

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

CUPE Local 2081 extends a warm welcome back to the Board of Governors. CUPE 2081 represents approximately 600 members here at Camosun. CUPE, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, is the largest Public Sector Union in Canada with 650,000 members, including 85,000 in British Columbia and 30,000 here on Vancouver Island. Also, CUPE Local 2081's membership includes the employees of our sublocal, the Camosun College Student Society.

CUPE Locals support Strong Communities by encouraging members to volunteer in their community in a variety of ways. As well, our membership provides financial assistance whenever we can. For example, we make annual contributions to National Little League, The Kidney Foundation of Canada, the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival right here at Camosun, and Child-Find BC (the Michael Dunahee Slow-Pitch Tournament of Hope). Also, recent contributions were made to the Shelbourne Community Kitchen and a BC Wildfires relief fund.

While Labour Relations can sometimes be difficult, the Local's representatives and the HR Team continue to sort out issues, which may arise due to the misinterpretation or the blatant disregard of our contract with the College by certain managers, schools and departments. In particular, issues have arisen in the ITS department, where we have a number of grievances and more on the way. What is making these issues very difficult to resolve is that HR can only provide advice, but cannot provide instructions/direction and/or make decisions. This limitation results in the Union and the College expending valuable time and resources that could be used in a more positive way.

The College's annual CamFest events will occur on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at the Lansdowne Campus and on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at the Interurban campus. The events are hosted by the Camosun College Student Society and we appreciate and look forward to working with them during these two highly successful events to welcome back our students!