



CUPE 4153 Update

January 17th, 2025

Meetings this Weekend.....

We have two important meetings this Sunday at the HWETL office at 105 Nebo Road.

Sunday at 10am is our monthly union meeting where we'll discuss current issues in our Local as well as regular union business. That meeting will come to an end around 12 noon. Following that meeting we'll take a break to allow members to use the washroom, get some fresh air and stretch their legs.

At 12:15 pm we'll have a Special Meeting for the purpose of discussing options for our Strike and Defence fund. There will be a Powerpoint presentation for all present about the current state of our strike fund and 4 options for members to choose from going forward on what to do with the Strike and Defence Fund. The Executive will make the presentation and there will be time for questions about the options presented afterwards. On Monday morning there will be a mass email to all members with the PowerPoint presentation so that all members are aware of the choices being presented to them. On Monday January 27th there will be vote for all members to participate in to choose which option the membership wants to pursue. This is an important choice for all members and we hope that all members participate in this vote for the future of our Local.

Health & Safety Notes!

Just a reminder from your Health & Safety Committee about a few items:

- 1) Please make sure all cleaning bottles in slop sinks and on cleaning carts are labelled properly. This is a requirement under health & safety legislation and very helpful for anyone filling in for someone and trying to use the correct cleaners for the job at hand.
- 2) Puncturing chemical bottles - there is no reason to be doing this and it creates an unsafe situation with possible injuries. Manufacturer bottles are to be used in the approved dispensers only and diluted according to manufacturer guidelines.
- 3) Electrical panels - health & safety regulations mandate that access to electrical panels must be kept clear at all times. There should be a 3 foot area around the electrical panel that is unobstructed by boxes, clutter, ladders, etc.

We're Shorthanded For a While

Dave Dickhout our Chief Steward is currently off work on a medical leave and will be unavailable for meetings or calls with the employer until further notice. For now Dave will remain as our Chief Steward and the Executive will be stepping in to assist stewards with investigation issues, grievance meetings and wellness meetings. Dave needs to focus on his health and recovery and we will fully support him during his absence. Members with any issues, concerns or questions should contact the Local office by phone or email until Dave returns.

Respect Issues

I've had a few emails from staff in schools complaining about items of theirs being moved or removed from their slop sinks, cleaning carts or even caretaking offices. If you are filling in for someone for overtime or find yourself in an LTO for a while - leave other people's stuff alone while working. If it's not yours, leave it alone - show people the same respect you would expect to receive if it was your belongings.

Cheers,

Blake