



REGIONAL SEMINARS

The scope and mandate of these Seminars are governed by Regulation 4 of the Agriculture Union's by-laws and regulations. Executive members in each region – Regional Vice-Presidents and Directors – are charged with organizing the seminars and determining content that best meets their Locals' issues and needs. This built-in flexibility ensures the maximum benefit for all concerned.

Each Local within a region selects its Seminar participants. While these men and women have the responsibility of ensuring their members' concerns are aired, they are also expected to share national and regional information on their return.

The Regional Seminars themselves are a combination of education, information-sharing and networking. Skills-building workshops and topical information is provided by educators and facilitators from the Agriculture Union, the Public Service Alliance and relevant outside organizations. The process is two-way, with Local representatives contributing the critical workplace perspective in open discussion.

Each Seminar also serves as an electoral body. The first round of Seminars after our National Convention elects regional representatives to the Agriculture Union's Equal Opportunities Committee.

And, as the PSAC is gearing up for another round of bargaining with Treasury Board, our union's delegates to the Alliance's Regional Bargaining Conferences are also chosen. Similarly, participants from our Canadian Food Inspection Agency Locals put forward two representatives per region for election to the CFIA national bargaining team.

As you can see, these Regional Seminars are more – much more – than a 'talk shop'. If you have a concern or issue that you feel deserves attention, now is the time to ensure your Local's representative to your Regional Seminar hears from you!

(May 2006)