

EXECUTIVE REPORT –

July 3 2020

It's my pleasure to bring the members my very first executive report as Campus Steward! Participating with CUPE on the executive level has brought me many new learning opportunities and the chance to connect with folks at each campus who I otherwise might not have crossed paths with. I'd like to sincerely thank the membership and the executive for the opportunity and support I have received in this role.

I was encouraged by my friend and colleague Shane Johnson to take part in CUPE meetings because of my interest in workers' rights and advocacy. I have a particular interest in social justice work, specifically mental health and addictions, anti-racism work, indigenous rights, and LGBT+ rights.

I was given the opportunity to attend the CUPE fall week-long school in Nanaimo where I took the Intro to Stewarding workshop. This workshop went beyond the basics which I expected to be covered and also examined how to recognize and advocate for marginalized groups within our own communities. While there I got a chance to spend time with workers from all over BC, and the biggest take away for me was the true feeling of solidarity among all these different workers. From tradespeople, teachers, librarians, custodians and administrators – everyone was open to sharing their experiences and learning from one another. The feeling of support and unity was very strong and I left with the sense that when we work together and advocate for one another we really are a powerful group, and the work we do is an invaluable support to our colleagues within and outside of the union.

I had a few different cases assigned to me, supporting members in their gradual return to work meetings, and as a representative to take notes for various types of meetings with workplace leadership and to help people feel more comfortable by having another member by their side. I also had more challenging files where my primary role was providing emotional support, letting the member know they were seen and heard. These personal connections have been the part of stewarding that I have enjoyed most.

I look forward to further developing my skills and serving the membership as Campus Steward over the next year – who knows what that will look like as we all can agree it is very strange times indeed. I hope to continue to be able to show up for our members in whatever way I am needed.

Jesse Scott | Campus Steward

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to those who seek knowledge here.