

We Must Act
for an
Environmentally
Sustainable
Future

**The Public Sector Will Be
Part of the Solution**

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

The Public Sector Will Be Part of the Solution

The growth of the public sector was a response from governments to the demands of people who organized to address a societal problem. The public provision of health care and of social and community services came about because people came together and fought for them. It was realized that our collective response was stronger and more effective than individual and isolated efforts.

Yet, the public sector has always been about more than just responding to social problems. It is also about taking important social functions outside of the realm of the profit system. It is about recognizing the intrinsic value of people—all people.

While never perfect or complete, the existence of public services is also about supporting and shielding our society's most vulnerable from the rapacious nature of our economy. At a fundamental level, public services, and the people who provide them, help facilitate the human connections that our society depends on.

For these very reasons, the public sector will be part of the answer to addressing the environmental crises that confront us today.

Necessary solutions will include

- Public transit
- Emissions testing and inspections for vehicles and industry
- Public research into green solutions
- Conversion to green industry
- Education and training for the new green economy—and
- MORE!

Most fundamental will be the transition to new ways of living and interacting, to valuing the planet and each other, and to relating equitably with all beings—human and non-human.



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.

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