

RESCON's new VP has homecoming

By Aonghus Kealy / RESCON

For Andrew Pariser, his new job as vice-president of RESCON is somewhat of a homecoming.

The native of Ingersoll, Ont., thrived as an intern with the association during a year-long placement, according to Richard Lyall, RESCON president, and went on to gain valuable experience with the Ministry of Labour as a senior mediator.

The redhead rose quickly through the ranks of the Ministry, starting as the very first intern for the mediator internship program of the dispute resolution services division and moving up to become "specialist in negotiations and strategy review."

At the ministry, Pariser specialized in construction and education, but he also provided mediation assistance in the manufacturing, transportation, social services, development services, and other sectors. "Everything from daycares to casketmakers to the Beer Store, children's aid services, ambulance drivers, municipalities, library workers, transit files, education," Pariser says.

Even with his rounded experience, RESCON was always in the back of his mind as a potential future employer. Lyall says Pariser's professionalism, knowledge and attitude impressed him.

"We knew during his time with us that he was a very capable guy. With the experience he has gained since leaving RESCON, he has honed and acquired all of the skills needed in collective bargaining and other executive duties," Lyall said. "And he's a hell of a storyteller too. We're thrilled to have him on."

Pariser said the experience and lessons he gained from the RESCON internship were "invaluable." "I'm excited to return back to RESCON. It's very refreshing to be part of such a dynamic and fastmoving organization that's able to produce excellent results."

Lyall, former vice-president Jason Ottey, and JRCA board chair Phil Rubinoff were among his mentors during his first stint with RESCON. He adds that all of the chairs and board members at the organization "are second to none."

While residential construction is one of Pariser's passions, he is also a big fan of the NFL and Major League Baseball. Graduating from Queen's University in Kingston with a Masters in Industrial Relations in 2007 Pariser is also a former Ontario University Athletics champion in water polo for Queen's. He married his wife, Aileen, in August of 2013 and they enjoy life in midtown Toronto.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to come back. Drawing upon my labour relations experience, I want to work hard and be part of the team. I recognize the high level of excellence that comes out of RESCON and I want to see that continue in the future."