

# THE LATEST BUZZ

NEWSLETTER - MOVEUP CONVENTION 2018

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

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MOVEMENT OF UNITED PROFESSIONALS

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Every Voice Makes Us Strong

## SATURDAY'S LINEUP



It's the final day of the 2018 Convention but you would hardly be able to tell based on what's still on the agenda.

We follow up yesterday's star-studded lineup with a strong start with an exciting video address from Jagmeet Singh, leader of Canada's NDP. Also scheduled to speak today is Nahanni Fontaine, the NDP MLA for St. Johns, Manitoba.

**Jagmeet Singh** was elected leader of the federal NDP in October 2017 and, as a result, became the first visible minority to lead a Canadian federal political party on a permanent basis. Prior to jumping on to the federal scene, Singh served as the Deputy Leader of the Ontario NDP while representing his constituents in the riding of Bramalea-Gore-Malton. Singh has also helped campaign for NDP candidates across the country including in B.C., Alberta, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia. Singh has announced he will be running in federal by-election in Burnaby-South in the seat vacated by Kennedy Stewart, the incoming mayor of Vancouver.



**Nahanni Fontaine** has been a leading activist working towards strengthening the voices of Indigenous women and girls. She is also a longtime advocate for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and was honoured with the Governor-General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case in 2013. Fontaine, who is Status Ojibway from the Sagkeeng Anishinaabe First Nation in southern Manitoba, has also been the proud recipient of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Doctoral Scholarship and the YMCA Women of Distinction Award. She was elected as an MLA in 2016.



Also on the slate today is the presentation of the Ardell Brophy award. Created by MoveUP's executive council in honour of former MoveUP executive board member turned union representative who passed away in 2015 after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis, the award is presented to a MoveUP job steward who demonstrates fierce dedication and commitment to our union, and who provides mentorship to new union activists.



**Ardell Brophy**

Past recipients of the award are Lori Watt (2011), Stephen Von Sychowski (2012), Karin Cirez (2013), Laurie Kirk (2014), Joyce Galuska (2015), Heather Christie (2016), and Linda Kemp (2017).

**Vice-President election results will also be made available today.**

### CONTINUING A LEGACY 2018 ARDELL BROPHY AWARD

Since the creation of the Ardell Brophy Award by MoveUP's executive council in 2010, the award has provided our union with an opportunity to learn about the work that so many activists in our union have done not only for their colleagues in their workplace, but for their communities at-large as well.

The award's namesake – the late Ardell Brophy – would have been proud of all those who have been honoured by the award that bears her name.

**This year's recipient – Cenen Bagon – is no exception.**

Although Cenen is now enjoying retirement life, for decades she was a dedicated job steward and executive councillor. What made Cenen's dedication to our union even more noteworthy was that she did so during a period of much instability being part of transfers at Westech and eventually



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## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS - FRIDAY



## MAKE DEMOCRACY BETTER

Yesterday, MoveUP delegates had the opportunity to hear from a star-studded lineup of speakers including two in particular – VDLC President Stephen Von Sychowski and B.C. Premier John Horgan – who spoke about the importance of voting in the electoral referendum and supporting proportional representation.

For those who have received their mail-in ballot and have already voted in support of Pro Rep, we thank you for doing your part to help strengthen our democracy and make it fair. The concept of 40 per cent of the vote equaling 40 per cent of the seats should not be just a tagline. It is how our system should be.

If you have not yet voted, we urge you to do so quickly. Elections BC must receive your ballot by 4:30 p.m. on November 30. If you have voted, you can still help by educating friends, family, and neighbours. Visit [VOTEPRBC.ca](http://VOTEPRBC.ca) to learn more the referendum and about the three options we can vote on.





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## Continuing a Legacy – 2018 Ardell Brophy Award

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to Accenture. Through it all, Cenen worked tirelessly to promote our union to her co-workers and could always be counted on to support her fellow members and work on their behalf.

Her colleagues were not the only benefactors of Cenen’s dedication to serve others. Cenen has been an inspiration in her work in the community and even now, in retirement, she continues to volunteer for organizations such as the Vancouver Committee for Domestic Workers & Caregivers Rights.

Cenen has been a champion for those who need protection, and many here at Convention may recall some of her passionate speeches at past executive council meetings where she would promote the causes that were near and dear to her, in particular those around immigrant rights.

MoveUP is proud to award Cenen with this year’s Ardell Brophy Award which recognizes MoveUP stewards who demonstrate fierce dedication

and commitment to our union, and who provide mentorship to new union activists.

Before her passing in 2015, Ardell was also fervent in her dedication to her community and has been honoured numerous times for her contributions including by the City of Burnaby and the Government of Canada.

Cenen is the eighth recipient of the annual award joining: Lori Watt (2011), Stephen Von Sychowski (2012), Karin Cirez (2013), Laurie Kirk (2014), Joyce Galuska (2015), Heather Christie (2016), and Linda Kemp (2017).



## STOP THE BLOOD BAN

Thank you Premier John Horgan for supporting our campaign to Stop The Blood Ban that discriminates against gay & bisexual men, and transgender women.

#MoveUP2018 #EveryVoice2018



Sign the petition to tell Canadian Blood Services to end the discriminatory blood ban:

[www.moveuptogether.ca/the-latest/stop-the-blood-ban-sign-the-petition](http://www.moveuptogether.ca/the-latest/stop-the-blood-ban-sign-the-petition)

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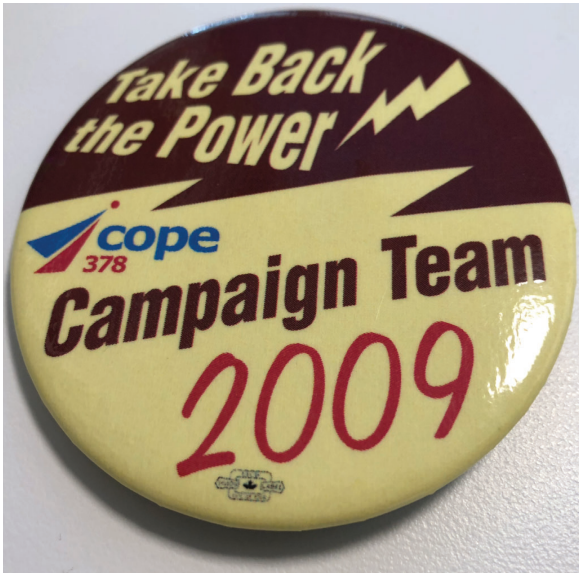
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## LOOKING BACK AT TAKE BACK THE POWER

As Convention 2018 draws to a close and, appropriately, we offer our salute to outgoing vice-president Gwenne Farrell, we would be remiss not to look back at the campaign that was one of Gwenne’s defining moments of our union.

Take Back The Power was, and still is, the biggest campaign ever undertaken by MoveUP. At a time when Gordon Campbell’s BC Liberal government was like a kid in a candy store on their privatization spree, then-COPE 378 combatted the forces head on with a major province-wide campaign aimed at educating the government’s plan to turn rivers over to private power producers, as well as show how the government’s energy plan meant buying more power than they needed, buying high and selling low, and eventually this would be hitting ratepayers in the pocket books.



This was a major campaign that was intended to reach out to a huge part of British Columbia’s population covering many demographics. From townhalls to concerts to public rallies and appearances featuring union executives, celebrities and, yes, even a mascot – Mega Watt – Take Back The Power had had just about everything you could think of and more when it ran from 2007 to 2009.

The campaign was so impactful that it actually forced the BC Liberal government of the day to put a moratorium on energy purchase agreements. The drive towards privatization at BC Hydro, of course, had a direct impact on MoveUP members working there as well. That came in the form of a secret contract that the then-government inked with multinational corporate giant Accenture, that would involve a significant portion of the union’s membership being transferred over.

It’s almost fitting that it was this year, Gwenne’s final one with our union before retirement, that the MoveUP members that were switched over to Accenture would finally be repatriated back to BC Hydro.

It’s been nearly a decade now since that unforgettable campaign but the fight against the privatization of power – power that belongs to the people of

British Columbia – wages on. After seeing the devastating effects that privatization has had on the ratepayers in provinces like Alberta and Ontario, MoveUP remains ever committed to keeping public power public.

We hope there won’t be a need for Take Back The Power Part II. But if there is, we’ll be ready.

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### SOCIAL MEDIA TAGS

#MoveUP2018 #EveryVoice2018



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