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CUPE 523 Education Committee Bulletin

Did you know that **YOUR** Union, CUPE Local 523 has budgeted \$50,000 a year for member education? That's a lot of money! **Let's put it to good use.**

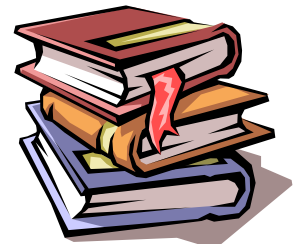
- Q. What kind of member education?
- A. CUPE has lots of courses to pick from. Check out www.cupe.bc.ca/education for a list. And watch the Union boards for courses coming to our area. Some examples: stewarding, violence in the workplace, stress, facing management etc.
- Q. What if I want a course that isn't being offered?
- A. Tell your shop steward, Unit Chair, Education Committee member or any member of the Executive. They will try to bring it into the area as quickly as they can.
- Q. How do I get into a CUPE course?
- A. You can request participation at any general meeting, or through your shop steward, Unit Chair, Education Committee member or any member of the Executive.
- Q. If I go to a course what is paid for?
- A. The course fees, your lost wages, any expenses under the expense policy (dependant care, mileage, accommodations if needed and meals etc.)
- Q. So all my time is paid for?
- A. Not necessarily. You won't lose any wages but if you attend outside of your regular work hours, you don't get paid wages for that time. Many courses are a combination of book off and volunteer time.
- Q. If I ask to go to a course am I automatically enrolled?
- A. No. The Education committee has a selection process and the Executive must approve all courses, but the Local wants to send as many members as possible to courses.
- Q. How does the Local know what courses we want?
- A. A survey will be coming out soon and all Unit Chairs will be reporting their Unit's membership requests to the Education Committee.

This sounds pretty good! I'm going to look into this further and get into some courses! Contact your Education Committee member for further information.

Get active and get involved in running **YOUR** Union!

In Solidarity,

Karsten Bellows (Chair – 2nd Vice), Elaine Grusen (SD 19), Diane DesBrisay (SD 53), Nancy Boisvenue (SD 83), Kristina Wendenberg (SD 67), Andrea Harrison (NOYFSS), Larry Dupont (JHS)



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CUPE 523 Mission Statement

*To unite and encourage all members through Union Solidarity,
giving us the power and strength to secure and defend our rights as workers.*