

# CUPE 523 Chronicle

Fall 2015

## CUPE National Convention



More than 2000 CUPE members came together in Vancouver from Nov. 2 to 6 for CUPE's 27<sup>th</sup> biennial national convention.

For More Details & Photo Credits:

[cupe.ca/cupe-national-convention-2015](http://cupe.ca/cupe-national-convention-2015)

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[www.523.cupe.ca](http://www.523.cupe.ca)

# CUPE 523

National Rep. swearing in of  
new Executive Officers:

President - Sylvia Lindgren

3rd VP- Karsten Bellows

Recording Secretary - Erica McDowell

Trustee - Bonnie Keir



Voting on endorsing brother Mark Hancock for CUPE National President during our October General Meeting at the CUPE Kelowna Area Office.

## CUPE Local 523, Shop Steward Training 2015



[www.523.cupe.ca](http://www.523.cupe.ca)



# Upcoming General Meetings

All members are encouraged to attend!

**\* PLEASE Note: General Meeting Times have changed from 1:30 pm to 10:00 am**

September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 1:30 pm	Oliver Community Centre 6359 Park Drive	Oliver
October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015 10:00 am	CUPE Kelowna Area Office #301 1912 Enterprise Way	Kelowna
November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 10:00 am	IMC 425 Jermyn Avenue	Penticton
January 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 10:00 am	Village Green Hotel 4801 – 27 <sup>th</sup> Street	Vernon
February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 10:00 am	The DESC 341 Shuswap St. S.W	Salmon Arm
April 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 10:00 am	CUPE Kelowna Area Office #301 1912 Enterprise Way	Kelowna
May 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 10:00 am	IMC 425 Jermyn Avenue	Penticton
June 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 10:00 am	The DESC 341 Shuswap St. S.W	Salmon Arm

### Local Bylaws, Section 4, d):

Out of town mileage for use of a personal vehicle to attend General or Special Meetings shall be allowed on a capacity/occupancy ratio of 1:3 (1 person in vehicle = 1/3, 2 persons in vehicle = 2/3, 3 or more people in vehicle = 3/3 ) of the mileage rate as is applicable under the CUPE BC Expense Policy.

### Child Care Services

Please contact your unit chair 4 days prior to the meeting if child care service is needed for you to attend.





# CUPE National Convention

Seven members of our local attended the National Convention in Vancouver this month. Between the run for National President and the contentious resolutions brought to the floor regarding strike pay, it was a busy week. CUPE Ontario president Fred Hahn and CUPE BC President Mark Hancock ran for the vacant position of National President when Paul Moist announced his resignation earlier this month. It was a clean and well run campaign on both sides and Mark Hancock narrowly won the seat. Consequently Paul Faoro will be performing the duties of BC President until elections can be held in April. There were many great speakers including Mohammed Fauhmy, the Al Jazeera journalist imprisoned in Egypt, Justice Sinclair from the Reconciliation hearings, Stephen Lewis who spoke on the Leap Manifesto, and Tom Mulcair who was in Vancouver for the NDP convention. The speakers were inspiring and energized the crowd. Much chanting, clapping and pounding of tables was heard in appreciation of the work that others are doing around the world. It was awesome to be reminded that we are so much bigger than our little local here in the Valley. There is much to be thankful for here but so much work to do to maintain what we have gained and to help others attain their goals as well.

On behalf of the delegates, I would like to thank the local for sending so many of us to convention this year. It is truly an honour and a privilege to work on behalf of the hard working people in our local. If you have questions about convention or would like to know how to put your name forward next year, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sylvia Lindgren  
President  
CUPE 523



José van Berkel, CUPE523 Secretary Treasurer and  
Sylvia Lindgren, CUPE523 President



## K-12 Extended Health Provincial Standardized Plan Comparison

As per the Provincial Framework Agreement all K-12 Units must vote on whether to opt in or out of the standard benefits plan by June 30, 2016.

To assist with the unionized support staff's upcoming vote regarding whether to opt into the extended health Provincial Standardized Plan, we have attached a plan comparison for your reference. This comparison shows the Provincial Standardized Plan on the left and the current plan on the right.

Unit Chairs will be providing more information about the K-12 Extended Health Provincial Standardized Plan Comparison and when to vote, during General and Unit Meetings.

**To view your Units Comparison Details, please visit our website.** If you should have any questions regarding the information provided please contact your Unit Shop Steward or Unit Chair.

# NOYFSS

North Okanagan Youth  
And Family Services Society



A huge thank you to the Bean Scene Coffee House Vernon and all the local artists who donated their art for the auction. Bean Scene raised over \$2000 for NOYFSS which will go towards our anti-bullying campaign and groups.

<https://www.facebook.com/beanscenevernon?ref=hl>



# Recovery Day Okanagan 2015

John Howard Society



Recovery Day Okanagan 2015 was a huge success!!! This was Vernon's first time hosting the event and we saw 250 people turn out for Recovery Day.

On September 26, 2015 Canadians in recovery from addiction joined with friends and family to combat negative perceptions towards individuals in recovery. Our mission is to build awareness, challenge societal stigma, and celebrate the role that recovery plays in improving life for individuals, families, and communities. We believe that recovery saves lives. We envision a world in which recovery from addiction is a common, celebrated reality – a world where individuals will not experience shame when seeking help. We are passionate about sharing the faces, voices and stories of recovery in hopes of inspiring and inviting others to join us on the rewarding, yet diverse, path to wholeness. Together, we will demonstrate the power and proof of recovery from addiction.

It was a great time of awareness, cooperation, collaboration, sharing, support and FUN!!! To learn more about this great event check out <https://www.facebook.com/RecoveryDayOkanagan>.

Or at: <http://jhsnok.ca/recovery-day-okanagan-2015>





# John Howard Society

In keeping with the tradition of other John Howard Societies the John Howard Society of the North Okanagan (JHSNOK) has instituted the SPIRIT OF JOHN HOWARD award.

2015 is the first time JHSNOK is awarding someone in our community with this prestigious award. This will be an annual award which is given to someone who has a commitment to social justice and encompasses compassion and respect for the most marginalized of people.

The first ever recipient is Dave Thackray. The John Howard Society is pleased to be able to honor Dave Thackray's work and commitment to promoting and leading effective, just and humane responses to the causes and consequences of crime and poverty by working directly with individuals, service providers and the broader community.

To read more of this article and about Mr. Dave Thackray's work: <http://jhsnok.ca/1st-spirit-of-john-howard-award>



## 1st SPIRIT OF JOHN HOWARD Award



Kelly Fehr was invited to speak at the Volunteer Appreciation event celebrating volunteers of Patchwork Farms, Vernon's Community Gardens, Kindale & Harvest Share Project. John Howard Society's Howard House and Bill's Place were the recipients of some of the harvest.

Make sure that you stay informed of important information, events, and meeting dates that are happening in our Local.

## *Ways to Stay in the Know:*

**Email Updates** from your Unit Chair and your Executive (so make sure that we have your email address!)

Our **Website** has all of our Local Information

Check your site **Bulletin Board**

Attend **Unit & General Meetings** And



[www.523.cupe.ca](http://www.523.cupe.ca)



## Executive List

### **President:**

Sylvia Lindgren      Email: lindgren.sylvia@gmail.com  
Phone: 250-833-6380

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:**

Sean Harris      Email: lekay44@gmail.com  
Phone: 250-460-0470

### **Secretary Treasurer:**

José van Berkel      Email: cupe523@telus.net  
Phone: 250-492-2982 (union office)

### **Recording Secretary:**

Erica McDowell      Email: ericamcdo@gmail.com  
Phone: 250-462-8590

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:**

Deb Johnson      Email: deborahleej@yahoo.ca  
Phone: 250-515-4115

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:**

Karsten Bellows      Email: karstenbellows@gmail.com  
Phone: 250-558-8187

### **National Rep:**

Rob Hewitt      Email: rhewitt@cupe.ca

## Unit Chairs

### **JHS:**

Eric Denison      Email: eric.denison@gmail.com  
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### **NOYFSS:**

Craig Pohorelic      Email: craeg@telus.net  
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### **SD53:**

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### **SD 67:**

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# Contacts



CUPE National Convention, 2015

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