September 2025 Newsletter

Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 997

Box 183 Bethany, ON. LoA 1Ao

Phone:<u>705-934-2997</u>

email president@cupe997.ca



www.CUPE997.ca



Important Upcoming Dates

\$1.00
raise to all
pay grids
and steps

effective for all hours worked on September 1, 2025 and after

This is the last \$1.00/hour raise from our Collective Agreement which expires August 31, 2026. New wage increases will need to be negotiated in our next Collective Agreement

General Membership Meetings 2025-2026

Sat. October 25, 2025@ 10 a.m. Sat. February 21, 2026 @10 a.m. Sat. May 2, 2026 @ 10 a.m.

Our General Membership Meetings will be held virtually through Zoom. Information on meeting registration will be sent in advance of the meetings.



Remember Your Float Days

Float Days or Floating Holidays are 2 paid days each calendar year (January 1 to December 31) that our permanent staff can take a paid day off work without providing a reason. These days are at your discretion provided you give 2 weeks notice.

Float days can be taken together, separately, added to long weekends, taken over the Christmas break and can be added to the Short Term Leave of Absence (OCTEA Article 19.02).

Float Days must be taken prior to December 31 of each year as you cannot carry them over into the new calendar year.

ewbt faste

The Education Workers' Benefits Trust has updated the premiums that members enrolled in the plan pay each month. Please refer to the EWBT newsletter for the updated member premium rates by accessing their newsletter at 2025 Q2 Member Newsletter (June Update) - CUPE EWBT | La FASTE du SCFP.

LTD deductions for Educational Assistants

Due to labour day being early this year along with the PA day being held after Labour Day, the 10 month permanent employees that returned to work on Sept 2/25 will have a change with their LTD deduction. Since there is only 1 pay date for EA's in September (Sept 19/25), Payroll will be deducting LTD for the months of September and October to meet obligations on the following dates:

Sept 19/25, Oct 3/25, Oct 17/25, Oct 31/25

Starting in November the first two pays of the month will have the LTD deduction.

Sick Days / Short Term Disability Leave
All Permanent staff and Temporary staff working
in a position of 12 or more continuous days in one
assignment are entitled to access the sick leave
plan. Permanent staff are entitled to the full sick
leave plan and Temporary staff are entitled to a
pro-rated plan based on the length of their
assignment.

More detailed information on our paid sick leave plan can be found by clicking HERE

Custodial Chief Steward By-Election

Larry Brown, after 3 years as our Custodial Chief Steward has decided to step down. We extend our thanks to Larry for his years of service to our local and our members. We wish Larry all the best.

In the meantime, the Executive has appointed on a temporary basis Barb Boyce, Head Custodian at Fenelon Township PS to the position.

As is provided for in our By-Laws the Custodial Chief Steward position will come up for nomination and election at the October 25, 2025 General Membership Meeting.

Kick off the new school year recharged and ready



Welcome back to another school year! We hope you're feeling revitalized and inspired after the summer break. Now is an ideal time to reflect on your accomplishments and plan for the future, both personally and professionally. We want to reassure you that our team is committed to supporting your health, wellness, and financial security so you can thrive in your pivotal role within the education community. Read more at www.otip.com/article194. #OTIPUpdate

Summer is over, but the fun continues with OTIP!

Get a car, home or leisure insurance quote in **September** for your chance to win **\$1,000** cash to start the school year off right.

PLUS: Receive a \$20 gift card of your choice when you get a quote! Get a quote or call 1-888-892-4935 and mention this offer.

OTIP Retirement Workshops

As part of our partnership with OTIP, our members are being offered free retirement workshops at the following locations/dates. The retirement workshops flyer can be found HERE. Retirement workshop pre-registration is required and can be completed HERE. All workshop hours are 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

Location	Date
Peterborough	Oct 28
Lindsay	Oct 29
Haliburton	Nov 4
Huntsville	Nov 5
Parry Sound	Nov 6
Bowmanville	Nov 20

CUPE Professional Development Fund

Are you interested in taking a course or participating in a workshop? Permanent and Temporary CUPE Members can participate in self-directed PD for personal or professional growth and can apply to the CUPE PD fund for reimbursement. In most cases release costs will come from the PD Fund so you can take the time off work without pay implications. The CUPE PD Fund Guidelines, Fact Sheet and Application Forms can be found on our webpage at:

www.cupe997.ca > Resources>PD Fund or

www.cupe997.ca/resources/pd-fund/