

OSBCU and members' rights

OSBCU will always stand with CUPE members. We are as concerned as ever about our members' rights, but we must also take into consideration that, when it comes to COVID in schools, it is education workers who are at greatest risk and therefore we will support all measures that protect them. Reasonableness and respect will always be tests for what our members are asked to do, but ultimately, we have to stand up for all our members, their health, safety and well being.

Provincial or local issues

We will continue to advocate for our members with the Ministry of Education, but each CUPE school board local will decide whether or not to file individual grievances over the way the employer is implementing its own policy.

Issues for OSBCU

We are asking for information about testing: how reliable it is, who will do the testing, and whether it will be carried out on employers' time? We want confirmation that employers will pay for members' exemption notes from their doctors. We want to review the education program that members who refuse to be vaccinated or to disclose their status will be required to take. We want reassurances about testing privacy. We want to know the whereabouts of the public health nurses that were promised in schools.

And as always, we will continue to fight for measures on a range of other issues that will make our schools safe: smaller class sizes, better ventilation, a provincial cleaning standard, more physical distancing, masking, and cohorts that include workers.

Refer to OSBCU's FAQ

Last week OSBCU issued an FAQ on the government's vaccination program for the child care and education sectors and its disclosure program for everyone in schools. If you haven't seen it can be downloaded [here](#).