



# CUPE 4153 Update

December 18th, 2024

## Holiday Food Donations.....

I'm very happy to let everyone know that our food drive to help members in need has been a raging success. Being the first time we've done this and seeing how it's gone - I'm hopeful that this will be an ongoing, year round resource we can offer to our members in need. We had a few of our members come by the office today and pick up items for them and their families and the gratitude and thankfulness expressed was overwhelming. Moving forward, our hope is that we can always have food on hand at the office to help our members in need and add things as we go along to provide additional help.

I'm also happy to announce that Templemead won the challenge of best decorated box and most contributions. I'll make my way up to their school this week and drop off their congratulations gifts!

Here's a couple quick pictures of the amount of items you all contributed to and you all can share in knowing that you all did good and made a huge difference in people's lives this holiday season and going forward into the New Year! One final note - if you are in need of food help, please contact myself or Janna in the office and we'll get you set up and take some stress off your plate!



## **Holiday Hours of Work**

Just to confirm with everyone what we're working over the next few weeks I wanted to just put this out there so we're all on the same page.

Dec 23rd - full day of work

Dec 24th - half day of work (schools with daycares someone will have to stay until 1-2pm to clean up daycare areas)

Dec 25th - stat holiday

Dec 26th - stat holiday

Dec 27th - full day of work

Dec 30th - full day of work

Dec 31st - half day of work (same as Dec 24th)

Jan 1st - stat holiday

Jan 2nd - full day of work

Jan 3rd - full day of work

## **Snow Removal - Who's Responsible?**

Everyone.

Snow removal isn't just a head caretaker's job. It's everyone's. While it's true that most snow removal duties happen in the morning and during the instructional day - if it starts snowing at 7pm and it's piling up - it is everyone's responsibility to help out with the clean up. The only members who shouldn't be helping out are members with a documented accommodation through ESW for that type of activity. We don't want anyone working their way back to full time work to risk another injury. If you have a documented accommodation, it would be very helpful that if someone or a few people are outside doing snow - maybe you could offer to help grab some of their section duties while they're outside. Winter is a test of teamwork and while it can be frustrating and stressful at times - we all need to pull together to get the jobs done that students, staff and the public rely on us for all winter long.

As we finish off another year and it comes to a close, I want to thank a bunch of people for their hard work and effort for the Local this past year.

To all of our elected reps - Executive members, Stewards and Health & Safety - thank you for investing your time and effort into helping our members with all sorts of issues every single day. You never know what the next email or phone call is going to be about and you continue on and continue learning and helping people!

To our volunteers on various committees - from the election committee to the social committee and everything in between - your volunteering of time and your skills to help out just to make things enjoyable or run smoother for the Local is greatly appreciated and without people like you - we wouldn't be able to run the Local like we do.

To our office admin Janna - while you aren't a member, you're often the first contact with the Local that people have and your attention to details with our schedules and finances is simply top notch and we're lucky to have you on our team.

To our National Rep Kathleen - we often look to you for an opinion calling on your experience and history and you help out behind the scenes more often than people realize. Your dedication to not only us but all the Locals you provide support to is invaluable.

And finally, I want to thank all of YOU, our members. Every chance I get, I'm happy to speak up and talk about 'my members' in meetings, classes or conferences. Is our Local perfect? Not a chance. Do we have issues? Absolutely. Each of you is a piece of the puzzle that makes up CUPE 4153 and I'm happy to have all of you with us as we move ahead into the new year, face new challenges and overcome them together!

Whatever you and your family & friends celebrate this month - Hanukkah, Kwanza, Christmas, Festivus or anything else - I want to wish you and your family all the best in your celebrations. Please be safe over the holidays, spend time with family that doesn't stress you out and make sure you nibble on a few delicious treats!

Cheers,

Blake