CUPE 2081 acknowledges the traditional territories of the Lkwungen & WSANEC Peoples

Vice Presidents Report AGM 2026 –

Hello

Another year has transpired since my last AGM report. In certain ways the time has gone fast, but throughout this year the weight and struggle has been one that was often challenging to carry. We have witnessed considerable changes here at the College and I know that everyone has been affected. We feel these affects both as individuals and as a community. There have been structural shifts and there have been changes in the felt sense of community. While these challenging situations arose and transpired, we came together to hold each other up. This was the right thing in the moment, and will continue to be the right path going forward. I'm certainly not espousing empty feelgood rhetoric or anything of the sort. But expressing a firm belief in the tangible strength of our shared mutual struggle.

As the Vice President, and as a Groundskeeper I can say that the morale in the College and in particular my own immediate work unit has never been lower. There has been moments of legitimate despair and deep resentment from the lack of respect shown and absence of being valued. I know I am not alone and many other people are feeling some pretty strong things. Low morale isn't born purely from structural adjustments or the lack of funding. In multiple moments of the last year, I was literally at my breaking point. When I was in those places it was other people who held me up and allowed me to carry on. Sometimes all it took was a person willing to listen and understand, and for a moment to not be further gaslit. As always we can find the meaningful connection with others to be our redemption and needed validation.

In this hierarchical environment I have always found the meaning, support and needed values were lateral. With uncertainty and pressure to do more with less, we should be very mindful to not vent the pressure laterally to our colleagues and other coworkers. Nor should we allow ourselves to make sacrifices above and beyond in some attempt to compensate for what is lacking. We will get through these challenging times, that's certain. How we treat each other lessens the harm and builds our strength as a community. In austerity we should certainly crunch the numbers that kindness costs nothing to give, but its absence has enormous costs. Lets find richness in the currency of mutualism, kindness and solidarity, we are in the struggle together. Together is our strength and resilience, our way forward, and our ability to shape reality with a greater power.

In Solidarity

Shane Johnson Vice President

