

National Council 2011

APS delegates converged on Toronto for the October 21, 2011 week-end to participate in the important National Council Meeting of the Association with Members coming from all regions of the country. The National Council serves as an instrument of orientation for APS while allowing us to look back on activities and events which have marked the past twelve months. This week-end was divided in two parts: Saturday was dedicated to the National Council while Sunday covered two other national events: the Annual General Meeting of Members and a Meeting of the National Executive Committee.

All meetings took place at the Toronto Broadcast Center where Andy Libby APS local President acted as both as our host and meeting organizer. A resounding success on both counts for Andy who was reelected once more to manage the fates of our local section in the Queen City! Equally present to this meeting, Stéphane Desautels was also reelected as President of our local section in Montreal. In fact, besides Montreal and Toronto, another APS local section had elections this year: in Ottawa, Luc Lajoie was elected by acclamation. Unfortunately, Luc could not be present having been held back at home by a last minute emergency. Congratulations to these three Presidents and their respective teams!

Saturday, October 22

Saturday went by pretty briskly in spite of a quite busy agenda. Managed in a masterly fashion by our National President, Mario Poudrier, the agenda listed amongst other matters a round of reports from some fifteen representatives across the country where each person responsible for our organization reported on the activities and the preoccupations of our Members at the local level. Those responsible for the different National Committees of which APS is part also presented their reports. Presentations were made, in that order, by Hervé Lamarre our National Treasurer, Sylvie Létourneau and Nicolas Ouellette for the Employees Aid Program, Donald LeBlanc for the National Health and Security Committee. Then Emilio D'Orazio, our National Secretary, presented two different reports. With his usual witty eloquence, Emilio presented both the complex activities of the Committee on social benefits (CSSB) and the report on APS Membership. Emilio also temporarily filled in the function of APS President when Mario had to be away because of a major surgical operation. Then came the report of the General Manager, Claude

Beausoleil, followed by our President, Mario Poudrier, who disposed of the rest of the afternoon by summing up the thorny question of pay increases and explaining the introduction of a new National Server to better secure APS National and Local Executives communications. APS is having serious discussions with the Employer at the moment on the subject of pay increases even though Mario has informed the meeting that so far, nothing has changed in the Employer's attitude on this matter. Nevertheless, he has urged Members to continue their collaboration as to the work objectives and to keep hoping we will reach a new agreement in the next year.

Sunday, October 23

The Annual General Meeting of Members took place on Sunday, October 23 in the conference room on the third floor of the Broadcast Center in Toronto, where the APS National Council was held on the preceding day. APS functions by way of postal voting when it comes to votes concerning all members. Consequently, the main purpose of this Meeting is to unveil the votes which have reached the Head Office of the Association concerning questions submitted solely to APS voting Members. To obtain this status, any person included in APS's bargaining unit can fill in an application for membership. This year, two issues were submitted to Members: the renewal of external auditors and the acceptance of our Financial Statements. Both these propositions were accepted with an overwhelming majority. Yves Ledoux and Andy Libby acted as scrutineers for the ballot count.

After the Annual General Meeting, members present were invited to assist, as observers, to the meeting of the National Executive Committee which gathers together the decision-makers at APS. This Council is chaired by the National President, Mario Poudrier, who officiates with the other two nationally elected officers the National Secretary General, Emilio D'Orazio and the National Treasurer, Hervé Lamarre. The other members are the two Regional Representatives: Donald Leblanc and Michael Ho, respectively elected by Members from the West (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia) and from the East (The Maritime Provinces). Five other members complete the team: two representatives from Montreal and two from Toronto as well as the Ottawa President. The mandate of the General Manager, the insurance coverage for the Executive Committee and other appointed APS officers along with a few more subjects were discussed before all those participating in the Congress returned home. On the whole, a very busy week-end for all members involved in the future of their Association!