



# Newsletter

## Congratulations Pat!

Pat Shade, First Vice President of CUPE 951 was the recipient of CUPE's National Disability Rights Activism Award. Pat is an active member of our local's Health and Safety and Human Rights and Equity Committees. He advocates daily for the removal of barriers for members with disabilities.



Shade's activism does not stop at his local. He is also involved in CUPE BC as a Diversity Vice-President representing persons with disabilities, and as the Chair of the Persons with Disabilities Committee. He has been eligible to retire for some time now, but he chooses not to. Instead, he keeps fighting for more inclusion and accessibility, and he keeps advancing disability rights in our workplaces, communities, and union.

"Unfortunately, disabled people's needs and rights are always the first to be forgotten. But when our needs and rights are met, it is beneficial for us and society as a whole. The stigmatization and marginalization of persons with disabilities must come to an end," said Shade.

CUPE's National Disability Rights Activism Award recognizes the achievement and activism of a CUPE member or retiree with a disability who has achieved important victories, such as eliminating barriers and introducing rights, policies or practices, as well educating CUPE members about disability-related issues.

## Staff Pensions Advisory Committee

The Staff Pensions Advisory Committee has an upcoming vacancy on the committee in 2022. If you have questions or are interested, please contact [Kara White](#) for more details.



## TRUSTEES UPDATE

Welcome to new trustee Jerry McFarland.

Trustees have begun this year's audit and it is about half completed and expect to have it complete in one more afternoon. The deadline to submit the audit is March 2022.

## TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION [CALLS TO ACTION](#)

#15. We call upon the federal government to appoint, in consultation with Aboriginal groups, an Aboriginal Languages Commissioner. The commissioner should help promote Aboriginal languages and report on the adequacy of federal funding of Aboriginal-languages initiatives.

#16. We call upon post-secondary institutions to create university and college degree and diploma programs in Aboriginal languages.

## ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER?

Welcome to CUPE Local 951! All new members should email [cupelocal951@gmail.com](mailto:cupelocal951@gmail.com) for the Application for Membership form all members are required to complete.



## GET INVOLVED

Are you interested in being a volunteering? We are always looking for members to sign up to become a steward or sit on committees. For information email [cupe951@uvic.ca](mailto:cupe951@uvic.ca).



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## CUPE BC COMMITTEE UPDATES

**The Library Committee** is looking for volunteers to have their photo taken and be interviewed to help others understand the work that is done in libraries; including how often these jobs are underfunded, overworked, and largely temporary or term contracts, providing little to no stability for those employed in these positions.

If you are interested contact [Ashley Jellicoe](#) for more information. *\*\*The photo(s) and interview(s) will be used primarily for promotional materials (e.g. postcard-style handouts) at local libraries, library conferences, and CUPE gatherings.*

**Persons with Disabilities Committee** is undertaking a 'Not All Disabilities Are Visible' campaign to raise awareness of invisible disabilities. Are you a member with an invisible disability and want to share your story in the May issue of CUPE BC's Public Employee magazine? If so, please contact [Pat Shade](#) and/or [Laurie Whyte](#).

**Pink Triangle Committee** is working on changing the language within CUPE by changing LGBTQ2SIA+ to 2SLGBTQIA+ to recognize that our Indigenous two spirit siblings were here before settlers. The committee will continue to support the [All Blood is Equal campaign](#). They will also continue to support locals in bargaining with gender inclusive language and improvements to benefits for trans and other queer people. For more information, contact [Page DeWolfe](#).

**The Anti-Privatization Committee** encourages you to spread the word and email your school district Trustees about building [public childcare for school-aged kids](#). Lets bring the work home to our Educational Assistants and utilize the space that is there. For more information, contact [Amy Issel](#).

**The Universities Committee** launched a campaign, Fund BC's Future, to call on the BC government to address past underfunding with investments that give workers on campus more support to deliver world-class learning, improve campus infrastructure and resources to maintain clean and healthy facilities, and lower tuition fees that make education more accessible for students and will help provide more skilled professionals. The campaign will feature a series of digital ads, a new [website](#), and on-campus events where students, campus workers, and the public can show their support for investing in colleges and universities as the best investment in BC's future. Members are encouraged to visit the website to call on the BC Government. For more information, contact [Kirk Mercer](#).



## CUPE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following resolutions submitted by our local were approved at CUPE National Convention.

**#93 CUPE NATIONAL WILL:** Create a mental health self-care tool kit for CUPE activists that will include a plan for pursuing healthy coping strategies

**#101 CUPE NATIONAL WILL:** • Expand the Steward Learning Series to include sections on equity, diversity and inclusion within our Union, Sexual Harassment and Violence, and Ally training based on the "How to be More Than a Bystander" training.

**#146 CUPE NATIONAL WILL:** • Continue to encourage and support women to be elected into leadership roles and continue a relationship of support with them afterward.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

**December 20, 2021:** International Human Solidarity Day

**December 25, 2021:** University closed for winter break

**January 1, 2022:** Happy New Year

**January 4, 2022:** University opens

**January 4, 2022:** World Braille Day

**January 24, 2022:** International Day of education

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the members at the December 2021 general meeting who won the draw for a \$25.00 gift card for Save-On-Foods! Thank you Kirk for delivering the gift cards that members donated to CFA Santa's Anonymous!

