



LOCAL 523
of the
Canadian Union of Public Employees

BYLAWS
2025

PREAMBLE

These Bylaws are designed to give proper balance to the administration of the Local Union.

Duties and responsibilities of elected officers and members of committees should be as widely dispersed as possible.

CUPE Local 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.

Land Acknowledgement:

CUPE Local 523 recognizes that our members live and work on the traditional and unceded territories of the Syilx/Okanagan and Secwépemc people.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1 - NAME	3
Section 2 - PRINCIPLES & OBJECTIVES	3
Section 3 - AFFILIATIONS	3
Section 4 - GENERAL MEETINGS	4
Section 5 - EXECUTIVE MEETINGS	4
Section 6 - SPECIAL MEETINGS	4
Section 7 - UNIT MEETINGS.....	4
Section 8 - OFFICERS	5
Section 9 - EXECUTIVE BOARD	5
Section 10 - PRESIDENT.....	5
Section 11 - 1st VICE PRESIDENT	6
Section 12 - RECORDING SECRETARY	7
Section 13 - SECRETARY TREASURER	7
Section 14 - 2nd VICE PRESIDENT	8
Section 15 - REPEALED	8
Section 16 - INDIGENOUS WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVE.....	8
Section 17 - TRUSTEES.....	9
Section 18 - SHOP STEWARDS	9
Section 19 - UNIT CHAIRS	9
Section 20 - INITIATION FEES, DUES & ASSESSMENTS	10
Section 21 - NON-PAYMENT OF DUES AND ASSESSMENTS	10
Section 22 - STANDING COMMITTEES	10
Section 23 - SPECIAL COMMITTEES.....	11
Section 24 - NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE	11
Section 25 - GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE	11
Section 26 - LOCAL SHOP STEWARDS COMMITTEE	12
Section 27 - COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	13
Section 28 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE	13
Section 29 - GOOD & WELFARE COMMITTEE	13
Section 30 - EDUCATION COMMITTEE	13
Section 31 - DELEGATES TO CONVENTIONS & CONFERENCES.....	14
Section 32 - NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO OFFICE.....	14
Section 33A - Unit Elections	14
Section 33B - LOCAL ELECTIONS	15
Section 34 - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.....	16

Section 4 - GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) General Meetings shall be held a minimum of four (4) times per year. If general meetings are held in person, where possible the location should rotate between communities within the Local.
- b) A quorum for the transaction of business at any General or Special meeting shall consist of at least twenty (20) members in good standing, including at least five (5) Executive Board members, including two (2) table officers of the Local as defined in Section 8.
- c) The officers and Executive Board members of the Local shall be reimbursed for transportation expenses and, if required, meals and accommodation expenses to attend general Meetings.
- 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/d (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 523 Expense Policy.
- e) All general Meetings shall be designated non-smoking and scent-free.
- f) All meetings shall be governed by Bourinot's Rules of Order (see Appendix "A").
- g) The Executive Board shall provide the membership Notice of all General meetings at least 7 days in advance.
- h) General Meetings may be held virtually and/or in person. Secret voting cannot be both on paper ballots and online. If a secret vote must be taken during a hybrid meeting, it has to be an electronic vote for everyone, as per Article B.6.2 of the National Constitution.

Section 5 - EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

- a) The Executive Board shall meet a minimum of eight (8) times per year. The Executive Board may meet virtually and/or in person.
- b) A quorum shall consist of at least seven (7) Executive Board members including at least two (2) Table Officers.
- c) Notice(s) of Motion can be sent through the Executive Board to be dealt with at the next general Meeting, providing there is at least thirty (30) days' notice to the membership.
- d) Transportation expenses shall be reimbursed to members of the Executive Board attending Executive Board Meetings as per Expense Policy of Local 523 (Appendix "E").

Section 6 - SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings shall be called by order of the Executive Board as determined by the Executive Board, or by written request of fifteen (15) members. No business shall be transacted at such special meetings other than that which the special meeting has been called. At least twenty-four (24) hours' notice of all special meetings must be given, in writing (including electronic transmission), to the membership.

Section 7 - UNIT MEETINGS

- a) Units shall hold a minimum of 2 meetings per year, one in the spring and one in the fall.
- b) The Executive must be notified in advance of any such meeting.
- c) Unit Chairs, Shop Stewards and Unit Committee elections shall take place at a Fall Unit meeting – refer to section 33A, Unit Elections.
- d) EI Rebates allocation will be determined by a vote of the unit membership in accordance with Section 19 (j).
- e) Business of the Local must be conducted at a General Meeting.
- f) Unit Meetings may be called at the written request of ten (10) Unit members.

- g) Unit Meetings may be called by the CUPE 523 Executive.
- h) Unit Meeting minutes and documents will be kept on file by the Local.
- i) Unit Meetings may be held virtually and/or in person. Secret voting cannot be both on paper ballots and online. If a secret vote must be taken during a hybrid meeting, it has to be an electronic vote for everyone, as per Article B.6.2 of the National Constitution.

Section 8 - OFFICERS

The officers of the Local shall consist of a President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Secretary Treasurer, Indigenous Workers' Representative, Unit Chairs (NOYFSS, TPCS, School Districts 53, 67, 83, IFT), and three (3) Trustees.

- a) All officers must give all properties, assets, technology, funds, and all records of Local 523 to their successors at the end of their term of office.

Section 9 - EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Indigenous Workers' Representative, and one Unit Chair elected from each unit.

- a) The Executive Board shall have the authority to pass motions for the expenditure of monies and conduct other business as necessary between General Meetings. Any decisions or expenditures shall be reported to the membership.
- b) The objective of the Executive Board is to allow members the opportunity to discuss and bring pertinent matters before it and make recommendations.
- c) The Table Officers shall consist of President, 1st Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Secretary Treasurer.
- d) Any significant items which may affect the Local shall be brought before the Executive Board for approval prior to implementation.
- e) All charges against members or officials must be made in writing and dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Appendix B.XI of the National Constitution.
- f) No Executive member shall purchase any fixed assets (e.g. computer, office furniture) over the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) without the approval of the Executive Board.
- g) Should any Executive Board member fail to answer the roll call for three (3) consecutive General Meetings or three (3) consecutive Executive Meetings, the office may be declared vacant and filled by an election at the next general Election Meeting or Special meeting.
- h) The Executive Officers shall hold title to any real estate of the Local as trustees for the Local. They shall have no right to sell, convey, or encumber any real estate without first giving notice and then submitting the proposition at a General Meeting and having it approved.

Section 10 - PRESIDENT

The office of the President shall be bonded for not less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or as such other greater sum as may be decided at a special meeting, through the master bond held by the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

The President's Hours of Work:

The position of President will be a full time, 12-month salaried position that will be paid 40 hours per week, at the highest rate of pay in the President's Unit Collective Agreement. The President will work a flexible work week of 40

hours, with additional volunteer time as required. No overtime or time off in lieu will apply to any additional hours. The President shall remain an employee of their current employer, and be eligible for benefits, vacation, and all other rights as outlined in their unit's Collective Agreement.

The President is required to report any absence from work to the Secretary Treasurer. This information will provide a record of use for sick time, holiday allotment etc.

The President shall:

- a) Uphold the CUPE National Constitution, Local Union By-laws and the CUPE National Equality Statement.
- b) Oversee the operation of the Union and serve as an Executive Table Officer of the Union.
- c) Sign all official documents of the Local and preside over all meetings of the Local Union.
- d) Have a vote on all matters (except appeals against their rulings).
- e) Ensure that all Officers perform their assigned duties.
- f) Be a signing officer of the Local and ensure that the Local's funds are used only as authorized or directed by the CUPE Constitution, Local By-laws or vote of the membership.
- g) Serve as needed as a member of all committees of the Local, including Bargaining and Labour Management Committees.
- h) Attend various committee and council meetings outside of the Local.
- i) Be given the first option to attend the CLC Convention, the BC Fed Convention and CUPE conventions.
- j) Be ex-officio to all committees.
- k) Introduce new members and conduct them through the Oath of Membership.
- l) Conduct new Executive members through the Oath of Nomination and Office.
- m) Perform other business that pertains to the office of President, and which may be necessary for the proper functioning of the Local.
- n) At the end of the term, surrender all documents and properties of the Local to their successor or to the appropriate Executive Table Officer.
- o) Oversees any vacant Executive position until it's filled.
- p) Perform other such duties as the Executive or Constitution may direct.

Section 11 - 1st VICE PRESIDENT

The 1st Vice President shall be an alternate signing officer of the Local and the Office of the 1st Vice President shall be bonded for not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or such other greater sum as may be decided at a special meeting, through the master bond held by the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

The 1st Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, and, in case of the resignation or death of the President, shall perform the duties of the President until such vacancy is filled as provided in these bylaws. The 1st Vice President shall also preside when called upon by the President and at times when the President may be temporarily unable to discharge the duties of that office.

The 1st Vice President shall:

- a) Chair the Shop Steward Committee and the Grievance Committees.
- b) Manage the collection and file all pertinent information relative to grievances and process the grievances through the initial stages of the procedure contained in the appropriate Collective Agreement.
- c) Work in liaison with the President regarding all Steward and grievance matters.
- d) Organize and Chair the Local Shop Steward Annual Conference.
- e) Perform such duties and carry out such functions as the Executive Board may direct.
- f) Attend grievance meetings as required.
- g) Attend Units shop steward meetings as required.

- h) Perform other such duties as the Executive or Constitution may direct.

Section 12 - RECORDING SECRETARY

The Recording Secretary shall keep a correct, full and impartial record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Local Union and all the meetings of the Executive Board. Each record of proceedings shall include a copy of the full financial report presented by the Secretary-Treasurer in accordance with Article B.3.6. The Recording Secretary shall perform such other duties as the Executive or Constitution may direct.

- a) The Recording Secretary shall keep a full and accurate account of all election results.
- b) The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for recording and distributing all correspondence.
- c) The Recording Secretary shall be an alternate signing officer of the Local and the Office of the Recording Secretary shall be bonded for not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or such other greater sum as may be decided at a special meeting, through the master bond held by the Canadian Union of Public Employees.
- d) The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the Locals membership database, which includes their contact information and beneficiary information.
- e) The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the Locals membership email list.
- f) The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for issuing members union cards and welcome packages as applicable.
- g) The Recording Secretary shall oversee the organization of the online filing system and assist executive members with filing documents in the appropriate locations.

Section 13 - SECRETARY TREASURER

The Secretary Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping all financial accounts of the Local and shall be responsible for maintaining correct and proper accounts of all its members. Maintenance of the financial accounts of the Local Union shall require that the Secretary Treasurer, throughout his/her term, and on behalf of the Local membership, be responsible for maintaining, organizing, safe-guarding and keeping on file all supporting documents, authorizations, invoices and/or vouchers for every disbursement made, receipts for all money sent to CUPE Headquarters, as well as records and supporting documents for all income received by the Local.

The Secretary Treasurer, and all other Officers authorized to sign on behalf of the Local, shall be properly bonded with a faithful performance of duty bond. Bonding amounts shall conform to the minimum guidelines as established by the National Secretary-Treasurer and distributed to all chartered organizations annually. The amount of bonding for any position shall be approved by the National Secretary-Treasurer in accordance with Article 9.3 (k)

The Secretary Treasurer shall regularly make a full financial report to meetings of the Executive Board, as well as a written financial report to each General Meeting, detailing all income and expenditures for the period. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep on file all receipts for money sent to the Canadian Union of Public Employees Headquarters during the year.

The Secretary Treasurer shall submit the Local's books and records to the Trustees for audit at least twice each calendar year, and in addition to providing all books, records, invoices, other supporting documents, and original bank statements. The Secretary Treasurer must, within a reasonable time, respond in writing to any recommendations and concerns raised by the Trustees in accordance with Article B.3.12

The Secretary Treasurer shall forward to the National Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, on the official monthly report forms provided, not later than the last day of each month, all financial

obligations for the previous month owing to the Canadian Union of Public Employees. The Secretary Treasurer shall forward (\$1.00) of each initiation fee on all members admitted (except for those named on the list forwarded with the application for a charter) along with the per capita tax on all dues received by the Local. The report should also set out the number of those initiated, reinstated, suspended, and expelled and the number of members on whom per capita is being paid.

The Secretary Treasurer shall prepare a copy of the full financial report presented in accordance with Article B.3.6.

At the end of their term of office, the Secretary Treasurer shall turn over to their successor all properties and assets, including funds, books and records belonging to the Local Union. Any Secretary Treasurer who cannot qualify for a bond shall immediately be disqualified from office and the Local Union shall proceed with the election of another Secretary Treasurer.

- a) Be bonded through the master bond held by CUPE National. Any Secretary Treasurer who cannot qualify for the bond shall be disqualified from office.
- b) Sign all cheques, initiate all electronic fund transfers, and ensure the Local Union's funds are used only as authorized or directed by the National Constitution, Local Union bylaws or vote of the membership. In consultation of the Executive Board, designate a signing officer during prolonged absences.
- c) Pay no money unless supported by a invoice or expense form or request for payment duly signed by the President and at least one other member of the Executive Board as determined by the Executive Board. No request shall be required for payment of per capita fees to any organization to which the Local Union is affiliated.
- d) Shall keep and file a record of all Trustee reports.
- e) Recognize retirees on behalf of the Local.
- f) Perform other such duties as the Executive or Constitution may direct.

Section 14 - 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

The 2nd Vice President shall:

- a) Act as the Local 523 Privacy Officer.
- b) Attend Southern Interior District Council meetings as one Local 523 delegate.
- c) In the event of the 1st Vice President being unable to perform their duties or the 1st Vice President being required to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, the 2nd Vice President shall then perform the duties of the 1st Vice President.
- d) Act as Chair and/or liaison for the following committees: Communications, Education, and Good and Welfare.
- e) Shall keep and file a full and accurate account of all education received by members.
- f) Act as sergeant at arms.
- g) Perform other such duties as the Executive or Constitution may direct.

Section 15 - REPEALED

Section 16 - INDIGENOUS WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVE

The Indigenous Workers' Representative shall be a member who self-identifies as an Indigenous person. They will be a full member of the Executive board with voice and vote at all Executive and General Meetings.

Section 17 - TRUSTEES

The Trustees shall audit the books of the Secretary Treasurer and shall exercise general supervision over the property of the Local. Such general supervision shall include, but not be limited to, ensuring that the Secretary Treasurer complies with the provisions of Articles B.3.6 and B.3.7. Each year the Local shall elect one Trustee for a three-year period or, in the case of vacancies occurring, elect Trustees to fill only the unexpired terms in order to preserve overlapping terms of office.

- a) The Trustees shall examine the books and records of the Secretary Treasurer and inspect or examine all properties, bonds, and all other assets of the Local at least once each calendar year.
- b) At the completion of their audit, the Trustees shall submit in writing to the President and Secretary Treasurer any recommendations and/or concerns they feel should be reviewed in order to ensure that the Local's funds, records, and accounts are being maintained by the Secretary Treasurer in an organized, correct, and proper manner.
- c) The Trustees shall make a written report to the next General Meeting of the Local Union following the audit on the condition of the funds and accounts, with such other information they may deem necessary to the efficient and honest administration of the Local, along with a copy of the written recommendations and/or concerns submitted to the Secretary Treasurer, and the Secretary Treasurer's written response.
- d) The Trustees shall send a copy of the completed audit report (on the prescribed form provided by the National Secretary-Treasurer), as well as a copy of their report to the Local Union membership along with a copy of their recommendations and/or concerns to the President and Secretary Treasurer and the Secretary Treasurer's response, to the National Treasurer of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, with a copy to the assigned servicing representative.
- e) Act as an auditing committee on behalf of the members and audit the books and accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer, the Recording Secretary, and the committees at least once every calendar year.
- f) A Trustee may not hold a position on the Executive Board of Local 523.

Section 18 - SHOP STEWARDS

It shall be the duty of the Shop Stewards to investigate and to attempt to settle all disputes between the employer and employee(s). Shop Stewards shall report any grievance to the Unit Chair and 1st Vice President for consideration of the Grievance Committee.

A written record (Appendix "I" CUPE Fact Sheet) is to be completed by the Shop Steward and presented to the 1st Vice President/Grievance Committee.

Units may elect as many stewards as they wish however there may be limitations within the Collective Agreements. Stewards should be elected with consideration of sectional or departmental representation.

Section 19 - UNIT CHAIRS

The Unit Chairs shall:

- a) Attend all Executive Board meetings and provide unit reports to the Executive Board or send an alternate elected representative in their absence.
- b) Shall submit all draft Letters of Understanding/Intent to the Executive Board for discussion. Executive approval is required prior to agreement with the Employer.
- c) Coordinate Unit meetings and Unit Steward meetings.
- d) Attend grievance committee meetings and grievance meetings as required.
- e) Attend labour management meetings.

- f) Report any hardship issues to the Executive Board.
- g) Be part of the Negotiations Committee.
- h) Forward current membership contact information and updates to the Recording Secretary as required.
- i) Advise the Executive Board of upcoming unit chair and steward election meetings.
- j) Ensure the Unit membership are given opportunity to determine how they wish their annual EI rebate monies allocated, and report such to the Secretary Treasurer.
- k) Act as member of the Education committee if required.
- l) Attend other meetings (or send a delegate) which may include board meetings, JE committees, Budget meetings, committees etc.

Section 20 - INITIATION FEES, DUES & ASSESSMENTS

There shall be no initiation fee or readmission fee required to obtain or retain member in good standing status in the Local.

Union dues shall be 2.25% of gross monthly salary. Any change in the local union dues or assessments can only be made at a General Meeting when a notice of motion has been previously given, except where the minimum dues are raised by an amendment to the CUPE Constitution, or when B.C. Division places a special assessment on its affiliates. Such Notice of Motion can be given with (7) days' notice at the previous General Meeting or in a circular advising all members at least thirty ~~(30)~~ 60*** days before the question is to be discussed.

***The members of CUPE 523 have voted to amend this bylaw to only require 30 days written notice for these changes. The CUPE National office has not currently approved this change. We are in communication with the national office to determine how to proceed, in the mean time we will continue to provide at least 60 days written notice. ***

Special assessments may be levied in accordance with Article B.4.2 of the CUPE Constitution.

Section 21 - NON-PAYMENT OF DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

A member who fails to pay dues and assessments for three months is automatically suspended from membership. The suspension will be reported to the Executive Board by the Secretary Treasurer. The Executive Board will report all suspensions to the next membership meeting. The member may return to membership in good standing by paying a readmission fee and any other penalty set by the Local Union. The readmission fee cannot be less than the initiation fee of the Local Union.

A member who has been unemployed or unable to work because of sickness shall pay the readmission fee but may not be required to pay arrears.

Section 22 - STANDING COMMITTEES

Shall be determined and implemented by motion of the Executive Board or at a General Meeting. All committees shall apply the following terms of reference:

Terms of Reference of Standing Committees:

- a) Standing committees may select a recording secretary to comply with the requirements of supplying roll call and filing the minutes. A Chairperson may also be selected.
- b) With the exception of guest speakers, committee meetings are restricted to CUPE 523 committee members.
- c) The committee shall draft objectives and goals and submit them to the Executive Board for approval.

- d) All committees shall take direction from and be responsible to the Executive Board. Tasks may be assigned to committees by the Executive Board or by the President.
- e) Committees shall give a verbal or written report of activity to the membership at the General meetings of CUPE 523. A written report shall be filed with the Local.
- f) Budgetary provisions for Standing Committees shall be prepared by the Executive Board in consultation with the Committee Chairperson for inclusion in the annual budget and approval at the General Meetings.
- g) Any funds allocated to a Committee shall be held by the Secretary Treasurer.
- h) Members appointed or elected to Local 523 committees shall be reimbursed in accordance with the expense policy (Appendix "E") to attend committee meetings.
- i) Committee members shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 23 - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Special Committees may be set up either by election at any General Meeting or by appointment by the President. At least two (2) Executive Board members shall sit on all Special Committees. Special committee needs shall be assessed at Executive Board meetings. The Executive Board shall establish the duration of special committees.

Members appointed or elected to Local 523 special committees shall be reimbursed in accordance with the expense policy (Appendix "E") to attend committee meetings.

Section 24 - NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

The Negotiations Committee shall be in accordance with the terms of the respective Collective Agreements. Prior to the expiry date of the respective Collective Agreements, the respective Negotiation Committee, in consultation with the representative of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, shall prepare proposals for a new agreement.

Section 25 - GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

The Grievance Committees shall consist of the 1st Vice President (Chair), President, Unit Chair(s) and Shop Steward(s) involved with the grievance. The Grievance Committees may appoint additional member(s) if their expertise is needed.

- a) The Grievance Committees shall be responsible for the completion of official grievance form Appendix "J".
- b) The Chair shall submit all grievances to the Executive Board for approval prior to settling the grievance or referring it to arbitration.
- c) The grievance reports shall be presented to the Executive Board and membership and shall also be provided to the National Representative.
- d) CUPE National Representative shall be an ex-officio member of this committee.

APPEALS PROCESS

The decision to file a grievance and to proceed to any step of the grievance procedure including arbitration rests exclusively with the Local Union and not an individual member. To ensure the decisions are fair and not arbitrary, the following appeal process is available for members.

If the member feels they have an issue that warrants a grievance and or arbitration, they must first discuss this issue with their Unit Chair. The Unit Chair will then consult with the 1st Vice President and advise on the merits of taking the matter forward. If the decision is to not take the matter forward the following appeal process may occur.

First Appeal

1. A member who wishes to appeal a decision not to proceed with a grievance or arbitration will notify the Grievance Committee Chair (1st vice president) in writing within seven (7) days of receiving this decision from their Steward/Unit Chair.
2. The Grievance Committee will meet within seven (7) days to decide on the matter.
3. The Unit Chair will take any and all necessary steps with the employer to ensure the matter is not lost due to any timelines outlined in the grievance procedure of the collective agreement.
4. The Grievance Committee shall request the opinion of the National Representative.
5. At that meeting, the assigned Steward/Unit Chair will present their reasons for not advancing the matter to grievance or arbitration.
6. The Member will then be asked to present their case along with their reasons for why they feel the matter should be advanced, and any other information they feel is relevant.
7. The member will then be excused from the meeting.
8. The Grievance Committee will then conduct a secret ballot vote to decide on whether to advance the matter or not.
9. The member will be notified of the decision by the Grievance Committee and their right to advance the matter for a final appeal.

Final Appeal

1. Should a member wish, they may advance the matter to a final appeal before the Local Executive Board
2. To do so, they must notify in writing to the Secretary Treasurer within seven (7) days of receiving the decision on the first appeal.
3. The Executive Board will then have the matter placed on the agenda of the next Executive Board meeting or call a special Executive Board Meeting for the matter to be heard within fourteen (14) days of the appeal notice.
4. The Unit Chair will take any and all necessary steps with the employer to ensure the matter is not lost due to any timelines outlined in the grievance procedure of the collective agreement.
5. Prior to the meeting, the Executive Board shall request the opinion of the National Representative.
6. At that meeting, an assigned Grievance Committee Member will present the Grievance Committee's reasons for not advancing the matter to grievance or arbitration.
7. The Member will then be asked to present their case along with their reasons for why they feel the matter should be advanced, and any other information they feel is relevant.
8. The member, and the members of the Grievance Committee will then be excused from the meeting.
9. The Executive Board will then discuss the matter with the National Representative and conduct a secret ballot vote to decide on whether to advance the matter or not.
10. The member will be notified of the decision by the President.
11. The decision of the Executive is final; and unless new and cogent evidence arises there will be no further appeal.
12. For the purposes of a final appeal, the quorum requirement shall be 5 Executive Board members or delegates.

Section 26 - LOCAL SHOP STEWARDS COMMITTEE

The Local Shop Stewards Committee shall consist of the 1st Vice President (Chair), Shop Stewards and Unit Chair(s) as required.

The Committee shall:

- a) Discuss common issues/trends.
- b) Assist in maintaining Local 523 interpretation binder.
- c) Develop strategies on specific grievances or issues.
- d) Assist in providing shop stewards with training opportunities.

Section 27 - COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee shall be comprised of the 2nd Vice President (Chair), Recording Secretary and up to one member from each unit.

The Communications Committee shall:

- a) Manages the local newsletter, social media, other printed materials and the local website.
- b) Maintain Local 523 membership bulletin boards.
- c) Assist in distribution of printed materials.
- d) Coordinates outreach with other campaigns where CUPE 523 takes a stand.
- e) Make decisions regarding Local 523 promotional items.
- f) Disseminates Union information packages.
- g) Other duties as assigned.

Section 28 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Occupational Health & Safety Committee shall be comprised of the President or designate, and up to two OH&S representative(s) from each unit.

The Occupational Health & Safety Committee shall:

- a) Provide educational information through the Local newsletter, social media, and website.
- b) Organize Day of Mourning (April 28) event(s) for the Local.
- c) Organize workshops for CUPE Education to be made available to members.
- d) The Chair of the committee shall provide an oral/written report at general Meetings.
- e) Liaise with health and safety joint committee representatives in their units and report to committee.
- f) Track and report on all WorkSafe BC investigations/reports in the Local.

Section 29 - GOOD & WELFARE COMMITTEE

The Good and Welfare Committee shall be comprised of the 2nd Vice President (Chair) and one member from each Unit.

The Good & Welfare Committee shall be dedicated to supporting all members of CUPE 523 by providing recognition of those special events and other circumstances in accordance with guidelines developed by the Committee.

Good & Welfare shall be offered in accordance with Appendix "G".

Section 30 - EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Local recognizes the value of Union education and shall provide appropriate educational opportunities to members in good standing.

The Education Committee shall:

- a) be comprised of the 2nd Vice President (Chair) and one unit elected member per unit.
- b) be responsible for requesting and promoting educational opportunities within the local.
- c) be responsible for selecting candidates for educational opportunities.

See attached Appendix "H".

Section 31 - DELEGATES TO CONVENTIONS & CONFERENCES

- a) The President of Local 523 or designate shall be given first option to attend the CLC Convention, the BC Fed Convention and CUPE conventions.
- b) The Secretary-Treasurer of Local 523 or designate shall be given second option to attend CUPE BC and CUPE National conventions.
- c) The Local 523 Executive Board shall be designated two delegate positions to attend the CLC Convention, the BC Fed Convention and CUPE conventions, when delegates are sent.
- d) Any remaining delegate credentials shall be filled by election at a General Meeting.
- e) In the event there is no quorum at the General Meeting or should registration deadlines not permit an election to be held, the Executive shall select delegates.

Section 32 - NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO OFFICE

Nominations for Local Officers (President, Vice Presidents, Secretary Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Indigenous Workers Representative, Trustees) shall be received at the General Meeting held in February of each year. No nominations shall be accepted unless the member is in attendance or has filed consent in writing, witnessed and submitted by the closing of nominations. No member shall be eligible for nomination if they are in arrears of dues and/or assessments. No member may be elected to more than one office as defined in Section 8 - Officers.

Nothing contained in this section shall be deemed to conflict with the provisions of the CUPE Constitution, Appendix "B" Article B.

Section 33A - Unit Elections

This section refers specifically to elections held for Unit positions (Unit Chair, shop stewards, unit committees.) For Local elections, refer to section 33B.

Nominations for Unit positions will be accepted at a Fall Unit Meeting, and the election will take place immediately following the closing of nominations. There is no campaign period for Unit positions.

- a) Unit Chairs and Shop Stewards shall be elected for a two-year term by the members of that unit during a Unit meeting. Interim vacancies will be filled at a special unit meeting called for that purpose with no less than seven (7) days' notice.
 - a. IFT unit elections shall be held in even numbered years.
 - b. SD53 unit elections shall be held in even numbered years.
 - c. TPCS unit elections shall be in even numbered years.
 - d. NOYFSS unit elections shall be held in odd numbered years.
 - e. SD67 unit elections shall be held in odd numbered years.
 - f. SD83 unit elections shall be held in odd numbered years.
- b) The President, or Designate, shall be responsible for conducting the elections for unit positions. Any candidates for a position being elected may not be designated to conduct the election.
- c) Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

- d) Immediately following the close of voting, the President or Designate (and their assistants if applicable) shall proceed to count the ballots. Immediately upon completion of same, the President or Designate shall report to the meeting the results of the vote.
- e) The President or Designate shall be responsible for the preparation of sufficient ballots.
- f) Any member in attendance may make a motion to recount the votes. Such a motion shall require 10 or more members to vote in favour of a recount. The recount shall be taken immediately and prior to the election of any other office.
- g) When electing a single member for a single position, a simple majority of votes cast shall be required before any candidate can be declared elected, and second and subsequent ballots shall be taken, if necessary, to obtain such a majority. On the second and subsequent ballots, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the previous ballot shall be dropped. ~~In the case of a tie vote between the two final candidates, two subsequent rounds of ballots will be taken. If the winner is still not decided the President or Designate may order that the winner be decided by random chance.~~*** This clause was ratified by the membership but has not been approved by the CUPE National Office, so is not currently in effect. This will be addressed at a future General Meeting. ***
- h) When electing multiple members to the same position on a single ballot, a majority of the votes cast will not be required. The members who receive the most votes, up to the number of available positions, will be elected. ~~In the case of a tie vote for the last available seat being elected, two subsequent rounds of ballots will be taken with only those two members on the ballot. If the winner is still not decided the President or Designate may order that the winner be decided by random chance.~~*** This clause was ratified by the membership but has not been approved by the CUPE National Office, so is not currently in effect. This will be addressed at a future General Meeting. ***
- i) When two or more nominees are to be elected to any office by ballot, each member voting shall be required to vote for the full number of candidates to be elected or the member's ballot will be declared spoiled.

Section 33B - LOCAL ELECTIONS

This section refers specifically to elections held for positions at the Local level. (President, Vice Presidents, Secretary Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Indigenous Workers Representative, Trustees.) For Unit elections, see section 33A.

Elections for local positions will take place at a Special Meeting called specifically for the purpose of the election, approximately one month following the closing of nominations at the February General Meeting.

- a) For the purpose of conducting the Annual Elections, the President shall, subject to the approval of the members at a General Election Meeting appoint a Returning Officer and assistants. The Returning Officer:
 - Must be a member in good standing.
 - Must not be an Officer of the local as defined in Section 8.
 - Must not be the National Representative.
 - Must not be a candidate for a position being elected in the current election.
- b) The Returning Officer, or designate, and assistants shall have full responsibility for conducting the elections as set out in these Bylaws and shall treat all information submitted to them as confidential. The Returning Officer shall report to the meeting only at the time appointed.
- c) The Returning Officer, or designate, shall be responsible for issuing and receiving ballots.
- d) Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- e) Nominations shall be closed during the General Meeting in February of each year.
 - a. The President shall be elected in odd numbered years.
 - b. The 2nd Vice-President shall be elected in odd numbered years.
 - c. The Recording Secretary shall be elected in odd numbered years.

- d. The 1st Vice President shall be elected in even numbered years.
- e. The Secretary Treasurer shall be elected in even numbered years.
- f. The Indigenous Workers' Representative shall be elected in even numbered years.
- g. One (1) Trustee shall be elected every year for three (3) years.
- f) All candidates shall adhere to the election guidelines outlined in Appendix "B".
- g) The Executive Board shall be responsible for the preparation of sufficient ballots.
- h) Immediately following the close of voting, the Returning Officer and their assistants shall proceed to count the ballots and report the results to the meeting.
- i) Any member in attendance may make a motion to recount the votes. Such a motion shall require 10 or more members to vote in favour of a recount. The recount shall be taken immediately and prior to the election of any other office.
- j) When electing a single member for a single position, A simple majority of votes cast shall be required before any candidate can be declared elected, and second and subsequent ballots shall be taken, if necessary, to obtain such a majority. On the second and subsequent ballots, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the previous ballot shall be dropped. ~~In the case of a tie vote between the two final candidates, two subsequent rounds of ballots will be taken. If the winner is still not decided, the Returning Officer may order that the winner be decided by random chance.~~ *** This article was ratified by the membership but has not been approved by the CUPE National Office, so is not currently in effect. This will be addressed at a future General Meeting. ***
- k) When electing multiple members to the same position on a single ballot, a majority of the votes cast will not be required. The members who receive the most votes, up to the number of available positions, will be elected. ~~In the case of a tie vote for the last available seat being elected, two subsequent rounds of ballots will be taken with only those two members on the ballot. If the winner is still not decided the President or Designate may order that the winner be decided by random chance.~~ *** This article was ratified by the membership but has not been approved by the CUPE National Office, so is not currently in effect. This will be addressed at a future General Meeting. ***
- l) When two or more nominees are to be elected to any office by ballot, each member voting shall be required to vote for the full number of candidates to be elected or the member's ballot will be declared spoiled.

Section 34 - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- a) All duly elected officers shall be installed when elections are concluded and shall continue in office until such time as a successor has been elected and installed, provided, however, that no term of office shall be longer than three years.
- b) In the event that any elected office becomes vacant during the normal period between elections, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy at the next General Election Meeting. During the interim period the Executive Board shall have the authority to fill such vacancy by appointment until the next general Election Meeting.

Section 35 - VOTING OF FUNDS

- a) The Secretary Treasurer will present an annual budget for the approval of the membership each year.
- b) Any financial expenses, other than ordinary or budgeted expenses attributed to the operation of the Local, over one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) must be voted on by the membership at a General Meeting following a notice of motion.
- c) Preference for donations from the Local shall be given to labour-oriented organizations or causes.
- d) Voting of funds for education: if time frames do not permit the expenditure to be approved at a general Meeting, the Executive Board by a majority vote can approve the expenditure.

- e) In case of a donation over \$500 to a cause(s), a notice of motion must be made at a General Meeting and be approved at the following General Meeting before the donation can be paid out. Motions for donations of \$500 or less can be voted on by the membership at a single General Meeting without a notice of motion.

Section 36 - RETIREMENT BENEFIT

On their retirement, the member shall receive a benefit to the value of fifty (\$50)/year(s) of service to a maximum of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750). No member retiring shall receive less than one hundred dollars (\$100)

Section 37 - HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE FUND

This policy must be flexible and shall be applied only under clear hardship circumstances and will generally be limited to hardship associated to medical factors. Payment under these guidelines does not imply any future or further responsibility or liability for funds.

- a) The maximum amount of assistance from CUPE Local 523 in any given instance shall be five hundred dollars (\$500).
- b) Payments shall only be made to a member in good standing. No payments shall be paid to anyone's estate.
- c) Requests to be sent in writing from Unit Chairs to the Executive Board. All such decisions shall be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
- d) All members' circumstances shall be kept confidential within the Executive Board.
- e) The intent of this assistance is that it shall be applied on a "one time only" basis to individual members for any given issue.

Section 38 - AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

- a) These Bylaws shall not be amended, added to, or suspended except upon a majority vote of those present and voting at a General or Special Meeting following seven (7) days' notice at a previous meeting or at least thirty (30) days electronic notice.
- b) The Bylaws of the Local shall at all times be subordinate and subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, as such Constitution and Bylaws exist or may, from time to time hereafter, be altered or amended; and in any event of conflict, the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public Employees shall govern. Matters of interpretation of these Bylaws shall be subject to the provisions of Article 9.2(c) of the CUPE Constitution.
- c) Any changes in these Bylaws shall not be valid until approved by the National President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees in accordance with Article XIII, Section 13.3 of the CUPE Constitution, and approved in original form by the National President.

APPENDIX “A” - RULES OF ORDER

The rules of Order of CUPE 523 shall be Bourinot’s Rules of order.

The rules of Order and Business shall be as follows. In the event that any of the following rules of order are in contradiction to the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public Employees those of the Constitution shall apply.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roll Call of Officers
 2. Recognition of Traditional Territory
 3. Equality Statement
 4. Minute of Silence
 5. Voting on new members and initiations
 6. Reading of minutes of previous meeting
 7. Matters arising out of minutes
 8. Correspondence and communications
 9. Treasurer's Report
 10. Executive Board Reports
 11. Reports of Committees and Delegates
 12. Nominations, Elections & Installations
 13. Unfinished Business
 14. New Business
 15. Good of the Union
 16. Adjournment
-
- a) The President, or in their absence, the Vice President shall take the chair at the time specified, at all General and Special Meetings. In the absence of both the President and the Vice President, the Treasurer shall act as President, and in their absence a President pro tempore shall be chosen by the local.
 - b) The President shall state every question coming before the Local and before allowing debate thereon, and immediately before putting it to a vote, shall ask: "Is the Local ready for the question?". Should no member rise to speak, and the Local indicates readiness, the question shall be put. After the President has risen, no member shall be permitted to speak on the question.
 - c) A motion to be entertained by the presiding officer must be seconded, and the mover as well as the seconder must rise and be recognized by the chair.
 - d) A motion to amend, or to amend an amendment, shall be in order, but no motion to amend an amendment to an amendment shall be permitted. No amendment or amendment to an amendment which is a direct negative of the resolution shall be in order.
 - e) On motion, the regular order of business may be suspended, by a two-thirds vote of those present, to deal with any urgent business.
 - f) All resolutions and motions, other than those named in Rule (p) or those to accept or adopt the report of the committee, shall if requested by the presiding officer, be presented in writing before being put to the Local.
 - g) At the request of any member, and upon a majority vote of those present, a question may be divided when the sense will admit of it.
 - h) When a member desires to speak on a question, or offers a motion, they shall rise in place and respectfully address the presiding officer; but they shall not proceed further until recognized by the chair, except to state that they rise to a point of order or on a question of privilege.
 - i) When two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide which one is entitled to the floor.

- j) Every member, while speaking, shall adhere to the question under debate and avoid all personal, indecorous, or offensive language, as well as any reflection of the Local or any member thereof.
- k) If a member, while speaking, is called to order, he shall cease speaking until the point is determined, when, if decided in order, he may again proceed.
- l) No sectarian discussion (that is to say, religious discussion) shall be permitted in the meeting at any time.
- m) No member, except the Chairperson of a Committee or the mover or seconder of a resolution, shall speak more than (3) minutes at any one time, or more than once on the same question, until all members wishing to speak have had an opportunity to do so, when he may be allowed, by permission of the chair, to speak a second time.
- n) The President shall take no part in debate while presiding but may yield the chair to the Vice President in order to speak on any question before the Local or introduce a new question.
- o) The presiding officer shall have the same right as other members to vote on any question. In case of a tie, they may give a casting vote, if they chooses refrain from voting, in which case the motion does not prevail, and the decision is negative.
- p) When a question has been put, no motion shall be in order except (1) to adjourn, (2) to move the previous question, (3) to lay on the table, (4) to postpone for a definite time, (5) to refer, (6) to divide or amend, which motion shall have precedence in the order named. The first three of these shall be decided without debate.
- q) A motion for the previous question, when regularly moved and seconded, shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" If it is adopted, the President shall proceed to take the vote on the resolution and amendments thereto (if any) according to their priority. If an amendment or an amendment to an amendment is adopted, the original resolution, as amended, shall be put to the Local.
- r) A motion to adjourn is in order except (1) when a member has floor, and (2) when members are voting. A motion to adjourn, having been put and lost, shall not be in order again if there is further business before the local, until fifteen minutes have elapsed.
- s) Before the presiding officer declares the vote on a question or after a vote has been declared lost or carried by acclamation, and before the Local proceeds to another order of business, any member may ask for a division. A standing vote shall be taken and the Secretary shall count same.
- t) If a member wishes to appeal a decision of the Chairperson, the member must appeal at the time the decision is made. If the appeal is seconded, the member will be asked to state briefly the basis for the appeal.
- u) When the decision of the President is appealed from, they shall state their decision, and the reasons therefore, from the chair. The party appealing there from shall briefly state the reasons for the appeal, after which, without further debate, the question shall be put thus: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the decision of the Local?" It shall require majority vote to sustain such appeal.
- v) After a question has been decided, any two members who have voted in the majority may at the same or next meeting move consideration thereof.
- w) No member shall enter or leave a meeting during the reading of the minutes, the initiation of new members, the installation of officers, or the taking of a vote; and no member shall be allowed to leave without the permission of the Vice President.
- x) All business done in the Local shall be strictly secret to all outside the Local.
- y) All rules and proceedings of debate not herein provided for, shall be defined in the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public Employees.
- z) The Local Union may hold membership meetings in person and/or virtually. Where virtual meetings are held, all voting will be conducted electronically providing secrecy can be maintained, where mandated.

APPENDIX “B” - NOMINEE CAMPAIGN RULES

The time between the closing of nominations and voting during CUPE Local 523 Local elections allows candidates to campaign to win the support of members. CUPE Local 523 supports and encourages campaigning, however in fairness to all the following campaign rules have been implemented.

Nominees must conduct their campaigns in accordance with the following rules.

- a) Nominees shall comply with the CUPE Equality Statement, the CUPE National Constitution and the CUPE Local 523 bylaws including the CUPE Code of Conduct at all times.
- b) Nominees will be entitled to distribute campaign material through e-mail to all members the Local has contact information for. Nominees may request members provide their contacts information for the purposes of their campaign. The Union will forward campaign materials and will not provide member contact information for the purposes of the elections.
- c) Nominees will be entitled to contact the members through the Local e-mail distribution list a maximum of three times.
- d) The use of Employer email systems for campaigning purposes is not allowed and could result in Employer disciplinary action.
- e) Campaign strategies shall not include an offer of gifts or rewards in return for pledges of support [bribery], misrepresentations of what the nominee could or would do if elected [fraud], or references to another nominee that are misleading or untruthful [slander].
- f) Nominees who believe that there is a complaint to be made regarding the conduct of another nominee shall notify the National Rep. and the Local Table Officers of the complaint in writing. This will result in an investigation of the circumstances of the complaint.
- g) When a complaint is made toward another nominee and the investigation by the National Rep. and the Table Officers concludes that misconduct has occurred the National Rep. will disclose the finding at the election meeting.
- h) Nominees will be entitled to speak or have a statement read aloud at the Local Election meeting for a period of up to three minutes. Nominators will be entitled to one minute.
- i) The union will pay all nominees expenses to attend the Local Election Meeting, as per the Expense Policy (Appendix “E”).
- j) Nominees will be entitled to Scrutineers. Scrutineers must be designated by the nominee in-person or in writing.

APPENDIX “C” - DEATH BENEFIT FUND

- 1) Administration
 - a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Constitution and Bylaws of this Union, benefits shall be paid from the general fund of the Local.
 - b) The Table Officers of Local 523 shall be the trustees of the Death Benefit Fund.
- 2) Eligibility and Benefits
 - a) The benefit of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) shall be payable, and shall be paid by the trustees, only to the beneficiaries (as defined in Clause 3 hereto). Applications for death benefits must be received within four (4) months of death.
 - b) Any person who has been a member in good standing of Local 523 including members who were receiving long term disability benefits.
 - c) The death benefit is not available to a member who voluntarily leaves their employment, or for dismissal for cause and not being reinstated, or who is superannuated or retires from within Local 523 jurisdiction.
- 3) Beneficiaries
 - a) Each person who is a member of this Local shall designate their beneficiary by completing and delivering to the trustees a completed copy of Notice of Beneficiary (Form A, attached). It shall be the sole responsibility of the member concerned to designate his or her beneficiary and maintain its currency. No claims against the Local shall be accepted where no beneficiary was previously named and properly deposited with the trustees.
 - b) Should any member and beneficiary become deceased at the same time no benefit shall be payable. No benefit shall be payable to any estate.
 - c) No one, having completed and delivered a Notice of Beneficiary, shall change his or her beneficiary without first delivering a newly signed and dated Notice of Beneficiary.
 - d) The trustees shall keep records of all forms delivered to them, and all beneficiaries named therein and of all changes in beneficiaries.
 - e) No one may make a valid claim against the fund as a beneficiary unless they:
 - a. is specifically named as such beneficiary on the most recent Notice of Beneficiary which has been duly deposited with the Local.
 - b. establishes to the trustee’s satisfaction their identity as such,
 - c. proves to the trustee’s satisfaction that the member has died and,
 - d. delivers to the trustees an application for benefits on Form "B" (attached).
- 4) Miscellaneous
 - a) This coverage is given to members without charge and is paid for out of the general fund of the Local. This benefit was adopted by the membership at a general meeting and does not constitute a group or individual insurance company.
 - b) The trustees of the Death Benefit Fund shall not under any circumstances be responsible for costs arising out of litigation between two or more parties claiming to be the beneficiaries or for any other reason connected with the normal carrying out of their duties as outlined in these Bylaws.
 - c) No death benefit shall be paid on a withdrawal card.
 - d) The Local shall keep a separate record of monies paid out in Death Benefits.

APPENDIX “D” - CONTINUING EDUCATION BURSARY

A continuing education bursary of \$500 per student will be paid to applicants to a maximum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year for the Local. This bursary shall be offered by CUPE Local 523, to students who are proceeding to a program of studies in any field, whether academic or vocational, within eighteen (18) months of their high school graduation.

In the event that the (\$15,000) cap is not used within the year the balance will carry forward to the following year to a maximum amount of twenty thousand (\$20,000).

In the event of more applicants than funds available, the benefit will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- a) The child or dependent of a member of Local 523 in good standing.
- b) Graduating from Grade 12 or equivalent, however no student may receive the bursary more than once.
- c) Students must submit an electronic application indicating who they are, and who their parents are, and their vocational or academic plans. It is the sole responsibility of the graduating student to apply for the bursary.
- d) The student's application must be in the hands of the Secretary Treasurer of Local 523 by the deadline date as noted on notices sent out each year.
- e) Successful applicants shall be notified by mail, and monies shall be forwarded upon verification and payment of registration, after withdrawal date of post-secondary institution.

APPENDIX “E” - EXPENSE POLICY

1. Preamble

The purpose of this expense policy is to reimburse members for expenses incurred on behalf of CUPE Local 523. Expense claims should be submitted to the Secretary Treasurer by the end of the following month in which the expense(s) were incurred. This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Trustees.

2. Wages

Lost wages for regular scheduled hours of work shall be repaid at cost directly to the employer only. Wage loss shall not be paid directly to individuals.

3. Accommodation

If required, accommodation shall be paid at prevailing rates. Members are entitled to a single room. Where possible, all room, tax, and parking shall be billed directly to Local 523. Where possible accommodation used shall be a unionized hotel.

4. Dependent Care

If required, dependent care shall be paid outside of regular working hours. Upon proof of payment a maximum rate of \$15.00/hr. to a maximum of \$225.00/day (which includes travel time) shall be reimbursed. Completion of the Local 523 Dependent Care form is also required. Other dependent care expenses shall be paid at a reasonable rate. All dependent care expenses must have prior approval of the Executive. Claims will not be paid to a caregiver who normally provides care without charge.

5. Transportation

Transportation should consider both convenient and economical means, with the maximum mileage not to exceed reasonable airfare:

- a) Airfare where required (economy class).
- b) Car mileage equal to the mileage allowance of CUPE BC as amended from time to time. Wherever possible members should carpool, and the driver shall be reimbursed mileage.
- c) Taxis from airport - to hotel - to meeting place and return: reimbursed on presentation of receipts.
- d) Where possible air travel used shall be with a unionized airline.

6. Per Diem

All delegates selected to attend conventions/conferences, committee meetings and other executive approved events that occur outside of the Local region (Region defined as: Thompson, Okanagan [TOSCC]) shall receive a full day per diem as per the CUPE BC Expense policy.

Travel days shall be paid as per the CUPE BC Expense Policy. For travel to the next day event (as per 6a) or return travel day on the next day after events (as per 6a) half day per diem shall be paid. When travel requires a full day, full day per diem shall be paid.

Full day per diems shall be prorated where meals are provided. If all meals provided refer to section 6b.

When members attend approved union business (excluding Retirement Seminar Course and General and Special Meetings) requiring a full day (more than 4hrs), a \$17 per diem shall be paid.

When executive members, or designates, attend union business (excluding Retirement Seminar Course) requiring a full day (more than 4hrs), a \$17 per diem shall be paid.

7. Meals:

All approved seminar/meeting attendees shall be reimbursed upon presentation of paid receipts. Charges for alcohol will not be reimbursed. Receipted reimbursements shall not exceed the per diem amounts.

8. Days in Lieu

In cases where Local 523 business causes Executive members to lose both of their consecutive regularly scheduled days off, they will be allowed to book off one day in lieu at Local 523 expense.

Prior authorization of the Executive is required for book off of days in lieu. An approval form is available upon request. The Executive may approve days in lieu to non-Executive members for good reason.

APPENDIX “F” - OUT OF POCKET POLICY

Out of Pocket Expenses

Each active member of the Executive Board shall be paid the following monthly amounts to compensate for out-of-pocket expenses:

President.....	\$75
1st Vice President.....	\$75
2nd Vice President.....	\$75
Secretary Treasurer	\$75
Recording Secretary	\$75
Unit Chairs (6 in total)	\$75
Indigenous Workers’ Representative.....	\$75
Shop Stewards	\$25

APPENDIX “G” - GOOD & WELFARE

Any member who celebrates the birth of a child or gets married shall receive a gift to a maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Any member who experiences extended leave due to serious illness/injury or who loses a member of their immediate family shall receive a gift to a maximum of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

APPENDIX “H” - EDUCATION POLICY

All members in good standing are eligible to apply to participate in CUPE educational opportunities. All application for education (including Retirement Seminar Course) must be submitted through the CUPE 523 website (registration through the CUPE BC website will not be accepted). Applications will be processed by the Education Committee as per the Education Policy.

The Local shall budget a minimum of \$50,000 annually for CUPE or CLC educational opportunities. The Executive Board shall administer and approve expenditures from this fund.

Requests for education can be made by contacting a member of the Education Committee. All education received by members shall be tracked and filed by the 2nd VP.

All members who receive union education shall submit a written report to the Education Committee Chair (2nd VP).

The Education Committee shall develop selection criteria for educational opportunities which will include, but may not be limited to; geographic location, equitable distribution of opportunities, previous education accessed, role in Union, etc.

APPENDIX “I” - CODE OF CONDUCT

The mandate of our union, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), is to organize and defend workers and to promote economic and social justice for our members and for all workers. In carrying out our work, we in CUPE strive to promote our core values which include the principles of solidarity, equality, democracy, integrity, and respect. We are committed to mobilizing our energy and skills to work together to promote these values and to attain these goals in our union, our communities, and globally.

CUPE is committed at all levels to creating a union which is inclusive, welcoming, and free from harassment, discrimination, and all types of bullying and intimidation. CUPE needs to ensure that we provide a safe environment for members, staff, and elected officers to carry out our work. CUPE’s expectation is that mutual respect, understanding, and co-operation will be the basis of all our interaction.

This Code of Conduct sets out standards of behaviour for participants at National Conventions, conferences, schools, meetings, and any other union events organized by CUPE National, Local 523, or any other CUPE chartered body. It is consistent with the expectations outlined in the Equality Statement and the CUPE National Constitution.

This Code of Conduct is intended to deal with complaints of inappropriate behaviour at events organized by CUPE National and at events, meetings, and activities by other CUPE bodies. It does not apply to complaints arising in the workplace, as those are dealt with through the grievance procedure and/or the applicable workplace harassment policy.

As CUPE members, staff, and elected officers, we commit to one another and to the union to be governed by the principles of the Code of Conduct and agree to:

- Abide by the provisions of the Equality Statement.
- Respect the views of others, even when we disagree.
- Recognize and value individual differences.
- Communicate openly.
- Support and encourage each other.
- Make sure that we do not harass or discriminate against each other.
- Commit to not engaging in offensive comments or conduct.
- Make sure that we do not act in ways that are aggressive, bullying, or intimidating.
- Take responsibility for not engaging in inappropriate behaviour due to use of alcohol or other drugs while participating in union activities, including social events.

Harassment is objectionable behaviour which may include actions, language, gestures, and/or written material, and which the harasser knows or ought reasonably to know is abusive and unwelcome. Bullying is a form of harassment which is serious ongoing behaviour which targets an individual or group and which threatens that person or person’s mental and/or physical well-being.

A complaint regarding the Code of Conduct will be handled as follows:

1. If possible, a member may attempt to deal directly with the person alleged to have engaged in behaviour contrary to the Code by asking them to stop such behaviour. If that is not possible, or if it does not resolve the problem, a member may bring forward a complaint.
2. A complaint shall be brought to the attention of an ombudsperson when there is one available. Should an ombudsperson not be available, a person properly appointed and designated to be in charge shall receive the complaint.

3. The ombudsperson or the person in charge will work to seek a resolution. If this fails to resolve the matter, the ombudsperson shall report the matter to the person in charge. The person in charge has the authority to expel members from the event for serious or persistent offenses.
4. If the complaint involves a national staff member, it shall be referred to the appropriate director for investigation and the complaint shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable staff collective agreement. If the complaint involves a staff member employed by another CUPE chartered organization, the complaint shall be referred to the person responsible for their employment.
5. If the person in charge is a party to the complaint, an alternate will be designated to assume the role.
6. In a case where a member has been expelled from a National event, the National President shall receive a report on the matter. For other events, the presiding officer shall receive a report on the matter.
7. For events organized by CUPE National, the National President shall determine if further remedial action is appropriate, including restricting a member's participation in future events organized by CUPE National. For other events, the presiding officer shall consult the National President.

This Code of Conduct is designed to create a safe, respectful, and supportive environment within CUPE. It is meant to enhance the rights and obligations outlined in the CUPE National Constitution, the Equality Statement, and applicable human rights legislation, not replace them.

This Code of Conduct does not replace a member's right to access the trial provisions under Appendix F of the CUPE National Constitution.