

Union of National Employees (UNE) Atlantic Human Rights Representative Report

Greetings,

I welcome you from the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq peoples in Nova Scotia. I am grateful for the contributions of the Indigenous communities and look forward to working towards the calls to action set out in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. I will note that part of that commitment is becoming engaged. One way to become engaged and gain understanding would be to visit an excellent resource called the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation at the following website: <https://nctr.ca/about/history-of-the-trc/trc-website/>

I was elected as the Human Rights Representative for the Atlantic Region at the UNE Triennial Conference in Fall 2021. The 2021-2022 year has been filled with many events such as the PSAC Equity Conference, Atlantic Union School, attending a couple of UNE Human Rights Committee meetings, subcommittee meeting, speaking with members, and visiting many local annual general meetings to meet and understand the successes and challenges faced by the local membership.

As a member of the Human Rights Committee, it is a busy year given we are hosting the Human Rights Conference in Fall 2022 in Ottawa, Ontario. I have been a part of the planning and look forward to continuing to build an excellent conference. The Human Rights Committee has taken the initiative to create two subcommittees to focus on specific matters of Indigenous Realities and Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Racism. I am a member of the Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Racism subcommittee, and we are in the beginning stages of finding the right tools to assist the membership at large when facing these issues or representing members.

The 2021-2022 year has been relatively short but incredibly meaningful to engage with the committees and membership to strive towards positive change. Thank you for your support and I will continue to work for you. I look forward to the UNE training for Human Rights Representatives and meeting as many members as possible.

In solidarity,

Cherise Hart