

Atlantic Regional Council
Wednesday, May 14th, 2025
9:00 a.m. ADT
Virtual meeting

MINUTES

Present: Nate Prier (CAPE President), Alain Poirier (PEI), Rock Racine (NB), Joshua Fleming (NL), Sophia Nicole Ir (NB), Chris Di Liberatore (Regional Executive Vice-President, Atlantic, PSAC), John Woolaver (NS).

Staff: Julie Courty (Local Liaison Officer), Natalina Conner (Executive Assistant to the President & Secretary to the National Executive Committee), Yousef Radwan (Labour Relations Officer), Eric Beaulne (Labour Relations Officer), Daniel Thériault (Organizer), Fanta Dixon (Administrative Assistant).

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks

The Atlantic Regional Council meeting was officially called to order at 9:10 ADT.

**At this time, CAPE's Statement on Anti-Harassment was read aloud, followed by a round of introductions.*

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was amended to include the topic "Reorganization of the Local section model" in the Open Discussions section.

The May 14, 2025, Atlantic Regional Council amended agenda was adopted unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

The April 10, 2024, Atlantic Regional Council minutes were amended to correct a typo in item 2. Approval of Agenda:

The ~~June~~ **April** 10, 2024, Atlantic Regional Council agenda was adopted unanimously as presented.

The April 10, 2024, Atlantic Regional Council amended minutes were adopted.

4. Presentation on the Stop the Cuts campaign

The National President provided an overview of the strategic responses under development by the National office to address the current political context, including ongoing Workforce Adjustment situations. This update was followed by a presentation on the Stop the Cuts campaign and an open forum for discussion.

HEALTH BREAK (10:33 AT – 10:50 AT)

Chris Di Liberatore, Regional Executive Vice-President, Atlantic at the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), joined the meeting at this time.

5. Open Discussion

Discussions focused on how CAPE could best protect the Atlantic members, covering topics such as Codes of Conduct, Remote Work, Artificial Intelligence, and the Reorganization of the Local section model.

LUNCH BREAK (12:00 AT – 13:05 AT)

6. Open Bargaining

The National President shared a presentation on CAPE's approach to Open Bargaining, covering the basics, the tools and components, and the general Open Bargaining process. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

7. LRO Regional Statistics

There is a total of 536 members across the four locals in the ARC. Of these members, 478 are EC and approximately 50 are part of the RCMP classification. Over the past twelve months, 22 new cases have been opened, a decrease from the 31 cases reported in the

previous period. It is important to note that although there is a decrease in the number of files, the complexity of these files has increased. The top trending topics are the Duty to Accommodate and Phoenix.

8. Organizing

Update on the Return to Office (RTO) Campaign: the RTO campaign launched in May 2025. 12 new Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) were formed, primarily within departments, and in the regions. The RTO petitions performed much better in departments and regions with LOCs than in those with no LOCs.

Next Campaign: the next campaign, a structure test will take place from May to September 2025. The goal of this structure test is to build structure for bargaining.

Overview of the Organizing Model: the organizing model is structure-based (coordination among members in a structure). The key points include reaching and engaging inactive members, building unity around a common cause, mapping areas of power and vulnerability, defining a clear path to the goal, and launching systematic escalation with careful testing.

9. National Executive Committee (NEC) and National Office Update

The National office has been increasing staffing levels, particularly in preparation for Open Bargaining.

The implementation of Action Network, the organizing platform, is ongoing. The current phase involves rolling it out to medium-sized locals, which will be followed by a full rollout to all locals throughout the summer.

The National office will soon contact Locals to schedule Introduction to Open Bargaining sessions and Stop the Cuts sessions.

The National office is currently exploring the possibility of sharing office space with another union to reduce costs. This is an option under review, and no decision has been made.

The NEC is considering a general proposal for a Delegated Convention to allow delegates to have more elaborate discussions on policy and the Union's future direction.

The NEC is preparing to introduce a resolution for membership dues increase.

10. Roundtable

Council members exchanged perspectives on subjects previously discussed in the meeting and reviewed standing items, along with issues requiring further action.

11. Next Meeting Date

The Council is aiming to schedule the Fall 2025 meeting in October and the Spring 2026 meeting in April. The ARC Chair and Co-Chair will confirm the final dates after a debrief session.

The Atlantic Regional Council meeting adjourned at 15:03 ADT.