



Members Update for February 11th, 2022

Bargaining Committee – The Bargaining Committee has been elected and will hopefully be meeting next week to talk about next steps for them and the Local. We will be preparing a Local Bargaining Survey for all members to complete. This will be your opportunity to tell us what you think about our Local Collective Agreement and what you want to see stay the same, what you want changed and anything else about it. When we have that survey ready for everyone we'll make it available for a few days so everyone has a chance to complete it. Once the survey is done, the committee will go over the results and bring the top ranked issues to the membership as their bargaining priorities.

February GMM – The members meeting for February will be held on the 20th at 10am. We did not have a meeting in January, so we do have some extra stuff to catch up on and share with members. I'll include the link to the meeting and the agenda/minutes and anything else with next week's update for you. We will be changing how we conduct the meeting and requiring members to register with Zoom ahead of time so that we can keep an accurate record of who is in attendance. This will not affect members being able to use the Zoom app from a computer or phone or simply calling in by telephone to participate.



Senior Management Follow Up - Many of you read the notes from the meeting Patrick, Mark and I had last Friday with senior management from the employer about why we made the decision to stop having staff relations meetings. I can share with you that there is a follow up meeting for the board to respond to our input scheduled for late next Thursday afternoon and as long as I have time Thursday night to share anything substantial from the board in their responses - I'll include it here next Friday.

Bylaws – I'm hopeful that we can share the results of last month's bylaw meeting with everyone soon. I am expecting that CUPE National will have an official response to the complaints filed after the meeting very soon and once that decision is in on whether or not we conducted the meeting properly, we can move ahead with more input from members.

Casuals Information Meeting – Because of the pandemic for the past two years, it's been suggested that we host an information meeting for casuals. This meeting would be for general information for casuals and a town hall type meeting for general questions and answers. Casuals are often given misleading or incomplete information and aren't properly informed of what they are entitled to, parts of our collective agreement, overtime allotments, etc. We want all our members to be properly informed about issues in the workplace and having a meeting can help with some of that. If you're a casual who would be interested in a weekend meeting to discuss issues, send an email to our office at cupelocal4153@bellnet.ca and let us know.

Do You Like to Talk? - we need more people to help with mobilizing and member engagement prior to the provincial election, our collective agreement expiring and municipal elections in the fall. Our mobilizing team will help communicate things to our members, encourage them to get involved and take part in campaigns and inform them of issues that directly affect our work. Most of these conversations will be one on one chats and can be in person or over the phone. Training can be arranged to help people feel more comfortable in the role. If you're interested – get in touch with our office at 905-544-7733 or email us at cupelocal4153@bellnet.ca and we'll get you hooked up!



Super Bowl and Valentines Day – The big day has come for football fans – the Superbowl! Sunday night televisions all around the world will be tuned in to watch the Bengals take on the Rams. Lots of good food, lots of sarcasm about players and teams will be made and it's all in good fun. Whoever you choose to win (and for the record if you're not choosing the Rams, you're choosing the wrong team LOL) – if you're watching with friends and family – it's a good time!



On the other hand and on a lighter note, Valentine's Day can be hard for some people. If you have had some bad, awkward or downright ridiculous relationship experiences in the past and want to help get yourself past it and actually enjoy Valentine's this year by having a good laugh – consider getting your ex a special gift. The Bronx Zoo has a very special gift for that not so special someone in your life. The Name A Roach gift allows you to name a Madagascar Hissing Roach and receive a digital certificate for only \$15! You can find more details at <https://bronxzoo.com/roach>

I'm going to end this update on a personal note to my hilarious friends on the afternoon shift at Dr. Davey – have a great weekend you FF's! They truly are an afternoon crew that enjoys a good laugh together and supports each other!

Cheers,

Blake