

InsideOut

Canadian Union of Postal Workers
Edmonton Local

May 2014



InsideOut

May 2014 Edition

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InsideOut Committee

*Lisa Swaren, Nancy Dodsworth
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InsideOut is published ten times per year by the Local Chapter of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily the official views of the Local.

The InsideOut Committee meets once a month. If you are interested in joining the committee, please consider coming to a meeting or attending General Membership Meetings so that you can be voted into the committee.

Original written, photographed and illustrated contributions are welcomed for the purpose of publication. Guidelines are available upon request. You may mail or email your submissions c/o the Editor. Please include your name, return email and a phone number with your piece.



Editor Lisa Swaren meets National President, Denis Lemelin at the Regional President's Meeting during The Public Interest Alberta Conference, April 2013



From The Editor

How did YOU get the job? Yes. It's a question I fielded on the work floor this month. Another question was, "How are you liking all that extra money you're getting for being on the Executive?" There were other (more indirect) questions that were filtered to me through the grapevines of speculation and dubiety.

"Did a relative get you the job?", I was asked. It's an easy question to answer. I have no living relatives (that I know of) who work for Canada Post. Although my paternal Grandfather, Alfred Eugene Swaren of Camrose worked at Canada Post from about age 15 (true) through to old age retirement. He didn't get me this position, and nor did his brother, Art (who worked with him), unless they are pulling strings for me in the great beyond.

Am I raking in the big bucks? Not particularly. Neither are the other Executive Members. It's hard to get rich when there are no extended hours, overtime or force-backs (not paid anyway). The full-time Officers take calls at all hours, put in extra time, and they do it for free.

Many of us are on multiple Committees. There are times when the executive members have to miss work to attend meetings, or receive education. At these times the Union requests "book-offs" from the Employer. When the individuals take time away from work for Union Business, The Union reimburses us for our lost scheduled hours. They

also pay the costs to educate us; this results in Union leaders being better able to answer your questions and help you to defend your rights in (and out of) the workplace.

We all started out just like you. The Union has helped us every step of the way. Remember... there are issues that can affect our whole life; injuries, addictions, human rights, childcare, bereavement, maternity leave, days off, vacations, sick days, pensions, federal legislation (the list goes on). It costs us to fight. But it costs us more not to!

Finally... about that awesome and most complimentary inquiry, "How did YOU get the job?" I got the responsibility because of the 2,200 (or so) postal workers in our Local; no one else expressed interest; no one else was nominated; no one else was elected; and no one else said, "With thanks to my nominator, I accept." That's called acclamation.

Like my brother, Wesley (a firefighter), and several other working class relatives of mine (who belong to other Unions), I am thankful for the achievements of CUPW and other supporters of the Labour movement. Unions have afforded the masses most of the rights we now take for granted.

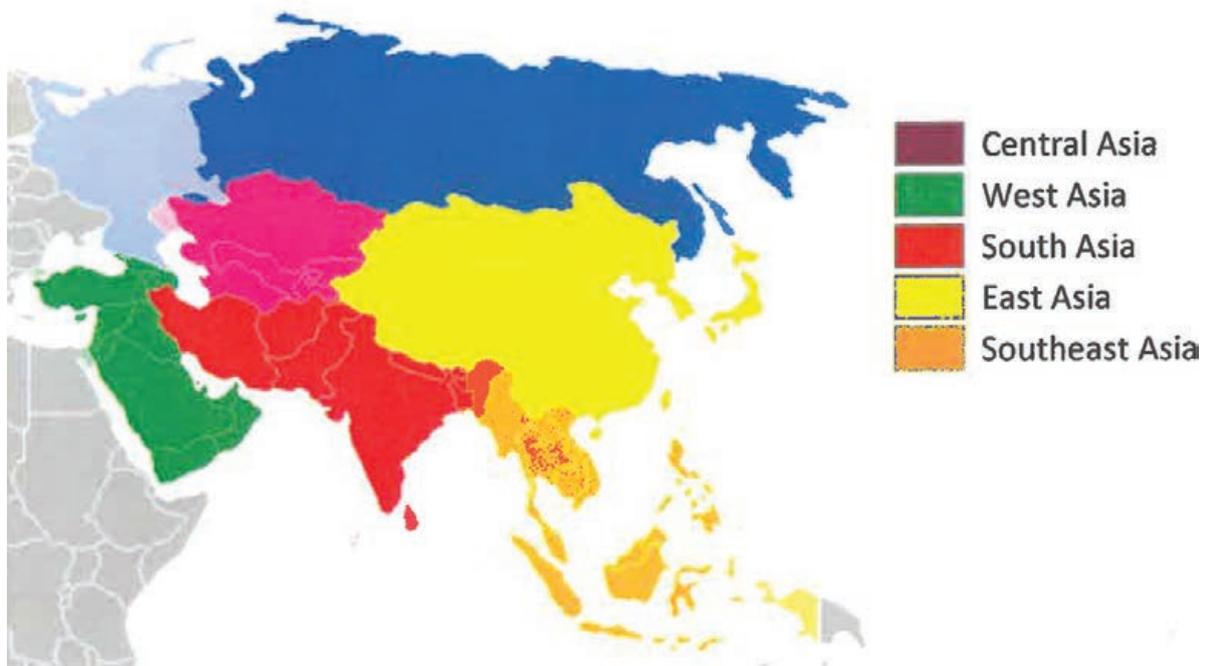
InsideOut is a publication with the capacity to inform and encourage our ranks. It keeps us in touch with each other and more importantly, our headway as a community of wage earners. The concerns you ask to see explored will be given serious consideration.

If you'd like to be a member of the InsideOut Committee, nominations are being accepted for the new term starting November of 2014. Vote your choice of candidate in (even if it's yourself) at the pertinent General Membership Meeting later this year.

In Solidarity,
Lisa Swaren

May is Asian Heritage Month!

In 1998, Edmonton became the first city in Canada to proclaim the month of May as Asian Heritage Month and be officially recognized by civic and provincial government. Years later in May 2002, the Government of Canada signed an official declaration to designate May as Asian Heritage Month. The purpose of Asian Heritage Month is to acknowledge contributions to Canadian culture from our rich history with Asian countries. Furthermore, it is a celebration that promotes awareness and appreciation of Asian culture.



**Watch for Asian Heritage Events in your community!
Come to the next Human Rights Committee Meeting!**

Prepared by Cori Longo on behalf of the Local Human Rights Committee

References

Asian Heritage Month. (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.asian.ca/heritagemonth/history.html>

Asian Heritage Month. (2013). Government of Canada.

Retrieved from <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/multiculturalism/asian/index.asp>

Regions of Asia. (2014). Wikipedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regions_of_Asia#Regions

Asia					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World's largest and most populous continent • 30% of the world's land area • Population of approximately 4.3 billion people • Inclusive of 49 countries and sovereign states 					
Regions*	Countries	Population	Languages	Religions	
Central Asia	Afghanistan Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Tajikistan Turkmenistan Uzbekistan	66 million	Russian Kazakh Kyrgyz Tajik	Islam Sunni Hinduism	
East Asia	China Hong Kong Japan Macao Mongolia North Korea South Korea	1.5 billion	Chinese Japanese Korean Mongolian	Buddhism Confucianism Taoism Shinto Shamanism Christianity	
Southeast Asia	Brunei Cambodia Indonesia Laos Malaysia Myanmar (Burma) Philippines Singapore Thailand Timor-Leste Vietnam	618 million	Indonesian Filipino Thai Vietnamese Malay Burmese Khmer	Islam Buddhism Confucianism Christianity Roman Catholic	
West Asia (Middle East)	Armenia Azerbaijan Bahrain Cyprus Georgia Iraq Israel Jordan Kuwait	Lebanon Oman Qatar Saudi Arabia Syria Turkey United Arab Emirates Yemen	313 million	Arabic Persian Turkish Berber Kurdish	Islam Judaism Christianity
South Asia	Bangladesh Bhutan India Maldives Nepal Pakistan Sri Lanka	1.59 billion	Hindi Bengali Tamil Punjabi	Hinduism Jainism Buddhism Sikhism Islam	

*Regions as defined by United Nations Statistics Division.

**Chart is NOT inclusive of all languages and religions in regions.

GMM Highlights

The General Membership Meeting

April 6, 2014



Photo: Vimal Sharma

Executive Elections

Parminder Pannu nominated **Steve Cowtan** to the position of **Temporary Chief Steward Stations and Depots**. The current Chief Steward, Ange Freer, has been appointed to act as one of two National Co-ordinators for CUPW's Save Canada Post Campaign. She is currently on loan to our National office in Ottawa.

Reading and Adoption of Minutes

The Wage Committee was determined to be in **violation of our bylaws**. Notice will be provided for the elections of the wage committee.

Correspondence

E4C is a non-profit, charitable organization focused on the elimination of poverty. A request was put forward for donations towards their children's food program.

An invitation has been extended to our Local to attend **Keepers of the Water VIII Watershed Gathering**, hosted by the Beaver River Council in Cold Lake, Alberta, June 5th to the 8th, 2014.

Sister **Ange Freer** (Edmonton Local) and Brother **Steve Ferland** (Montreal Local) have been appointed as National Co-ordinators and Brother **George Nickerson** (Atlantic Region) as a Regional Coordinator of CUPW's **Save Canada Post** Campaign. Congratulations.

A letter from CUPW has been sent to CPC (Canada Post Corporation) identifying some major issues relating to their **5 Point Plan**.

CUPW National gave notice to the Co-Chair of the National Joint Health and Safety Committee regarding directives on TSAT (**Traffic Safety Assessment Tool**) assessments for R.S.M.C.s (Rural Suburban Mail Couriers).

Canadian Dimension Magazine requested donations relating to their ongoing campaign against **tar sands expansion**.

The National Union sent a letter to CPC regarding the recognition of **27 pay periods** (instead of 26) in the 2013 calendar year.

An M.O.A. (Memorandum of Agreement) was signed between CUPW and CPC regarding the **Canadian Tire householder** coming out in April 2014.

A brochure was received announcing the first ever **International Pride Human Rights Conference** from June 25th to 27th, 2014.

The **Alberta Labour History Institute** conference will take place from June 18th to 20th, 2014.

Chicoutimi Local proposes the National Union fight back; A national solidarity event will take place on May 10th, 2014. The "**I'm Walking for My Letter Carrier**" proposal has been accepted and is endorsed by the NEB (National Executive Board of CUPW).

The **Canadian Peace Alliance**, Canada's largest umbrella peace organization is asking for financial assistance in reference to CUPW's National policy D-24

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES.....

on peace and disarmament.

Adecco workers are in negotiations, and have received an unacceptable first wage offer.

New Business (Motions Carried)

Motion: That the Edmonton Local brings the Local Bylaws in line with Article 5 of the National Constitution and change “Area Council Delegates to Regional Conference Delegates.” (carried)

Motion: That the Edmonton Local add the following new duty to the Education Officer: That the Local Education Officer shall be responsible for the recruitment and co-ordination of Appendix HH and DD facilitators. (carried)

Motion: That the Edmonton Local sends an individual to the CALM Media Conference 2014. Monies to come from InsideOut and supplies (Approximate cost \$2,300). (carried)

Motion: Whereas the CLC (Canadian Labour Congress) has specifically created young worker credentials to ensure adequate representation and promote equity for YWs and CLC events; whereas YWs are the future of our labour movement; therefore be it resolved that the Edmonton CUPW Local commit to sending one young worker. From the Edmonton Local, to the CLC Young Worker Open Meeting and Strategy Session on May 4th, 2014, and to the CLC Convention from May 5th to 9th, 2014. Accommodation to be covered by the individual. Local to cover costs of lost wages and per diem up to \$1,000 (money from General Funds). Young Worker to be elected at today’s GMM and tasked with the responsibility of reporting back to the membership on their experience.



Photo: Vimal Sharma

Chair ruled motion out of order. Challenge to the Chair. (motion carried)

Nominations and Elections

Prairie School for Union Women

(Elected): Kathleen Mpulubusi, Lisa Swaren
(Alternate, Pending Approval: Ruth Arkless)

Public Interest Alberta Conference

2 Members for April 11-13

(Elected): Lisa Swaren, Cori Longo

4 Members for April 11 (Opening Plenary)

(Elected): Carmen Louiselle, Bev Ray, Cathy Furtak, Jerry Woods

Alberta Federation of Labour Midterm Conference

(May 23-24, 2014 Calgary) 15 Members

(Elected): Ashiq Mavani, Ajay Sharma, Rashpal Sehmy, Jerry Woods, Bev Ray, Brian Henderson, Greg McMaster, Larry Dionne, Lisa Swaren, Parminder Pannu, Cori Longo, Vimal Sharma, Harry Clarke, Travis Valcourt, Jack Seredynski

CALM Conference

(May 1-3, 2014 Montreal) 1 Member

(Elected): Lisa Swaren

(Alternate: Rashpal Sehmy)

CLC Young Worker Forum and Convention

(May 4-9, 2014) 1 Member

(Elected): Cori Longo

Notice of Motions

That the Edmonton CUPW Local elect 2 delegates to the International Pride Human Rights Conference (June 25-27, 2014) to come from representatives attending the CUPW National Human Rights Conference.

Swearing in of Executive Members

Lisa Swaren, Amir Sheikh, Ajay Sharma, Todd Brooks, Steve Cowtan, Jerry Woods

(These were highlights of the April GMM. For a more detailed account of the proceedings, please contact Trish at the Union Office for a copy of the Meeting Minutes as recorded by Cori Longo.)

May 2013 Calendar



Photo: Vimal Sharma

Thursday, May 1

International Worker's Day

Thursday, May 1 to Saturday, May 3

**Canadian Association of Labour
Media Conference, Montreal**

Saturday, May 3

**Hal Russell Memorial Bench
Dedication, 2-3pm, Hardisty Pool,
10535-65 Street**

Sunday May 4

**Open to All Postal Workers:
CUPW EDMONTON LOCAL
GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
6pm - 8pm (AMENDED)**

**Green and Gold Room, Commonwealth
Stadium**

(Use Team Store Entrance)

**Parking is available at the LRT lot across the
street.**

May 2014 GMM AGENDA

Proposed Budget 2014 -2015

Notice of Motion: That the Edmonton CUPW Local elect 2 delegates to the International Pride Human Rights Conference (June 25-27, 2014) to come from representatives attending the CUPW National Human Rights Conference.

Moved by Greg McMaster

Elections:

Education Committee	2 Members (to Nov 2014)
Environment Committee:	1 Member (to May 2015)
Women's Committee:	3 Members (to Sept 2015)
Election Committee:	1 Alternate (to Dec 2014)
Organizing Committee:	2 Members (to Sept 2014)
Social Committee	1 Member (to Nov 2014)
InsideOut Committee:	1 Member (to Nov 2014)
EDLC Delegates:	2 Members (To Feb 2015)
Bylaws Committee:	1 Alternate
AFL Mid Term Conference	6 Alts. (May 23-24, 2014)
AFL Standing Committee:	No Limit

All dues paying members are welcome to attend the CUPW General Membership Meetings. General Meetings are held ten times per year (not February or August) and are the 1st Sunday of each month except for January when it is the last Sunday. Meetings that fall on a long weekend are held the next weekend instead. General meetings start at noon or at 6pm alternating each meeting.

Monday, May 5 to Friday, May 9
**27th Constitutional Convention of
 the Canadian Labour Congress,
 Montreal**

Tuesday, May 6th
Women's Committee Meeting
6:30pm
Union Office

Thursday, May 8
Human Rights Committee Meeting
Open Committee - All are Welcome
9:00 am, Union Office

Sunday, May 11
Mothers Day

Wednesday, May 14
Application Deadline for the
Human Rights Investigator Course
(June 10 to 14, 2014 in Edmonton)
***** Application on Page 14**

Thursday, May 15
CUPW Executive Meeting
9:00 am, The Edmonton and District
Labour Council

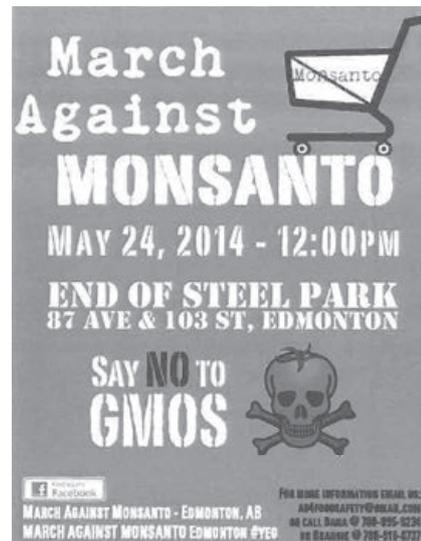
Friday, May 16
Deadline for Submissions,
June InsideOut: (12 noon)
editor@cupwedm.net

Saturday, May 17
Temporary Workers Rights
Committee Meeting,
Open Committee - All are Welcome
10:00 am, Union Office

Monday, May 19
Victoria Day (We are not amused)

Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24
Alberta Federation of Labour
Mid Term, Calgary

Saturday, May 24
March Against Monsanto



Sunday, May 25 to Friday, May 30
CUPW Spring School,
Gimli Manitoba

Wednesday, May 28
Organizing Committee
Open Committee - All are Welcome
12:30 - 3:00pm

Thursday, May 29
Shop Steward Meeting, Union House
1st Meeting: 08:30 11:00 Hours
2nd Meeting: 13:15 15:30 Hours
3rd Meeting: 16:16 18:30 Hours

Why The Union

Today we are facing the toughest and most severe attack on our benefits and our job security that most of us have ever faced in our life and it is up to you to do something about it. That is a very scary thought - I know - but it is the simple truth. Luckily for all of us we do not have to do it alone; we have the Union. WE ARE THE UNION. That is all the Union is: a group of workers that joined together to face management and said we will do your work for you but we want to be paid a decent wage so I can house my family and feed them.

The Union is the only one that is trying to get you a raise so you can better support your family; the Union is the only one trying to get full-time positions for those part-timers that want it; and the Union is the only one that truly cares about your health and safety.

It is almost sad that I still hear people complaining about paying Union dues, and management likes to encourage these employees to complain whenever possible. Every contract, the Union gets us job security so that permanent employees cannot be laid off they have to find us work within a 40km radius. That is an amazing benefit that most other people and unions would kill for. But we forget it and ignore it because we have not had to use it. That alone is worth the 50 cents per hour that you pay for union dues (about 80 cents per hour if you work 25 hours per week). Add to that your dental and optical and drug benefits and it is starting to look like the best 50 cents I ever spent.

If you read the past lists of company demands then you know that when every section of the contract is under attack no place on the work floor (or outside) will be safe. First, the company wants to cut 8,000 jobs that's right one in every six jobs. Next, they now start new employees at a much lower rate than pre-2013 hires receive (estimate an least five to seven dollars less per hour) - and they will never reach our rate of pay. The corporation knows that no union in the world can accept this two-tier level of pay. So are they forcing us to strike?? They already took your sick days away (and try to make it sound wonderful by saying you can take personal days whenever you want).

I have (and anyone else that worked a non-union job has) had jobs where if we missed a day, then we did not get paid. The rich have somehow got the average worker to

believe this is fair. But the reality is that you still have your mortgage, and the car payment, and your taxes. When you go a day without pay it is your "extra" money that you don't get paid. You know... the extra to buy the kids clothes, or the extra to fix the car. Lord help you if you are sick for three days without pay. These are just some of the gains we have made that are under attack and that you will have to stand up and fight for.

I want to end this section by illustrating how easy it is to take for granted the gains and benefits your Union has made for you (because of you). A supervisor recently read a note to the employees from a woman on maternity leave who was saying hello to her fellow employees, and thanking Canada Post for being such a wonderful company and giving her maternity leave. The Corporation gave her nothing; it was your Union, CUPW that won maternity benefits by going on strike. The Corporation did not want to give those benefits. In fact, CUPW was the first union ever to get Paid Top-Up maternity benefits for its members. It goes to show that what you do here can be very important.

I know the thought of standing up for yourself, or going on strike can be scary, but think of your family and be strong. They need you. I can stand beside you so you will not be alone, but I can't fight your fight for you. We all need to participate and there are many small things we can do to show each other, and to show our committee members that we support them. There are few times that you will be asked for small things to show your support, so please give it freely. When it is "Hat Day" on Tuesday, wear a hat. When it is "Red Shirt" day on Thursday, then show your support and wear a red shirt. When the Union asks for 30 minutes before work, then show up. Remember, we are all in this together.

I used this quote to close my last rant against the previous contract, but it seems even more relevant this time around. It is from a man who fought for the rights of peasants against greedy landowners, Emilio Zapata, "**It is better to die on your feet than live on your knees**". Get off your knees. Take a stand.

John McTaggart
Member, Local 730



THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES.....

CUPW Presidents Converge in Edmonton

*National President, Denis Lemelin with
Edmonton President, Bev Ray (Photos: Lisa Swaren)*



There was much discussion about the announcement made by Canada Post on December 11, 2013 and there was a great exchange of ideas on how we as postal workers and Canadian citizens can fight this plan. This is a fight that can be won - but we need to take our fight to the average Canadian.

Cathy Furtak
Secretary Treasurer, CUPW Edmonton

The CUPW's Regional Presidents Meetings were held in Edmonton on April 11- 13, 2014 at the Chateau Lacombe. Officers from all over the Prairie Region attended. This meeting was also attended by the National Secretary Treasurer, George Kuehnbaum and Our National President, Denis Lemelin.



*H&S Officer, Lorraine MacKenzie, President,
Bev Ray, & Secretary Treasurer, Cathy Furtak*



THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES.....

Brian Henderson

Fellow Postal Worker, CUPW Member &

Honourable Recipient of the 2014 Jim Shewchuk Award

Have you met Brian Henderson? If you did, I bet you noticed he was busy making a positive change. When I first met him, my first thought was who is this guy? He'd come to a Stewards meeting with informational pamphlets; they were the result of surveys and studies he was involved in conducting to determine which Mayoral Candidates (in Edmonton's most recent municipal election) were worthy of a working person's vote. I eyed him with wan suspicion, asking myself if this guy was going to tell me how to vote. Well he didn't. He's a good guy. He merely wanted to share the fruits of his own hands-on, face-to-face, often tedious research.



(Photo: Susan Wilson)

With pamphlets in hand, I left the meeting weighing his thoughts against my own. I had already begun to do my own brand of research. Strangely, the more I learned about the people I thought I was interested in voting for, the more I discovered, Brian's research was in line with the sad (and happy) truths I was uncovering by myself.

I will compare that with the last time I saw him. It's hinted at elsewhere in this Newsletter. If you check the April G.M.M. recap in this Edition of InsideOut, you will notice that someone

“challenged the Chair”. Guess who that was. It was Brian. He's a constructive sort of fireball. He heats things up just enough to get them cooking.

Last night (April the 28th), The United Way and The Edmonton & District Labour Council recognised him for his meaningful work in the capacity of a president, secretary, trade activist, lobbyist, advocate, host, organizer, facilitator, cub scouts leader, volunteer, canvasser, marshal, cabinet member, supporter, delegate, and other important societal roles. He is well known and has worked extensively with many trade organizations; associations and institutions that work collectively to make our workplaces better ones, and our overall quality of life not only reasonable, but meaningful.

Brian is someone that really, really cares. The award he has been presented with is in honour of another man who positively supported and changed lives in his community, his Union, and a substantial Umbrella Charity, the United Way. Congratulations Brian in joining the legacy of Jim Shewchuk, and thirty more heroic individuals who share the honour of his award with you.

Lisa Swaren
Shop Steward, Shift 3, EMPP

C.U.P.W. EDMONTON



*ARE YOU A SOCIAL STEWARD OR AN APPENDIX HH FACILITATOR?
ARE YOU A SHOP STEWARD OR ACTIVIST WHO WANTS TO HELP YOUR
CO-WORKERS BY INVESTIGATING HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINTS?*

HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATOR COURSE

June 10th-14th 2014

*****NOTE*****

***THIS IS NOT A GENERAL KNOWLEDGE COURSE.
AFTER COURSE COMPLETION THERE WILL BE
AN EXPECTATION FOR PARTICIPANTS TO DO
WORKFLOOR HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATIONS.***

*IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, FILL OUT THE APPLICATION
ON THE BACK AND MAIL IT INTO THE UNION OFFICE IN A
POSTAGE PAID GRIVANCE ENVELOPE, OR CALL THE UNION
OFFICE @780-423-9000 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. YOU
CAN ALSO E-MAIL DIRECTLY AT: solidarity2011@yahoo.com*

Larry Dionne
Local Education Officer

over

CANADIAN UNION OF POSTAL WORKERS
EDMONTON LOCAL 730



**** Application for Educational ****

Course: Human Rights Investigator Course

Dates: June 10th-14th 2014

****Deadline for Application to be received in the Local Office**:** May 14th 2014

Name: _____		Sister <input type="checkbox"/> Brother <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Equity Seeking Group <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Young Worker (30 or under) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Work Location: _____		Shift # 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> FT	
<input type="checkbox"/> PT <input type="checkbox"/> Temp. <input type="checkbox"/> If you're a Temp. have you attained your 480 hrs? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Classification: PO4 <input type="checkbox"/> PO5 <input type="checkbox"/> LC <input type="checkbox"/> MSC <input type="checkbox"/> RSMC <input type="checkbox"/> TEMP <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> _____			
WORK SCHEDULE			
Number of scheduled hours: SU M T W TH F SA			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
Travel: For members who live an hour or more from greater Edmonton. Transportation costs to the educational has an allowance of .31 per kilometer traveled.			
Address: _____		City: _____	Prov.: _____
Postal Code: _____		Home Phone: () -	
Cell Phone: () -		Work Phone: () -	
E-mail Address: _____		@	
Emergency Contact: _____		Phone #: () -	
Optional Equity Seeking Groups		Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you self identify as a member of one of these groups?		Person with Disability <input type="checkbox"/>	
		GBLT <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Persons of Colour <input type="checkbox"/>	
. Please advise if you have any environmental or food allergies, mobility, medical, hearing or vision issues that we should be aware of			
Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Vegan <input type="checkbox"/> Food Allergies <input type="checkbox"/> (specify)			
<i>By signing above I indicate I understand that if my application is accepted to attend this Educational Seminar and if I am unable to attend I will be held responsible for any nonrefundable costs incurred and any "no-show" costs associated with non attendance</i>			
Member Status		Office Use Only	
MIGS <input type="checkbox"/>		Member <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Rand Member <input type="checkbox"/>	
_____ Signature of Local President		_____ Signature of Local Education Officer	

Executive Committee (CUPW Edmonton - Local 730)

Full-Time Officers / Staff

PRESIDENT	Bev Ray	<i>extension 223</i>	Union@cupwedm.net
SECRETARY TREASURER	Cathy Furtak	<i>extension 222</i>	Cathy@cupwedm.net
GRIEVANCE OFFICER	Jerry Woods	<i>extension 224</i>	Jerry@cupwedm.net
HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	Lorraine MacKenzie	<i>extension 226</i>	Lorraine@cupwedm.net

Full-Time Executive Assistant **Trish Schlag** *extension 221*

Chief Stewards

CHIEF STEWARD LETTER CARRIERS	Ange Freer	* On loan to CUPW National for 3 months
	Steve Cowtan	* Acting Chief Steward Letter Carriers
CHIEF STEWARD MSC	Todd Brooks	
CHIEF STEWARD SHIFT 1	Amir Sheikh	
CHIEF STEWARD SHIFT 2	Gohar Zaidi	
CHIEF STEWARD SHIFT 3	Parminder Pannu	
CHIEF STEWARD RSMC	Susan Wilson	
CHIEF STEWARD AFFILIATES	Karen Kennedy	
CHIEF STEWARD MAINTENANCE	Norm Burns	

Table Officers

VICE PRESIDENT	Raj Sharma	
EDUCATION OFFICER	Larry Dionne	
RECORDING SECRETARY	Cori Longo	
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS / EDITOR	Lisa Swaren	<i>extension 227</i> Editor@cupwedm.net
ORGANIZING OFFICER	Ajay Sharma	
ROUTE VERIFICATION OFFICER	Greg McMaster	



CUPW Edmonton

Telephone: **780-423-9000**
Toll Free: **1-877-423-CUPW (2879)**
Fax us at: **780-423-2883**

Located at: **11001 107 Street**
 Edmonton, Alberta
 T5H 2Z6

Website: www.cupwedm.net

Our Local Office is located in a corner house near Kingsway Garden Mall. The Executive Assistant, Trish will answer the phone; she may be able to assist you or put you in touch with an officer. You may also contact the Union in person and by email.

27th Canadian Labour Congress

May 5th to 9th, 2014

Palais des congrès de Montréal

The CLC (Canadian Labour Congress) is the very highest governing body within our great nation's labour movement. It has over 3.2 million members. CLC conventions take place every three years. This year's convention is the largest in history with over 4,000 delegates in attendance. CUPW has sent 117 of us to represent our brothers and sisters at The Post. Five of us were elected in Edmonton to attend; we are, Bev Ray (President), Jerry Woods (Grievance Officer), Cori Longo (Recording Officer), Sister Nancy Dodsworth, and your Sergeant-at-Arms and InsideOut Editor, Lisa Swaren.

This is a historical event for Postal Workers. It's the first time in 12 years that there has been an election for ALL National CLC Positions. In 1992 Jean Claude Parrot (then President of CUPW) was elected as Executive Vice President. Once again CUPW has a strong union activist brother in the Canadian Labour Congress's National Executive. On May 8th, 2014, the CUPW's Donald LaFleur became the new Executive Vice President. Hassan Yussuf (past Secretary Treasurer for the CLC) has been voted in as the new CLC President. Our new CLC Secretary Treasurer is Barbara Byers.

It is widely recognized there are many urgent issues facing workers today. At this year's convention, several hundred resolutions have been argued and passed on everything from supporting the rights of young workers to the abolishment of two-tier wage systems, our right to safe working conditions, the fair treatment of minorities and immigrant workers, parents, the pregnant, the disabled and injured, a right to affordable and accessible health care and education, a fair living wage, paid vacation, pensions, and all things that contribute to a fair quality of life. Of particular importance, a unanimous resolution was passed demanding the Harper Government immediately commence inquiry into our murdered and missing aboriginal women.

The CUPW is standing strong with other National and International union members, provincial and territorial federations of labour, and one hundred and eleven district labour councils. Be encouraged.

Lisa Simone Swaren
Shop Steward, Shift 3, EMPP



Photos: Lisa Swaren

