



Public Service Matters



Produced by Communications PEI for the information of provincial government employees.

Celebrating Public Service Week – June 16 to 20th



Andrew Thompson with Karen Fraser, Labour Relations Consultant and HR Manager

In the past three decades that Andrew Thompson has worked as a public servant, one thing has stayed constant – it has always been about the people. Thompson, who started as a relief worker at an adolescent group home and worked his way up the ranks to become CEO of the PEI Public Service Commission, has learned that maintaining effective relationships is critical.

One of the times in his career he appreciated those relationships was when his two sons were hospitalized at the IWK in Halifax – his youngest, for many months.

It was the support of his colleagues and supervisors that helped him and his family get through that difficult time.

“The province has been and continues to be a great employer,” Thompson said.

One of the keys to his job now is to help maintain and continue to build a professional competent public service to serve the Island Community, by investing in people through continuous learning.

When asked about combating the negativity that sometimes surrounds a bureaucracy, he suggested that we need to focus on one positive interaction with a client and one service point at a time.

“We interact with members of the public or serve clients who are often dealing with very challenging issues and our employees are the ones who are able make a positive difference,” he explained.

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A recent example of how government services are improving is the province's web renewal project in which the provincial government website will be transformed into a client-centred web and mobile service platform that connects Islanders and businesses to trusted information and convenient online service.

"We have a responsibility to make sure we are a modernized workplace that meets the needs of Islanders," he said.

Thompson noted that, "Another key to success is recognizing that motivation comes from people being engaged in meaningful work, receiving recognition for that work and feeling included in what is happening in the workplace." Along those lines, the Premier recently handed out long term service awards at the Rodd Royalty last week to 124 dedicated civil servants.

"The folks who commit and dedicate themselves to serving the island community are usually going above and beyond to help," he said. "People at all levels throughout the service play an important role."

A message from Premier Robert Ghiz



Each and every day, I see the difference provincial government employees make in the lives of Islanders.

I'm often told how much your professionalism and your willingness to go that extra mile means to those you encounter, although I am never surprised. In my years as Premier, I have witnessed first-hand just how much enthusiasm you bring to the workplace.

Your hard work and dedication is much appreciated.

During Public Service Week, enjoy the activities and thanks for all you do for our province.

Premier Robert Ghiz

Public Service Week in Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island will celebrate its 22nd annual public service celebration for employees during Public Service Week, June 16th - 20th.

This is an opportunity to recognize the contributions that public service employees make in delivering quality services and programs.

The Public Service Week planning committee is busy organizing events and activities to take place in various communities throughout the province such as barbeques, performances, awards ceremonies and zumba classes.

Many Island businesses are expressing their gratitude to the public servants with generous donations of prizes to support these week-long activities.

Public service employees are encouraged to participate in the various events in their regions throughout the week.

Please visit <http://www.gov.pe.ca/psweek2010/> for a schedule of activities.

Provincial Public Service at a glance

Civil Service

2,037 full-time employees

407 part-time employees

Health PEI

3,794 full-time employees

School Boards

2,520 full-time employees

Public Service Matters is produced by Communications PEI for the information of provincial government employees. Please submit your suggestions to Beth Johnston at 620-3144 or bjohnston@gov.pe.ca