June 2022 Newsletter

CUPE

Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 997

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June 14th Delegation to the Board

It was standing room only when well over 100 CUPE members, students, other staff and community members attended the TLDSB Board meeting on June 14th in Bracebridge. As you can see from the photo above our members showed their "pink slips" representing the 77 members who had received layoff notices. We made a presentation that stated to the Board that:

"We know that the student need is there, we know that the Government funding is there, and we know that the Board ran a budget surplus last school year. The question to the Board and Trustees is, why is the Trillium Lakelands DSB laying off the workers that can provide the supports for students to help them achieve their potential in a safe, welcoming, and caring learning environment?"

We attended to demand that TLDSB Trustees turn down the budget that included cuts to front line supports provided by Custodians, Educational Assistants and Yearley Outdoor Education Staff.

After the presentation Trustees had no questions of our delegation and then proceeded to pass the budget.

To watch the June 14th Board meeting and CUPE's delegation click <u>HERE</u> The CUPE delegation starts at 5 minutes and 45 seconds into the meeting.

Stand up for Change - Photo Petition

You will have seen our mailing that included information about our photo petition. A photo petition is a petition like others you have seen but instead of a signature, you would upload a selfie. The result is a large banner (see example below) that shows hundreds of small pictures of our members along with our ask or demand. In this case our demand is:

- "We are united in our belief that the Provincial Government must negotiate real wage increases, increases to all staffing, and improvements to benefits and working conditions."
- "We are committed to take ACTION for a contract with real gains in wages, benefits and working conditions and will participate in a strike vote if necessary"

Are You In? Click Below!

You can upload your selfie directly to the <u>form that has</u> been developed by OSBCU specifically for CUPE 997.

"On our own, our voice is soft but when we speak as one, we are unstoppable."

What is a photo petition?

Here is an example from another sector's photo petition. It is a visual display that the membership stand in solidarity with their coworkers on an issue. In our case the issues are real wage increases, increased staffing and better working conditions. **Are you In?**



Edvantage

Edvantage--your exclusive savings program.

Get access to discounts on household brands, travel, financial services and more!

Edvantage offers great rewards and discounts to Edvantage members and their families through partnerships with retailers and businesses. OTIP administers Edvantage on behalf of CUPE L997. With exclusive partners, Edvantage offers great discounts, special offers and contests from the brands you love to you, our valued members.

The Edvantage program is available to all current permanent employees.

You can review all of the Edvantage offers at https://edvantage.ca/ You will need to login or register to see your offers. You would use the information on your Edvantage card to login.

Contact info@cupe997.ca for assistance.

CUPE 997 Student Bursary Winners!

Congratulations to our 2022 CUPE 997 Student Bursary winners. The 2 winners of the \$500 awards were drawn from 38 applications at the April 30th General Membership Meeting. The winners were Bailey McIntrye, daughter of Christina McIntrye, Educational Assistant at Leslie Frost PS and Sydney Taylor, daughter of Tracy Taylor, Elementary Secretary at Dr. George Hall PS. Congratulations to both Bailey and Sydney and their proud parents.

Bargaining 2022

This summer will be busy with bargaining a new Collective Agreement that respects the work we do and the members who do that work.

If you want to stay up to date with OSBCU's bargaining progress, please complete their <u>signup form</u>.

OSBCU will be providing regular updates to all members that sign up. Their goal is to be transparent regarding the status and challenges that are faced at the bargaining table.

Sign Up for Strike Pay and Continued Benefits Coverage in case we are on the picket line in the Fall. If you have not already completed our <u>strike pay form</u> please do so now to ensure you are covered.



CUPE Local is <u>now on Facebook</u>. Let's stay connected. Like – follow and stay up to date.



Stay connected this summer

Let's Stay Connected this Summer

Governments have a nasty habit of sneaking in legislation that negatively affects Education Workers while we are on layoff or on vacation during the summer months.

- Remember losing our sick leave plan along with two years of zero % increases with Bill 115 in 2012?
- Remember having our wages limited to 1% for 3 years with Bill 124 in 2019?

Don't let the summer of 2022 see the Ford Government bring in legislation that restricts our ability to bargain a real wage increase or legislation that restricts our right to negotiate a fair collective agreement.

Stay on top of your email and keep an eye out on our Facebook page.



Renovations that you should call your insurance broker about

If you're like many other Canadian homeowners who have recently come out of the pandemic, chances are you have either completed some type of renovation or have something planned in the future. Here's a list of situations that are important to review with your broker ahead of time. Read more at www.otip.com/article148.