



Important Dates

Sat April 6, 2019 12:00pm	Rally for Education at Queen's Park, Toronto at Noon. Click Here for the Flyer Or go to cupe997.ca for more info
Sat May 4, 2019 Start time 10:00am	General Membership meeting Lindsay Adult Alternative Education Centre 230 Angeline Street South Lindsay.
Tues. May 7, 2019 4:30 to 7:30pm	Retirement Workshop Muskoka Education Centre 1271 Cedar Ln. Bracebridge Click Here for the Flyer Or go to cupe997.ca for more info

P.C. Government Tracker

The Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) is maintaining a website that is tracking announcements made by the PC Government. If you are interested to see a timeline please click the link below:

<http://ofl.ca/power-of-many-ford-tracker-pc-cuts-and-privatization-to-date/>

New Retirement Workshop – May 7, 2019

Due to a weather cancelation OTIP has rescheduled our Bracebridge Retirement Workshop. It will be held at the Muskoka Education Centre on Tuesday May 7, 2019. Pre-registration is required at <https://www.otip.com/events>

Bargaining Climate – Spring 2019

As you are aware, our Collective Agreements expires August 31, 2019. Our local planning is well underway and in the coming weeks and months you will continue to see new information sharing and requests for assistance as we move closer to actual bargaining.

No round of bargaining is easy but this round of bargaining is looking like it will be particularly challenging however **together** we can and will succeed. The key is that we all work together towards our common goal of a fair Collective Agreement that respects the work and working conditions of all CUPE 997 members.

You will have noticed a number of recent funding announcements made by the Ford Government. Many of these announcements have included cuts to Education and specifically cuts to students and their education opportunities. We know that when this happens our jobs are always affected. This is why we need to support one another throughout this process.

Let's Do This Together

What can you do?

There will be many things that our Members can do to support bargaining and let the Ford Government that we value Quality Public Education.

CUPE and other Education Partners have organized a mass rally for Education at Queen's Park for Saturday April 6 starting at Noon.



ETFO, OSSTF and CUPE have organized coach buses to take us to attend the Rally for Education however you must register by end of day on Wednesday March 27 at: <https://bit.ly/2FASYOq>

For members who live in the Peterborough area there is a bus that has been organized specifically for CUPE members. Please register at: <https://cupe.on.ca/stopeducationcutsrally/>

Please join us and Stand Up For Public Education



SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

We have 70% of our members on our mailing list, Are You?

Visit our web site – www.cupe997.ca – Pull Down Menu “Sign Up For Updates” and complete the Sign-Up” form OR send an email to ebulletin@cupe997.ca with your personal email address (not @tlds.on.ca) along with your name and worksite. This is an easy way to keep informed on important issues that affect you!

Long Term Disability (LTD)

There have been some updates to the LTD issue since early February. It was previously shared that CUPE Ontario (OSBCU) issued a Request for Proposal to seek partners wanting to work with Education Workers across the province to offer sustainable LTD plans. There were 3 companies that submitted proposals. The winning bidder was Great West Life (GWL) who offered a 5% reduction to our LTD costs to start for September 2019 along with a commitment to have no increases for 2 years. Trillium Lakelands DSB owns our LTD plan and will very shortly be deciding to either move to GWL or stay with OTIP for our LTD plan.

We know that a 5% reduction was not what our members wanted so with an eye to further reduce costs for our members we have engaged the TLDSB seek costing from both GWL and OTIP on specific reductions in the benefit levels currently provided by the LTD plan. No changes to the benefit levels of the plan are planned without the agreement of the membership and if plan changes were agreed to, anyone currently on LTD benefits would not be affected.

We will continue to share information as it becomes available.

Wear Red For Education



TLDSB Local Union Leadership wearing Red for Education.

We encourage CUPE members to support ETFO and Education by wearing Red on Fridays.

Take a picture and send it to president@cupe997.ca



What should be done about the epidemic of violence in elementary school classrooms?

Listen to the CBC’s The Sunday Edition from March 24 by clicking the link below

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1463276611829/>

CUPE 997 STUDENT BURSARIES

(Deadline for applications April 15, 2019)

Attention 997 Members who have a son/daughter (dependent) who will be attending College/University in the Fall of 2019.

[Application forms and further details are available on our web by clicking here](#) or by visiting our website at www.cupe997.ca > Resources > Student Bursary.

The random draw will take place at the May Regular General Meeting.



How to Save Money on Your Home and Auto Insurance

It’s important to have enough coverage on your home and auto policies so you can get back to where you started in the event of a total loss – but that doesn’t mean you should be paying more than you have to. There are a number of factors that can reduce the cost of your insurance, some of which could save you hundreds of dollars.

Visit www.otipinsurance.com/article37 to discover home and auto insurance savings and discount options that you may be eligible for.