



# CUPE 4153 Update

February 21st, 2025

## **Union Meeting This Sunday**

February's union meeting is this Sunday at the HWETL Teachers Hall on Nebo Road. Meeting starts at 10am and we're usually done and out by noon. We'll have our regular union business and some updates on current issues and topics.

## **No More Snow Please**

This has been a tough week for us in caretaking. The amount of effort put in by our members all over the city has been incredible and the work we've done has allowed the schools to open on Tuesday and continued to improve through the week while the City continues to clean up. Almost all of our parking lots have lost spaces due to piled up snow, staff and visitors have been frustrated with the situation and quite frequently and mistakenly complaining about it to us. I want to thank everyone for keeping cool heads when dealing with these complaints and reminding folks that we're responsible for certain areas and parking lots aren't one of them. If the HWDSB wants to spend money to get loaders and trucks to truck snow out and clear up parking spaces, that's up to them.



## **Snow Equipment Failures**

Starting last Thursday with the snow day, some of our locations had quite the time with old and failing snow removal equipment - specifically snowblowers. I had my own issues and I'm pretty sure there's still a dark cloud of four letter words over Memorial left by me that day. I got in touch with Darren Kerr who was kind enough to post a message for me on "that" Facebook page (not even sure of the name of the group anymore LOL) asking that if anyone had issues with their equipment breaking down or failing to let me know and I'm just repeating that again here for those that don't do the social media stuff. Proper equipment benefits the entire school community. Proper equipment allows us to do our jobs safely and efficiently. Proper equipment allows us to get pathways and walkways cleared so that students, parents and staff can access and enter schools safely. It also keeps community members safe that frequently use our school grounds for shortcuts to get somewhere else. Bottom line is we live in a climate where the past week could be the normal for a few weeks - snow event after snow event and we need to be prepared properly. So if you've had issues with your equipment and it's broken down or caused an injury - please send me the details at 4153president@gmail.com

## **Trustees Audit**

Earlier this week the elected Trustees conducted their annual audit of our financial dealings in 2024 and any issues or recommendations they found will be presented to members at next month's union meeting in March. Between now and then, I'll be sitting down with Marilyn MacAloney our Secretary Treasurer to discuss any of the Trustees recommendations and deciding if we need to change any policies or practices with our financial transactions. Responses to the Trustees recommendations will also be presented at the March union meeting so members are aware of what changes (if any) will be made to address concerns.

Cheers,

Blake