

CHRONICLE

CUPE LOCAL 728

Volume 50 – Issue 6
5681 – 177B Street, Surrey, B.C. V3S 4J2
E-mail: office@cupe728.ca
Website: www.cupe728.ca
www.facebook.com/cupe728

June 2023
Telephone: 604-576-2873
Fax: 604-576-2871
Follow us on Twitter@cupe728
Follow us on Instagram at CUPE728

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING June 21, 2023

The June 21st GM will be a HYBRID meeting at 6:00 p.m. You can attend in person at the *Surrey Beavers Athletic Association (Rugby Club) – 17395 57th Ave, Surrey*

You must pre-register for this meeting using your FIRST AND LAST NAME even if you plan to attend in person as all voting is done through Zoom. You WILL NOT be let into the meeting unless you register using your first and last name.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdOmhrDkuH9cn4D8y7iBMv4Uri4hr3M-X>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

SHOP STEWARDS

If you have an issue or a question pertaining to work, please call your Shop Steward, leave a message on the phone number listed below. They will contact you when they are available. The Union office will only refer you to your Shop Steward.

EA Elementary – Gaylene Garceau.....778-808-4483
EA Sec/Spareboard
Amanda Williams.....604-818-2019
Clerical - Shannon Levinsky.....778-808-3917
Caretaker – Edward Parsotam.....604-812-2611
MT - Non-Trades – Desmond Caines.....604-813-1799
MT - Trades – Blair Hofer.....604-723-1921
School & Community Support
Laura Hagar-Gaube.....604-341-6627
Student Support – Nora Hooper.....778-808-5823

Please **DO NOT** contact your shop stewards at their workplace.

CUPE BC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please visit the CUPE BC website for information on their scholarship <https://www.cupe.bc.ca/>

AGENDA

All Motions must be submitted in writing

1. Elect one (1) Sick Bank & Benefit Fund committee member for the remainder of the term Oct/21 – Oct/24.\
2. Elect a Trustee for a 3-year term 2023 – 2026.
3. **Elect Standing Committees:**
 - Three (3) *District Health & Safety*
 - Five (5) *Health & Safety Sub-Committee*
 - Three (3) – eight (8) *Constitution and By-Laws*
 - Three (3) – eight (8) *Political Action*
 - Three (3) – five (5) one (1) of whom shall be retired & appointed by the committee *Pension Committee*
 - Three (3) *School Board Trustee Action*
 - Three (3) *Education Committee*
 - Three or more (3+) *Women’s Committee*
 - Three or more (3+) *Human Rights & Equity*
 - Three or more (3”) *Anti-Contracting Out*
 - *Young Workers*

Please go to our website: www.cupe728.ca and look under Constitution & Bylaws for descriptions of committees.

4. **Notice of Motion: Bylaw change 60 days notice (Notice given April 11/23, can vote at June 21/23 GMM)**
Section 3. Meetings
To remove when the meeting will be held the week after Spring Break and add “If a statutory holiday, or any other extenuating circumstance intervenes, the Executive Board shall be authorized to change the meeting date and shall give one week’s notice in writing of any change in the date of the regular meeting.”
Change to:
Section 3. Meetings
Meetings shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month alternating between 8pm and 6pm, except in March, ~~when the meeting will be held the week after Spring Break.~~ “If a statutory holiday, or any other extenuating circumstance intervenes, the Executive Board shall be authorized to change the meeting date and shall give one week’s notice in writing of any change in the date of the regular meeting.”
5. **Notice of Motion:** \$7,500 to spend on a welcome back picnic in September 2023.



CUPE Local 728
Fillable Scholarship

PRESIDENT

Well, the school year is coming to a close and this is probably the most hectic time for 10-month employees leading to one of the most hectic times for 12-month employees. I would like to start by thanking everyone for all their hard work. For our 10-month employees I hope you have some time to unwind and rejuvenate. For those working throughout the summer (12-month employees) thanks for all you do, and I hope that you are all safe in the upcoming heat and hope you all get some time off to relax and unwind.

Reminder, we do have one more GM which will be taking place on Wednesday June 21, which is also National Indigenous Peoples Day (please look on page 6 information). I hope that you will be able to join us for the last GM of the school year, this GM we will be electing all standing committees other than the Entertainment committee.

Important dates for our IESW (EA/ABA) please see page 5.

CUPE BC and 728 scholarship information on page 1 and 7.

I would also like to thank the Executive for all their hard work, our new members have hit the ground running and are doing great. Please note many of our executive are 10-month employees and those who are not will take vacations over the Summer. Although Union work does continue in the Summer response times may be longer than usual due to vacation schedules. Please be patient.

The Office is open during the Summer from 8 - 4 Monday to Friday. Please call before you come as the office staff do have holiday's and we may or may not have coverage.

Thank you all for all you do!

In solidarity, Tammy Murphy

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Another School Year has flown by! It is that time for ten-month employees to get a break and rejuvenate before they come back to a new school year in September. We hope you all get an opportunity to go away and spend time with loved ones and friends. Thank you for all your hard work and for making the 2022/2023 school year a success.

12-month employees: I want to thank you for your hard work and for ensuring that the district is running efficiently and making schools safe and clean. I hope you get to have some vacation time to spend with your loved ones as well. Summer is coming, please ensure you are well-hydrated and taking the much-needed extra breaks during heat waves. I am hoping to join some of you at DFC this year to do summer work.

I may be a ten-month employee, but I will be available in the summer for anything needed by the membership. I will be in the office to cover our president's vacation days and grievance meetings with the employer. My phone will be on during the

week for any calls.

Also big thanks to the entire executive for supporting the members, your hard work and dedication are appreciated.



Here's to Good Times and Tan Lines!

Enjoy the summer everyone!

In solidarity, Theresa Pidcock

STUDENT SUPPORT

Hi Friends,

May was a busy month with many calls and emails. Many calls were regarding duty to accommodate and return to work. These issues are not a one answer fits all. Please call or email me if you have any questions on this area. Remember these concerns take time to deal with, especially when outside agencies are involved.

There have been many questions about finishing the modules for ABASW, and how the postings will look. I hope you were able to attend our unit meeting, and that answered all your questions. If you are still missing modules, please call me as this will affect your ability to post into or maintain a position.

CYCW postings will be out on June 23rd, due on June 26th at 4:00pm. The placement meeting will be Aug 2nd at 10:30 at DEC.

I hope the last month of this school year goes well for you, and that you have a wonderful summer. I also wanted to mention I am available to answer your calls and emails throughout the summer.

In solidarity, Nora Hooper

MAINTENANCE NON-TRADES

The month of May has flown by. I have been busy learning the role of Non-Trades Shop Steward. There have been several meetings with the employer and members, each of which have been an amazing learning experience. I look forward to the months ahead and working on behalf of not only Non-Trades but all members.

If you have any questions and or concerns, please feel free to reach out!

In solidarity, Des Caines

SECRETARY TREASURER

Secretary Treasurer's Numbers for April 2023

- 748 JEIS emails / 72 new members / 5387 CUPE728 members / 4901 paid dues / 1228 were FT at 37.5 hrs.
- 9 Benefit Fund cheques issued for member assistance for a total of: \$11,693.52.
- 2 cheques to members next of kin for a total of \$5,000.00.
- 9 recognitions sent as per 7a & 7k for a total of \$731.91.
- 7 Benefit Fund cheques for members leaving with 10+ years of service for a total of \$2,205.00.

- All Sage accounting financials from 2004 to present are available in the main office if anyone would like to arrange to view them in-house.

In Solidarity, Cory Hyslop

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

I've had a busy start to being your steward. Supervision Aides: If you want to take more than the 2-days off given and are refused by HR, contact your shop steward. Your administration team cannot sanction your time off. Your time off must come from HR. If you are not approved by HR, don't take the time.

In solidarity, Laura Hagar-Gaube

EA SECONDARY/SPAREBOARD

Happy June! You made it, another successful school year comes to an end!!

As we go into this last month, please be mindful of the people you work with. This is a very stressful time of the year as we are waiting on hours to see if we will be able to remain at our school. Check in with one another.

Think back to the beginning of the year with your student(s), look how far they have come. You did an amazing job helping & guiding them. You made a difference in their lives.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the posting meeting on June 30th, bumping Meeting August 2 & placement meeting August 8. Good luck to everyone & I hope you find an amazing home for the next school year. For those who are not awarded a position know how valuable you are on the spareboard.

If you have questions on how the Posting, Bumping or Placement Meeting work please reach out to your Shop Stewards. This is a busy time of the year for us so please be patient & give us time to answer you back. We are volunteers putting in many hours above & beyond our regular workday.

I hope everyone takes this summer to recharge, spend time with loved ones & just be you. I look forward to seeing many pictures & hearing stories of your adventures.

If you are leaving your respective schools or staying thank you for all your hard work. Know that you are appreciated.

Happy last month of school! Enjoy your summer. Be safe and have fun!!

“Schools out for summer” 😊

In solidarity, Amanda Williams

Executive Board motions carried:

May 4, 2023: \$ 500.00 Surrey Food Bank

JEIS/off work 6 days or longer:

Participation is not optional if you are sick and away from work longer than 6 days, this includes WSBC, ICBC, and all other types of illness, you must have a **LIVE** conversation with a Desjardins Health Care Specialist.

Health Benefits: If you are on an **unpaid leave of absence** your benefit **coverage terminates** at the 32nd day. To reapply for health benefits, there is a mandatory **3-month waiting period** that requires continuous active employment. This is referred to as a late application and there is no guarantee you will be accepted back into the plan. We have seen cases where Pacific Blue Cross **has denied** extended benefit coverage after a lapse. This decline to extend benefits could also apply to a staff member who opts out of benefit coverage when hired.

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	79	67	45	142	83
Feb	61	62	43	99	79
Mar	36	57	84	44	70
Apr	53	36	73	91	68
May	66	11	55	90	
Jun	59	35	61	60	
Jul	16	17	25	21	
Aug	11	4	16	21	
Sep	64	96	75	68	
Oct	76	71	61	86	
Nov	76	87	111	116	
Dec	65	65	68	72	
Totals	662	608	717	910	

Information:

- The Trustees have completed the 2022 audit and we are just waiting on the final signatures so it can be submitted and then presented.
- EFAP aka Lifeworks and will be converting to Telus Health: Do not set up a new account, sign in with your SD36 username and password or call (24/7) 1-888-625-1136.

MAINTENANCE TRADES

Hey Tradespeople,

I've been on the job for a month now and I'm getting up to speed. There's a lot of work to be done and I want to be able to communicate with everyone as easily as possible. I'm looking for and I'm open to all ideas to increase union/member engagement either by unit meetings, separate unit emails/newsletters, zooms etc. I welcome your input. I also try to make myself available before work for about 1/2hr everyday if you need to speak with me face to face. Stay safe!

In solidarity, Blair Hofer

CLERICAL

Hello all!

First of all, thank you for voting for me to attend the CUPE BC Convention! I really appreciate it! We made some positive change at this year's convention! We passed 48 Resolutions!

This year was an election year and thankfully we have re-elected Karen Ranalletta as President and Trevor Davies as Secretary-Treasurer!

Just one of this year's resolutions highlights: ***Resolution 43 – CUPE BC will lobby the Minister of Labour and Minister of Education and Child Care to develop and implement a province-wide strategy to make public schools safer places to work, including provisions to hold school district employers to a higher standard for collaborating with workers and their representatives to ensure safe working environments for all.***

This affects ALL members! I have witnessed violence and I am sure many of you have as well. This can cause major trauma. Violence is NOT in our job description! If you witness violence, please fill out an incident report! Once you complete the report, please forward to the CUPE office to keep on file @ office@cupe728.ca



CUPE BC and locals are standing strong with CUPE 561 Transit workers. Fighting the big corporation First Transit. Most people do not know this, but they are NOT BC Transit workers. First transit is a multinational corporation that is out of France! These workers have no pension and low wages! This is unacceptable and we stand in solidarity with CUPE 561!

If anyone has any questions or would like to talk more, I would love to talk about the other resolutions that were passed.

Thank you so much to the membership, for voting for me to attend the 30th CLC Convention in Montreal. The theme of the Convention was Lifting Everyone Up. CLC Conventions only happen every 3 years and this one has not been in person for 6 years due to COVID.

Every convention elects or re-elects the top four constitutional officers. We re-elected President, Bea Bruske, Secretary-Treasurer Lily Chang, Executive Vice Presidents Siobhan Vipond and Larry Rousseau.

The CLC Convention plays a vital role in helping to formulate change and to implement policies to guide the labour movement in our fight against conservative agendas.

It was an honour to go and support positive change in the labour movement. Besides passing many incredibly important resolutions, a highlight for me was meeting Chris Smalls, President, and Organizer of the Amazon Labor Union! He was the first person to organize Amazon workers! What an incredible story. If you are interested here is a link for you to check out more information and to read his story.



[Amazon Labour Union President Chris Smalls on “The New School of Labour” and making history \(pressprogress.ca\)](#)

Chris Smalls and Shannon Levinsky

Finally, by the time you are reading this there will only be 3 weeks of work left for 10-month employees!! Pat yourselves on the back!! It's been a long year!! For our 12-month employees, I hope you get to take some time to spend with family and friends this summer!! I want you to know you are all appreciated!! Your hard work does not go unnoticed!! You are all incredibly devoted workers that genuinely care. Thank you for all you do!!

Wishing you all a fantastic summer! Remember to take care of yourselves and each other!!

In solidarity, Shannon Levinsky

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Thank you to both Amber and Allan for their support for me returning to the Communications Officer position. I am excited to be back in this role. I have been working hard with updating the website and getting back on our social media. If you aren't following us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, you have missed out on the following: Mental Health info, WCB info (Right to Refuse Unsafe work, Claim info, Personal Protective Equipment, incident reports), photos of recent union events, how to get FREE BC Lions tickets, and much, much, more. This month saw over 20,000 interactions from our members on FB, we have 499 followers on IG and we are busy on Twitter.

As a reminder, we have our own FREE savings App called Endless Savings. Over 2,600 of our members have downloaded it already. This month saw more savings added like Crocs, Champs Sports, Marks, Coast Appliances and more. There are 1,000's of savings available to you!

Did you know that the monthly meetings are for all CUPE728 members in good standing? This is where we vote on who represents you at events, how YOUR union dues are spent, reports from your executive and committees and more. These are both on Zoom and in person. If you come in person, we provide food, drinks, and prizes! Next one is on June 21 at 6pm where we will elect committee members. Committees are a great way to get involved with your union. Check out the website for info on all the committees.

By the time this newsletter comes out, I will have been to New Brunswick for the Communications and Labour Media conference. I know our local will benefit from the courses there and I look forward to bringing that information back on our social media. Thank you for trusting me to represent you at this conference.

In solidarity, Marcey Campbell

COMMITTEE CORNER

HEALTH & SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE

Hello friends,

The Health and Safety Sub-Committee will be hosting an information session on June 20th at 6:00 pm. This will be a zoom event and we will post the link on social media and the website closer to the date. We are asking for our 728 members to send us their questions prior to the meeting at healthsafety@cupe728.ca Please have questions to us prior to June 15th. We will also be having a general info table at the IESW posting meeting, so please stop by and say Hi and ask your health and safety related questions.

In solidarity, Chair - Nora Hooper

THANK YOU NOTES

Below is a list of members who have sent in a thank you card/email this month after receiving flowers/gift basket or gift from CUPE 728.

Leslie G. – retirement	Sarena R. – sympathy
Meredith S. – appreciation	Jim P. – get well
Linda B. – sympathy	Janet C. – get well
Sharleen K. – sympathy	Sudeshini N. – get well
Tammy A. – get well	Shawn E. – get well
Robin – get well	Mike R. – get well

If one of your co-workers is away from work because they have lost a loved one, please contact the union office. We are only notified if a member is away sick from work.

IMPORTANT DATES ISEW

June 26 – ISEW Postings should be available for viewing on the HUB by 4:00pm

June 28 – Amendments

June 29 – 1:30pm deadline for e-mail submissions for those on leaves

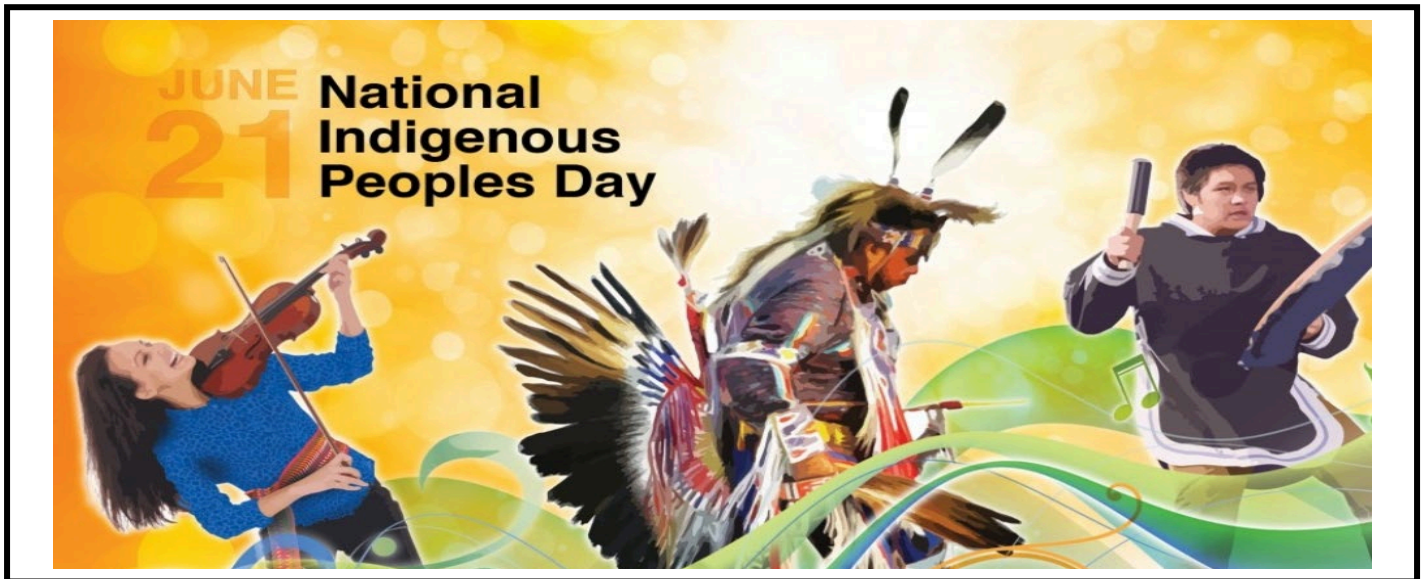
June 30 – ISEW Posting meeting – in person at Bell Theatre

August 2 – ISEW Bumping meeting, 8:30a. at DEC

August 8 – ISEW Placement meeting, 8:00am at Bell Performing Arts Centre



CUPE 728 office is open from 7:30am – 4:00pm, Mon -Fri
closed between 12:00pm – 1:00pm for lunch



Learn more about National Indigenous History Month and how you can participate. June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, an opportunity to learn about the unique cultures, traditions and experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis. It's time a time to honour the stories, achievements, and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, who have lived on this land since time immemorial and whose presence continues to impact evolving Canada.

This month is a great opportunity to learn and reflect on Indigenous History in Canada, Truth and Reconciliation and the ongoing issues faced by the Indigenous Peoples of Canada (Turtle Island). The Indigenous peoples of Canada include First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples.

Some of the ways you can learn and take part in this month are through reading and acting on the calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, learning and including a territory acknowledge in your practices (nativeland.ca) is a good place to learn whose territories you live and work on), attend an event in your area celebrating Indigenous culture and history, take a course (University of Alberta offers an excellent, free online course, Indigenous Canada through Coursera), listen to an Indigenous podcast, music or watch programming or documentaries about Indigenous culture and issues (APTN is a good source), learn about cultural safety through YouTube and online courses, and supporting your Local Indigenous run businesses.

While you embrace learning and celebrating Indigenous culture throughout June, please also remember the ongoing issues facing these cultures such as systemic racism, lack of clean water on reservations, the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman and Girls and two spirit peoples, high numbers of youth in care, poverty, and the fight to live on and govern their homelands.

APPLICATION

THOMAS G. ELLIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

AND

CUPE LOCAL 728 SCHOLARSHIPS

When you complete this form, you are applying for the following scholarships.

1. The Thomas G. Ellis Memorial Scholarship for two thousand (\$2,000) dollars
2. CUPE Local 728 Scholarship for one thousand (\$1,000) dollars
3. Two (2) one thousand (\$1,000) Scholarships for students who identify as Indigenous.
4. Two (2) five hundred (\$500) dollar scholarships to be awarded by random draw (exclusive of the successful recipients of the two preceding scholarship awards).

The scholarships are offered to Local 728 member's children graduating from Grade 12 in June 2023.

Applications should be submitted with written notification of acceptance from a post-secondary educational facility, accompanied by a transcript of your marks as received from the Ministry of Education in Victoria and the completed form below, not later than September 29, 2023.

Return to: office@cupe728.ca

NAME OF APPLICANT

PARENT/GUARDIAN

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

BIRTHDATE

SCHOOL ATTENDED

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE APPLICANT PLANS TO ATTEND

DEGREE/CERTIFICATE SOUGHT

