

CUPE 523 Chronicle

Winter 2015

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NOYFSS Goes Pink on Anti-Bullying Day!

While raising awareness about bullying we are also spreading kindness with our "Compliment Cupcakes". Each cupcake contains a nice compliment for you to read for yourself or give to someone else. Taking a positive initiative to make someone's day puts us one step closer to stopping bullying. All proceeds will go towards NOYFSS anti-bullying youth group "Taking Care of You and Me"; where we will continue teaching empathy and relationship build-

NOYFSS

Goes PINK!

Anti-Bullying Day!

Spreading Kindness with

Compliment Cupcakes

Thanks for being you



All cupcake
sale proceeds
to NOYFSS
Anti Bullying
Youth Group

February 25, 2015

11am - 1pm at NOYFSS, 3100 32nd Ave
9am - 1pm at Bean Scene, 2923 30th Ave



Presidents Message

The challenge of the separation campaign is safely behind us and we are once again 1200 members strong. This first challenge in my new office was an exhausting but informative and productive project. I am excited to say that I was able to talk to many of the members of Unit 83 and both president and members report an increased sense of connection.



The next item on the agenda is to investigate the future of bringing the local closer to together. This will include gathering information around both electronic communications such as video conferencing and the people to people connection of Unite for Fairness. The 5 year time frame of our collective agreement presents us with both a risk and benefit of time. The risk is that without contentious struggles to keep us seeking each other's support, our members could become complacent and disconnected from their union . The benefit is that we will have ample time to explore the social and personal connections borne of fun rather than work. I look forward to getting out to the work sites around our local to listen to the concerns and hopes of members and to bring the reassurance that the executive will remain vigilant and progressive in its pursuit of safe, productive, and respectful employment.

I encourage each of you to visit the website regularly, attend meetings, and take advantage of the many education courses that are available to members. I look forward to whatever the next year may bring and thank you for your support.

In Solidarity,
Sylvia Lindgren
President
CUPE Local 523

Education Opportunities ...

Contact the Education Rep. in your unit to request to attend courses that are being offered through CUPE BC.

www.cupe.bc.ca/resources/union-education

www.523.cupe.ca





***Spot the Hazard* campaign takes off**

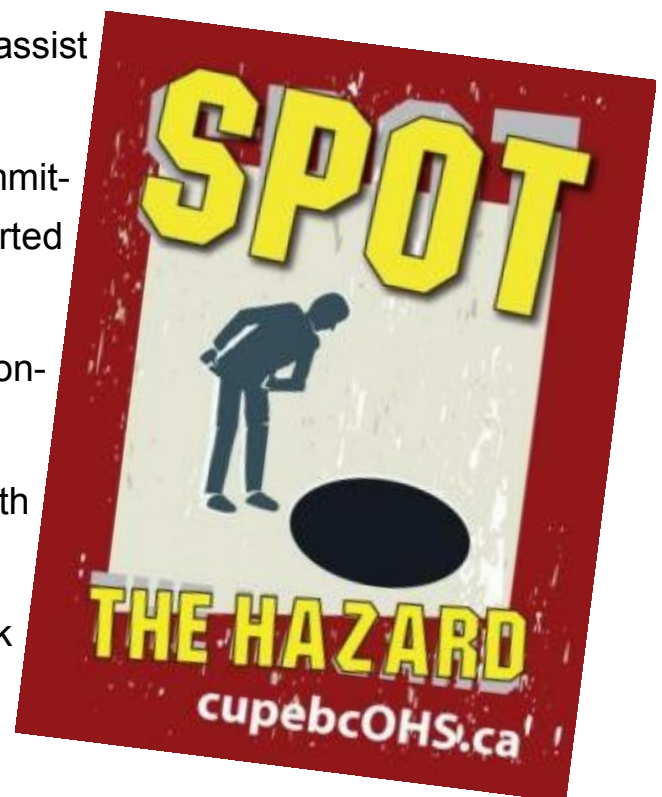
February 4, 2015

BURNABY-

Across the province CUPE locals are using new campaign material to raise awareness of workplace hazards. In October 2014 CUPE BC re-launched the *Spot the Hazard* campaign to assist locals in preventing workplace injuries.

The campaign gives local health and safety committees an additional tool. The campaign is supported by:

- posters that encourage members to report concerns to management and the union
- pocket-sized “know your rights” folding cards with information about workplace hazards and rights
- static cling stickers for use by the union to mark potential workplace hazards



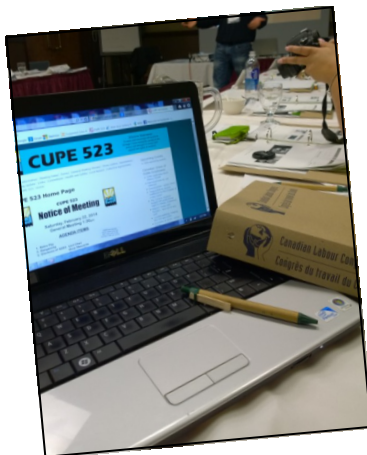
Education Process

If you see, hear or read about a course that is being offered by CUPE and wish to attend, please follow the steps:

- Contact your site Education Rep (see unit contact sheet located on website or site bulletin boards).
- The Education committee will consider any and all education requests.
- You will be contacted by email or phone call if your request is approved.

Some Facts to know:

- Wages are covered the union.
- Complete the necessary leave form for your employer indicating “Union Business” under details and “billable union leave” under type of leave.
- The union will cover hotel charges if required and pre approved.
- Mileage is paid at \$0.54 per kilometer
- The union will cover the costs of meals for the member only. (Please be sure you put any alcohol on a separate receipt). All receipts submitted must be itemized (**credit card receipts are not acceptable**).



Note:

- **Any member wishing to attend education courses must follow this process in order for expenses to be overed by Local 523.**
- **ANY and ALL interest to attend a workshop, course or week long school, must go through CUPE Local 523 Education Committee, in order to be approved and paid for by the Union.**



Retirement Planning Seminar

Process:

1. Go to our website: 523.cupe.ca
2. Click on tab “Forms”
3. Complete “Retirement Planning Seminar Application form”
4. Print the form and send to: cupe523@telus.net
5. Your name will be added on the wait list and you will receive a call from someone on the education committee when a space becomes available at one of the 3 day seminars.



Some Facts to know:

- This seminar is open to the member and their spouse or significant other.
- Wages are covered by both the union and employer (each pays one day)
- Complete necessary leave form for your employer indicating “Retirement Seminar” under details.
- If hotel accommodations are required this is covered by the union.
- Mileage is paid at \$0.54 per kilometer
- The cost of meals is covered by the union for the member only. (Please be sure you put any alcohol and spouses meal on a separate receipt). All receipts submitted must be itemized (credit card receipts are not acceptable).

Note:

Any member wishing to attend the 3 day seminar must follow this process in order for expenses to be covered by the union/employer.

CUPE 523 Bursary Application

Who is eligible?

Students graduating in 2015 whose parent or guardian is a CUPE 523 member in good Standing.



What is being awarded?

\$200.00 bursary (to a maximum of \$8000—first come first serve basis.)

How do I apply?

Complete the application form attached.

Applications must be received by June 1, 2015 to José van Berkel at: CUPE 523 Office, #2—624 Young Street, Penticton, BC V2A 5T2

If you have any questions, contact:

José van Berkel @ 250-490-7787 or email: cupe523@telus.net

www.523.cupe.ca



John Howard Society

Upcoming Events:

February 21, 2015 - Coldest Night of the Year Walk. Join people across Canada to raise funds for those who are hurting, hungry or homeless. All funds raised locally go to Upper Room Mission in Vernon. Donate on-line and/or walk 5 km or 10 km on February 21st.

February 22, 2015 - Interfaith Prayer Event. 2 - 4 p.m. Vernon Public Library Prayers from different faith groups followed by multi-ethnic snacks.

February 27, 2015 - African Dinner. 6 - 8 p.m. Trinity United Church.

Tickets \$35 each (\$25 of which is tax deductible). Contact Trinity United Church for tickets: 250-545-0797 To raise funds for the "Irene Hart Sewing Centre" in Tanzania. The Centre teaches women sewing skills so they can support their families. Includes African dinner, Jubilani drummers, silent auction, slide show and talk by Irene Hart and Ivy Thomas who visited the Centre last summer.



Two guest speakers confirmed for September 2015's Recovery Day Okanagan in Vernon!

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



Executive List

President:

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

1st 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
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2nd Vice President:

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3rd Vice President:

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Contacts

Unit Chairs

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NOYFSS:

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SD 67:

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SD83:

Jean Frolek Email: ucUnit83@gmail.com
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Upcoming General Meetings

All members are encouraged to attend!

February 28th, 2015	Shuswap Middle School #171, 30th St. SE	Salmon Arm
April 11th, 2015	Kelowna Area Office	Kelowna

If you have any ideas or additions for the next issue please contact a member of the communication committee.

Local Bylaws, Section 4, d):
Members shall be paid mileage to attend general meetings when they are driving two or more other members to the general meeting.

Local 523 Office, 416 Westminster Ave., Penticton, BC

Union Office: 250-492-2982

Mailing Address:

CUPE LOCAL 523, c/o José van Berkel
#2 - 624 Young Street, Penticton, BC V2A 5T2

www.523.cupe.ca

