Vice Presidents REPORT
DEC 2023

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SHANE JOHNSON

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Hello

I have been very busy as of late in both my work, as well as Union roles. Many of us are striving for a work life balance. These balances are always an ongoing challenge as new responsibilities and hurdles arise. 2023 has flown by and it is a little shocking that the years is coming to a close, so many things have happened.

This year I was at the table for my second round on the bargaining team. The team put in a lot of hard work. We were able to make some gains and add new items to the Collective Agreement. As I write, the new Collective Agreements are at the printshop. I hear they make a great stocking stuffer for every Cupe worker.

In October I was able to attend Cupe National Convention held in Quebec City. It was a busy week with voting on resolutions, constitutional changes and some emergency resolutions as well as the usual elections which take place at the Convention. The long history of a very heated item in which extra seats for the Diversity Committee, was once again struck. This vote needs 2/3 majority in order to pass. This was my third National Convention and the third time I've been there to vote in favour of the change. The chair was challenged and overruled when the floor expressed concern by voting with a show of hands. Which should be indicative of numerous things, one primarily that not everyone would feel safe voting and being identified. The vote on C9 was then held electronically with only 42.25% voting in favor. So it was struck down once again.

I continue presenting the financial statements as flawlessly prepared by Petty Wong. A short time ago we sat down and created next years budget. I am grateful for the hard work and responsible management the local team does with our finances.

I am still serving the local at several committees. These are the Labour Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC), Joint Early Intervention Program (JEIP), Contracting Out, Joint Occupational Health and Safety. I haven't been to The Vancouver Island District Council meetings in far too long and will be there this Saturday.

Heading into the holiday season, in these troubling times, I know some of us are struggling. This can be a very difficult time of year for many of us. Moreso amidst the horrors we see unfolding in real time in Gaza. If you are struggling, know that you are not alone.

In Solidarity
Shane Johnson