



national
union

**Correctional Officer
and Youth Facility Worker
Representatives
Conference Call**

June 2, 2020

The National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) is a family of 11 Component and 3 affiliate unions. Taken together, we are one of the largest unions in Canada. Most of our 390,000 members work to deliver public services of every kind to the citizens of their home provinces. We also have a large and growing number of members who work for private businesses.

Larry Brown, President

Bert Blundon, Secretary-Treasurer

**Correctional Officer and Youth Facility Worker Representatives
Conference Call
June 2, 2020
1:00 pm Eastern Time**

PARTICIPANTS

BCGEU/NUPGE

Dean Purdy

SGEU/NUPGE

Barry Nowoselsky
Glen Billingsley

MGEU/NUPGE

Chris Drosdoski

OPSEU/NUPGE

Chris Jackel
Mike Fallon
Ryan Graham
Jonathan Guider
Joscelyn Ross
Sandra Harper

NSGEU/NUPE

Rick Wiseman

NUPGE

Bert Blundon, Secretary-Treasurer
Len Bush, Managing Director (Office of the President)
Michael Temelini, National Representative
Nadia Ibrahim, National Representative

1. Welcome and Introductions

Michael Temelini, NUPGE National Representative, welcomed participants to the meeting. Past meeting notes and other relevant documents are shared via the meeting [webpage](#).

2. Updates from Components

What follows is a summary of the general updates from Components:

NGSEU/NUPGE

- Counts lowered at institutions and inmates moved to being housed at 2 institutions
- One case in an institution, but there was no contact. The person was asymptomatic when tested, but tested regardless. No additional exposure
- Otherwise, things are okay
- One facility was operating at reduced staffing: union is pushing to fill those spots again

SGEU/NUPGE

- No cases among inmates or staff in either adult or youth
- The Ministry has been fairly responsive to concerns
- A “big win”: grievance finalized as of Friday—When employees are sent home to self-isolate, they will receive regular pay, no longer using sick leave. This will be in writing in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in the next few days.

OPSEU /NUPGE

Adult:

- Some cases here and there. OCI outbreak is mostly resolved
- Government has announced testing of all essential workers. Mobile testing units come to larger facilities. At smaller institutions, internal health care staff conducting tests.
- Concerns around the Ministry following reopening pattern, but been advised that the employer will continue protocols for now.

- Under OHS Act, workers are obligated to advise local committees of health and safety issues, but there are issues.
- MOA signed: OPSEU signed a Memorandum of Agreement on a protocol for reporting occupational cases of COVID-19 in the Correctional Bargaining Unit. MOA clearly outlines the obligation if someone tests positive they will follow certain steps, advise committees, etc.
- Ontario Government has begun voluntary COVID-19 testing at all correctional institutions. An MOA accompanies this with, 'any staff testing positive will be paid during their 14 days isolation period'.

Youth:

- Same as adult. No active cases since March
- Testing: employees have been going for testing on their own. Mobile testing expected at institutions next week

MGEU/NUPGE

- Inmate counts are below average, especially in youth. As restrictions lift (Phase 2 underway), counts are likely to go up
- Some violent incidents of inmates not wanting to wear masks
- 5 youth escaped at Agassiz and assaulted an officer, but were brought back by RCMP
- Fogger being used on gowns and people: MGEU approached health and safety branch with the province and they have issued an improvement order to employer

BCGEU/NUPGE

- No cases since the one in March
- Inmates are getting checked and put in isolation units if tested
- Counts are down about 30%, especially low in youth
- Pandemic pay announced: \$4 an hour for 16 weeks

Discussion about union offices opening:

- OPSEU: nothing in Ontario yet. It will depend on restrictions
- PEI UPSE and NBU are reopening. NAPE is reopening June 8 by appointment only
- NUPGE is compiling a document with Component's reopening plans

3. Next Steps

Please send any documents that were mentioned during the call or other resources worth sharing to Michael and they will be shared via the meeting webpage.

NUPGE will circulate the notice for our next call in 3 weeks – possible meeting June 29 or 30.

DRAFT



NATIONAL UNION OF PUBLIC AND GENERAL EMPLOYEES

- B. C. Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU)
- Health Sciences Association of British Columbia (HSABC)
- Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA)
- Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union (SGEU)
- Manitoba Government and General Employees' Union (MGEU)
- Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU)
- Canadian Union of Brewery and General Workers (CUBGW)
- New Brunswick Union of Public and Private Employees (NBU)
- Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union (NSGEU)
- PEI Union of Public Sector Employees (PEI UPSE)
- Newfoundland & Labrador Association of Public and Private Employees (NAPE)

The National Union of Public and General Employees is an affiliate of the Canadian Labour Congress and a member of Public Services International.

■ 15 AURIGA DRIVE
NEPEAN, ONTARIO
CANADA / K2E 1B7

■ [613] 228-9800
FAX [613] 228-9801

■ www.nupge.ca

■ national@nupge.ca

