



Dear members,

I am Tammy Carter; I know that this may cause some confusion as former President Tammie Koroluk and I share the same name. I will completely understand if we get mixed up from time to time, and this is okay.

I wanted to introduce myself as many of you may be meeting me for the first time. I am an Education Assistant for School District 67 – Okanagan Skaha. I live and work in Summerland. I have been working with the District since January of 2007. Prior to working for the District, I owned and operated a daycare and a preschool in Summerland. I have been married for 22 years to my husband Shawn. We have two children, Simon is 21 years old, and Emma is 18 years old and is graduating this June.



For the past 9 years, I have been involved with the Local at the unit level in various activities and committees. I have helped plan entertainment functions in SD 67 including; Winter fun day dinner, Local Landing family fun day and a family event up at Apex. I have sat on the education and communications committee at the unit level. I was also a shop steward for a year and participated yearly on my school site JOH&S (Joint Occupational Health and Safety) committee.

I am also involved with OMDC (Okanagan Mainline District Council) and have been attending these meetings for the past 6 year. I am their communications person as well as their trustee. As the communications person, I manage their website as well as their Facebook page.

I am also involved with the labour council. I was the secretary for the SOBLC (South Okanagan Boundary Labour Council). I am the trustee for the labour council and manage their Facebook page and website.

For the past two years I have been sponsored to sit on the CUPE BC Provincial Education committee. I have learned a lot through this committee and look forward to putting my name forward in the spring to sit on another provincial committee.

I began my role on the Executive of the Local two years ago when I was elected to the position of 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. The third Vice President chairs and manages the entertainment and the good and welfare committee at the local level. During this time, I was able to gain a lot of executive experience and participate on a senior level. I was first appointed and then elected to the position of

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Unit Chair in November 2019. As Unit Chair of SD67, I have been able to work directly with the employer, chair meetings, manage grievances, help Stewards and members interpret the Collective Agreement and oversee all of the Unit committees. All the experience and learning in the past 9 years have helped me develop the skills and strategies to do the work of the Union for the members. Not only did this role teach me about the Local and Union work in general, but it also taught me about myself as well. The learning and confidence I have gained in all the aspects of being a unit chair has made me feel like this is the role I am most proud of.

As President, I know I have a lot to learn, and I am excited for this opportunity. Our entire executive is dedicated to helping our Local be successful and continue to secure wages, benefits and uphold our Collective Agreement rights. As you are all aware, Local 523 is made up of three school districts (SD53, SD67 and SD83), and two community social service sectors (NOYFSS and Turning Points). I am excited to work with the Executive as well as the Unit Chairs from all the units as we collaborate and assist you as members.

### **Contacting Stewards and Unit Chairs**

A reminder to all our members, if you have any questions or concerns, that you contact one of your shop stewards and unit chair, they are ready and available to assist you. Each of the unit chairs and I communicate regularly (daily) on individual labour issues, questions from members, collective agreement concerns etc. To contact a Steward or the Unit Chair you can visit our Cupe 523 website or find the contact list on site based CUPE bulletin boards, usually located in staff rooms or main offices at each site [www.523.cupe.ca](http://www.523.cupe.ca). This website is a great way to stay informed, I encourage you all to go check it out. As well if you have Facebook, like our CUPE 523 page.

### **Beneficiary and contact information Changes**

Have you had a change in your life that might not be reflected in the beneficiary form you filled out when you were hired? A move, marriage, email change? If so, we need your help in updating our records. You can do this by going to our website, download and fill out the Beneficiary Update Form, [Notice-of-Beneficiary-Form-Update.pdf \(cupe.ca\)](#) and either mail it to our office or by emailing a copy to the recording secretary – Erica McDowell at [rec\\_secretary@cupe523.com](mailto:rec_secretary@cupe523.com). If you are not getting your emails and they are not in your junk folder, we may have an old email on file. You can always add or update your email from our website [CUPELocal523 \(list-manage.com\)](http://CUPELocal523(list-manage.com)) or email it to Erica as well and she will change it in the database. Next year we will begin our bargaining year, and we would like everyone to be as up to date as possible and get the information we send out.

As we look forward to spring, I am reminded that most of you will have spring break off to rest and rejuvenate. As some of you will be working through these two weeks, I hope you are able to find some time to relax. Hopefully, the weather will be on our side, so we can get out and enjoy the nice weather we have been having.

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I am looking forward to representing Local 523 as president and hopefully meeting all of you.  
Happy Spring, rest, rejuvenate yourselves, stay safe and enjoy the weather.

In Solidarity,

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