



# CUPE 4153 Update

November 29th, 2024

## **Paperwork? We don't do no stinking paperwork.....**

From Dave Winger, one of our Membership Officers on the Executive:

When you have evening rentals - make sure you're completing the sign in sheet, area check and sign out. These sheets are important to communicate and document issues. They can be scanned and emailed to the Rental Dept and your FOS when there's problems to have them addressed by the Rental Dept and not our own members. In addition to those sheets, if you are having issues with rentals - propping doors open, not showing up, staying late, wandering the building, etc. - members are encouraged to go into the rental permit in eBase and use the Comment section to document issues and get them resolved. If you don't have the sign in sheets and checklist - get it from your FOS.

Reminders about rentals:

We don't open doors anymore. We meet the rental permit holder at the designated door 15 minutes prior to the rental beginning. The permit holder is responsible for only allowing approved attendees into the building.

Doors are not to be propped open by rentals "so we don't have to keep opening the door to let people in".

Rental permit end times means that everyone attending the rental is out of the building when the rental ends. It doesn't mean a rental stops playing at that time and then hangs around for 20 minutes talking and gathering their stuff up. If you have a rental that ends at 10pm if you have to stay because they weren't out on time - add it to your timesheet, let your supervisor know and let the rental department know as well.

## Food Donation Boxes

We have a couple weeks to decorate and fill our food donation boxes. We have approval to keep the boxes in our Caretaking offices and we aim to pick up the boxes on December 13th. The school with the best decorated box AND most donated items will receive a prize for each CUPE position at the location. Check the poster attached with this update.

We have members that struggle each and every day with food insecurity, trying to balance bills and expenses, covering rent and a host of other financial issues. We want to help them in a very real and tangible way this holiday season by blessing them with the easiest thing we can do - providing them some added or maybe the only food they will get over the holidays. Each of us is in a different place with family and finances and I know not everyone will be able to donate and help out but if you can - it is very much appreciated.

If you want to know what the most requested items by food banks are for suggestions while you're out and can pick up a few extra cans or items - here's a list for you.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peanut butter            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beans (lentils, chick peas, kidney beans, etc.) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pasta                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pasta sauce                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canned fruit             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canned fish (tuna in water)                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canned soup              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100% fruit juices                               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rice                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canned vegetables (tomatoes, corn, peas etc.)   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baby food                                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canned stew, chili, etc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baby formula                                    |

### **For Members In Need of Help**

If any of our members and their immediate families is in need of food items over the holidays, please contact Janna in the office or myself by email. Once we collect the food from the schools it will be sorted and arranged at the office to make it ready to go to a good home. **This process will be absolutely confidential and private. Only Janna and myself will know who's getting the donations and it won't go any further than that.** Pickups or deliveries will be arranged after the sorting is all done. Our goal is to help and support any members in need. You can reach Janna at [cupelocal4153@bellnet.ca](mailto:cupelocal4153@bellnet.ca) or you can reach me at [4153president@gmail.com](mailto:4153president@gmail.com)

### **Kids Christmas Party Help**

Anyone wanting to volunteer a couple hours to put some smiles on kids faces - we have an opportunity for you! Get in touch with Kristin Cox or Laurie Penner and let them know you want to help out for the Kids Christmas Party. It's on December 7th at the Legion Hall on Upper Wentworth and it's always a fun time for the kids including a visit from the closest direct relative that Santa has in Hamilton! If you're bringing your kids or grandkids to the party - we're also going to be accepting food donations at the party for our members in need!

### **Teamwork**

I think we're all understanding of someone being forgetful once in a while or getting distracted and missing things on our schedules. But when those moments happen 3, 4 or 5 times a week and it creates extra work for someone else on the crew, then it becomes an issue that can get out of hand. Please keep in mind that certain things need to be checked daily - like soap, paper towel and toilet paper. As a head caretaker, it can be incredibly frustrating to get calls before kids even come in the school that staff arriving early have already found that there's no soap in this washroom or that washroom is out of paper towels and they need to be restocked before kids come in. It is absolutely the responsibility of anyone working to check these items and make sure there's enough left to get through the next day. Please remember to make sure you're checking consumables while cleaning your sections!

And no, I'm not picking on afternoon staff - the same applies for head caretakers as well - part of that job is getting lunch garbage, mopping up spills during the day, etc. - not just leaving it until 2pm when afternoon staff comes in. Sure, some days it's gonna not get done because of some other emergency or urgent issue in the school but the vast majority of the time - afternoon staff shouldn't have to deal with garbage cans full of uncollected lunch garbage when they show up for work in the afternoon.

### **Unwanted Visitors**

Anyone that is asked to "go and deal with a nuisance person outside on the property" by administration or maybe even your supervisor - the answer is NO. I get that some of us have a different comfort level when dealing with anxious or stressful situations but I never want to get a call that one of our members has been seriously hurt at work. There are more and more encampments and victims of substance abuse and trauma in all areas of the city than ever before and I don't think it's going to get any better anytime soon. And no, this isn't a commentary on governments and how it's being handled - it's a commentary on how WE handle it when we're at work. **You call the police non emergency line at 905-546-4925 and let them know you're at a school and you have someone on the property that isn't welcome there and why (open drug use, behavior issues, etc) and let them handle it.**

Cheers,  
Blake

CUPE 4153

# FOOD DRIVE CONTEST

THE SCHOOL WITH THE NICEST DECORATED FOOD  
BOX WITH THE MOST ITEMS IN IT WILL WIN A PRIZE  
FOR EACH CUPE 4153 STAFF POSITION

PICK UPS WILL BE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH  
(A UNION REP WILL BE IN TOUCH TO ARRANGE)

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING  
WEEK!

