

CUPE Local 2081 – Report to the Board of Governors – November 2017

Greetings from CUPE 2081!

The Camosun community is now well into the 2017 Fall education semester; and support staff are very motivated to work with College stakeholders in an efficient and effective way to contribute to the Camosun's strategic plan. Our membership is committed to their jobs, while striving to join and support volunteer activities as befitting community college workers. Some examples are as follows: supporting the Men's Volleyball National Championship in March 2018, donations to charitable foundations such as the Canadian Cancer Society, and volunteering for the United Way campaign.

CUPE 2081 is proud to support union education, by sending our members to workshops covering topics such as social justice and human rights, health and safety, stewarding, bargaining, leadership, and communications. Education is a core foundational principle of unions to ensure a strong and united labour movement. Specifically, this Fall, CUPE 2081 is supporting an Introduction to Stewarding workshop, a Retirement Planning workshop, and a Bargaining Solidarity workshop. In addition, CUPE 2081 will be conducting an educational needs assessment to assess our memberships' knowledge, needs, and preferences related to union education initiatives.

Our Union values keeping connected with our community and keeping communication channels open for all involved. We have a website (www.2081.cupe.ca) that presents regular updates from the CUPE 2081 office. It also lists resources that are the basis of working in a unionized environment. The number of followers are constantly increasing for our Facebook and Twitter accounts. We would like to encourage the Board of Governors members to follow us online as well.

We would like to bring your attention to some labour relations issues that our Local has been working on: Negotiations and consultations with the ITS Department concerning departmental operational changes and the effects on our members, student workers, the ever-increasing number of part-time and casual employees and their rights, and anti-contracting out. We are confident that our membership can provide the workforce needed to address the operational needs of the College. It is necessary to implement any proposed technological and/or operational changes affecting our members pursuant to our Collective Agreement.

Cupe 2081 commends the College Leadership in asking for employee feedback through the Employee Engagement Survey sent out on October 17, 2017. We will be recommending all support staff fill out the survey and look forward to the results. The Local believes that the survey is a timely opportunity for all employees to consider how the Camosun community can best work together!