CUPE2081
ON THE FRONT LINE

Lead Steward/Office Coordinator Report

LEAD SHOP STEWARD/LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICER REPORT

March 23, 2022

Greetings!

It has been a truly incredible few months and certainly an adventure for everyone over the last two years. I remain committed to writing as many reports as I can but know many of you also read the CUPE ALL emails I send out too. I don't want to repeat too much information, but I also want to keep everyone informed, so I've become more reliant on the CUPE emails to let you all know what is happening in real time. I hope you've found these emails informative.

I am so proud of how we have rallied as a community in the face adversity. Together we have adapted and navigated through COVID while maintaining operations, student supports and strong teams. Before, we needed to be standing apart from a safe distance- masked, and now as restrictions are easing, our campus environment is returning to its familiar buzz and face-to-face activity.
We came back together as a campus community, but it hasn't been without challenges. We carried the College through a global pandemic, transitioned back with the same professionalism, integrity, and work ethic we've always possessed and through it all, found ways to stay united and supportive of each other.
It hasn't been easy, but I am very proud of our collective efforts.
It will take more time to rebuild our sense of security and comfort, but we are getting there.

I've enjoyed working with the executive team and look forward to the next year. There is more work to do with bargaining preparations now underway and the day-to-day business on behalf of 700 members. My responsibility is to support each executive member, all committees and support members with issues, questions and concerns related to the workplace. I also monitor management decisions to ensure compliance with the collective agreement and assess the need for and filing of grievances when applicable.
I am pleased to report our labour relations with the College is strong! With consistent efforts to build relationships with our exempt Human Resources staff

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and management, we have been able to ensure continued compliance with the CUPE collective agreement and avoid contentious negotiations when issues have arisen. I take my responsibility to our community seriously and I remain committed to helping whenever possible.

Onboarding of new members is an area I would like to build better capacity, but we must be mindful of respecting the work of department supervisors and the role of the College when hiring new workers. Our role is to orientate members to a unionized environment so I hope you can join general membership meetings when your schedule allows and learn more about the work we do!

The digitization of 40+ years of paper records is underway, and this is no small task. Everything needs to be sorted, read, prepared, and then scanned and saved in an organized system. It's a time-consuming task that I am fitting into day-to-day business.
A special thank you to Milo Anstey for her efforts on this project. I would not be able to manage the workload without her support.

We are always in need of committed members willing to help others in the community. If you've ever wondered what a union steward does come talk to me! Stewards are the foundation of union work, and we need as many people active within the community as possible. There is training and support if you are interested and I am always happy to offer 'shadowing' opportunities for those who want to learn and help out.
For those members that help without being 'official' stewards: thank you! There are lots of active members in the community that help members when questions come up and your support is recognized and valued.

Again, thank you to everyone for the work you do and thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of our students and our community.

In Solidarity and with Warmest Regards,

Erynne Grant | Labour Relations Officer

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