Karim Benyekhlef and as Program Director at the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center in Los Angeles. Throughout these experiences, I learned and regularly spoke not only French, but Spanish and Japanese.

I appreciated very much all of my experiences, and I have continued to deepen my investment in questions concerning Indigenous Peoples in Canada. My Master's discussed the contemporary application of traditional intercultural forms of mediation originating with the Haudenosaunee or the Iroquois Six Nations, and I was able to apply these studies concretely within the above-mentioned professional work. As destiny would have it, I began working ultimately with Deloitte, during and following the global pandemic, assisting in the administration of compensation for former students of Indian Day Schools. That work inevitably shook me to my core as I gained an intimate appreciation of the indigenous experience in Canada while reading thousands of descriptions touching on not only day schools but survivors' entire lives. A further twist in my destiny saw that work indirectly reveal the opportunity to enter the public service directly into a professional capacity. My very first role within Indigenous Services Canada, supporting at discussion tables, is allowing me to contribute to the creation of a new and positive future for Indigenous children and families throughout the country.

Since I started in this work, I believe that I have been successful in finding multiple ways to make myself useful. When the opportunity to be part of CAPE presented itself, I asked the opinion of a large group of my colleagues and my General Director suggested that it could be useful to establish a good relationship with CAPE. Another colleague mentioned, correctly I think, that it would be an opportunity to take up the important role of ally with vulnerable communities including Indigenous women, people of colour and disabled people. These notable reasons pushed me through any period of doubt and helped me decide to advance with my candidacy.

As concerns myself personally, I will bring to the National Executive Council an open mind and a desire to learn and contribute. Similarly to my motivations for having taken a job within the public service itself, I want to be part of something larger than myself and feel like I can contribute to positive evolution within my country and for its citizens. There is no better way to contribute to one's department and to the entire instituation than to be part of efforts to organize employees, defend their interests and engage actively with the employer.

To conclude, I am very glad to have had the opportunity to share with you some of my experiences in life, and I hope that you will agree that this description demonstrates that I will be a positive addition to the National Executive Council of Canadian Association of Professional Employees. I have worked hard throughout studies and professional work and that has led me to an important position within the Government of Canada. I have considered globally the required engagement and the potential benefits of my participation and I decided definitively that it will be a good thing for everyone concerned that I give my energy to this opportunity.

Thank you very much, Sean C Dwyer

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