

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION –First Nations Advocate**

### **ROLE:**

The First Nations Advocate will:

- engage and work with First Nations members across all sectors of the union;
- build advocacy about issues which affect First Nations members and students;
- assist the Branch leadership on policy matters affecting First Nations members and students;
- support the functions of the organising team, including supporting organisers in their engagement of First Nations members.
- work with other AEU branches in the interests of First Nations members.

A key aspect of the role is to build relationships with and between First Nations members in a respectful, culturally safe, and appropriate way.

Central to the role is to establish and build connection and communication between First Nations members and their union, identify and develop activists, build union structures, recruit new members, and encourage involvement in union campaigns in order to implement the goals of the AEU articulated through the organisation's Strategic Plan. The First Nations Organiser works across educational, professional, industrial, and political matters, including with external stakeholders, to promote needs of First Nations peoples in public education in the ACT.

### **REPORTS TO:**

Branch President and Branch Secretary in consultation with Yalukit Yulendj ACT Representatives

### **DUTIES:**

- To support the work of achieving key union strategies and actions in relation to building relationships and networks between First Nations members, and between members and the union by:
  - analysing membership information
  - developing an organising/action plan
  - activating and supporting union structures and forums at the Branch, regional, or network levels, including the First Nations Member Committee
  - supporting the development of activists and member leaders.
- To provide information, analysis, advice, and support to AEU staff, union committees and decision making bodies including Branch Executive, as required, and consistent with relevant AEU policies.
- To assist with union publications, including the preparation of posts and articles relevant to First Nations members and public education, and other related issues.
- To support the development of relevant policy and approaches to enable advocacy to improve professional, industrial, and political outcomes for First Nations members.
- To support the union's advocacy on matters related to First Nations education.
- To attend relevant state and national meetings as directed.

- To recruit and retain First Nations members across all sectors of public education.
- To support the union's industrial and public education campaigns when necessary.
- To assist with union communications, including social media, as required.
- To undertake other duties as required by the Branch Secretary.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- Understanding of the issues that impact on the union's First Nations members.
- Demonstrated experience in working with First Nations peoples to build relationships and connections.
- Ability to show initiative and demonstrate high level organisational skills including being able to work to deadlines, prioritise work, and manage multiple matters concurrently.
- Ability to build and maintain effective professional relationships with key stakeholders including working as part of a team.
- Sound verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills, including the ability to:
  - communicate with a diverse audience
  - communicate complex matters clearly, objectively, and calmly
  - organise and recruit over the phone, online, and in person
  - write clear, accurate and concise documents.
- Demonstrated commitment to unionism.
- Understanding of and commitment to public education. Current ACT Drivers Licence is desirable. Further support in obtaining this would be available.