

Michel Turcotte
Recording Secretary
Annual Report to Members

Brothers and Sisters:

I am currently completing my first two-year term as Recording Secretary for CUPE 2081 after being recruited to the task by the long serving Jennifer Erwin. I have both enjoyed the responsibility of trying to accurately maintain a record of our meetings and strangely enough I have also come to better appreciate those who record the minutes at other meeting that I attend. In addition to recording the minutes I also get the official pleasure of signing certain official documents such as credentials for conventions and the retirement certificates given to members from CUPE 2081.

Being a Recording Secretary is a very defined job, which has few other responsibilities. Notwithstanding that, I have also been able to participate in Executive and General meetings and even been able to do a little stewarding and other union work. In that regard, I would like to thank the members for allowing me to attend the stewards training held in Nanaimo in November as I really benefited from the health and safety training that I received. Additionally, I also really appreciated being a delegate to the CUPE BC Convention last spring in Victoria.

One of the more memorable functions that I performed in the last year was being Election Officer. In the preparation for the last Annual General Meeting, I was tasked with promoting and seeking to fill the variety of positions up for election. It was the second time I had the opportunity to perform that job and I found securing candidates for the committee appointments to be the most challenging. I am happy to say that candidates stepped up for many of the positions and have been doing an excellent job representing members. In this day and age with busy lives, family commitments, and sometimes-even indifference, we must continue to remember that the foundation of unionism comes from the willingness to volunteer. Unless members want to triple their dues, we will never have the resources to match those of management and every member needs to do their part. There is a lot of work involved in protecting the interests of our members and reality is that being a member of a union and showing the employer that we are a strong Local requires more than just going to a collective agreement ratification meeting every three years or so.

Submitted in Solidarity,

Michel Turcotte
Recording Secretary